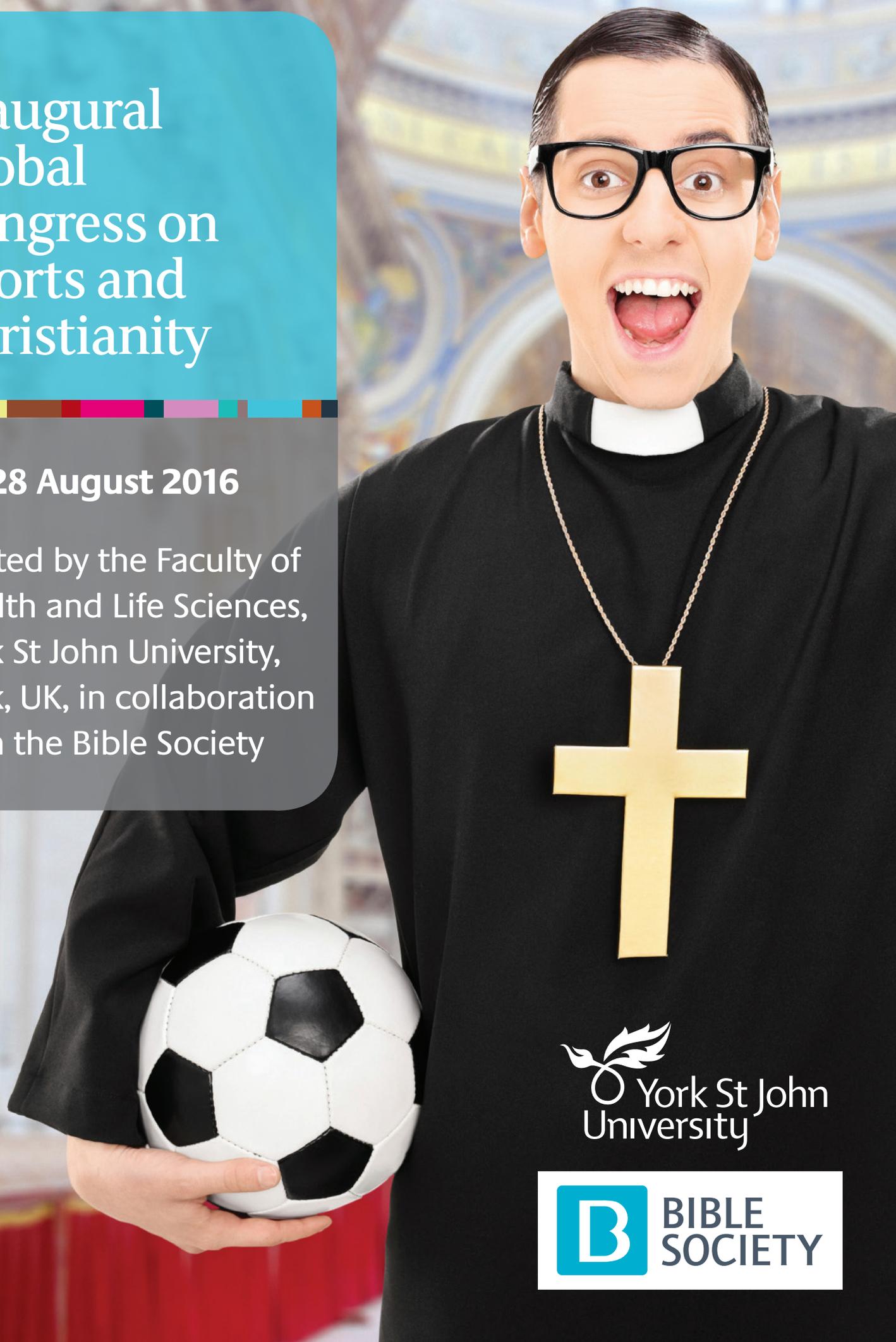


# Inaugural Global Congress on Sports and Christianity

**24-28 August 2016**

Hosted by the Faculty of  
Health and Life Sciences,  
York St John University,  
York, UK, in collaboration  
with the Bible Society



York St John  
University



**BIBLE  
SOCIETY**

## Endorsements

“What an intriguing idea to finally put athletics and Christianity into conversation. This promises to be a fascinating event.”

**Stanley Hauerwas** is considered by many to be one of the world’s most influential living theologians and was named “America’s Best Theologian” by *Time Magazine* in 2001.

“This global conference is an excellent opportunity to further explore and debate the connection of faith and sports. In sports chaplaincy we are experiencing increasing demand from professional sporting bodies, and it is vital that the church can be envisioned to meet sport where it is expressing a need.”

**Richard Gamble**, CEO, Sports Chaplaincy UK.

“This Conference is an excellent way to bring together the various practitioners and disciplines of sport and Christianity. The emphasis on the integrity of its enquiry should ensure that the Conference’s conclusions are taken seriously.”

**Rt. Hon. Lord Mawhinney**, former Shadow Home Secretary and Chairman of The Football League, Board Member, England 2018 FIFA World Cup Bid Team, and, Chairperson, More Than Gold.

“After so many years of tremendous reflective achievements, it is time for their light to infuse an ever broader public awareness and practice. Sport is partly rigorous exercise and discipline, partly joy, partly self-denial, partly near-death in defeat, and in victory exultant life. To come from behind to win together, sport calls forth the most intense communion of heart and sweat in those determined to prevail. Sport casts light on ‘running the race’ (as Saint Paul said) - and also running the race of becoming thoroughly Christian. Sport and Christianity are different realities, of different ontological weights. But each has much in it by which to better the other. This first Global Congress is a great step forward in a long-term project.”

**Professor Michael Novak** is the retired George Frederick Jewett Chair in Religion, Philosophy, and Public Policy at the American Enterprise Institute (US), and a former US ambassador.

“As a paralympian, my mission is to be the best I can be by practicing discipline, focus and self-control, while playing by the rules of sport. The World Congress on Sports and Christianity is an important and timely event for all those that are involved in sport, for example, athletes, coaches and academics, who wish to more fully understand the relationship between sports and faith. To date, there has been very little, if any, reflection on the religious aspects of disability sport, so it is heartening to see a whole thematic strand devoted to the topic at this event”.

**Anne-Wafula Strike MBE**, two time paralympain (2004 and 2012), who has been recognized by Her Majesty the Queen for her athletic accomplishments and advocacy for those with disabilities and has spoken in the House of Commons and the House of Lords.

“Throughout history, the relationship between Christianity, the Bible and the body has been complex and varied. Constructive conversation amongst academics, Christian leaders and sportspeople exploring the intersections of sport, society, the Bible and Christianity is both timely and welcome. As such, Bible Society is delighted to be working in collaboration with York St John University to deliver the *Inaugural Global Congress on Sports and Christianity* in August 2016.”

**Matthew van Duyvenbode**, Director of External Relations, Advocacy & Research, Bible Society, UK.



# Inaugural Global Congress on Sports and Christianity



## Purpose of this document

This document serves to raise awareness of the *Inaugural Global Congress on Sports and Christianity* (IGCSC), York St John University, 24-28 August 2016, thus, allowing interested parties to plan their attendance well in advance. Individuals who are interested in receiving further information with regard to the IGCSC, such as the call for papers and booking

forms (to be distributed March/April 2015), should email the congress convener, Dr Nick J Watson at E: [igcsc2016@yorks.ac.uk](mailto:igcsc2016@yorks.ac.uk)

Please note that even at this early stage there has been significant interest in this event and delegate places are limited.



## Overview of IGCSC

In light of the dramatic increase in academic research activity and practical initiatives on the topic of sports and Christianity over the last decade, the Faculty of Health and Life Sciences at York St John University, York, UK ([www.yorks.ac.uk](http://www.yorks.ac.uk)) are hosting an *Inaugural Global Congress on Sports and Christianity* (IGCSC), 24-28 August 2016. The Bible Society ([www.biblesociety.org.uk](http://www.biblesociety.org.uk)) and York St John University are collaborating in the development and delivery of this global event. York St John University campus is at the heart of the beautiful and historic city of York.

A sport-themed service will be held in York Minster, one of Europe's finest cathedrals, as part of the congress ([www.visit-york.org](http://www.visit-york.org)).

The IGCSC will be held over four and a half days and will comprise: a gala dinner, keynote lectures (see below), parallel sessions, a panel discussion led by the Bible Society, a three hour seminar for each of the eleven thematic strands (see below), a student forum, and a networking

event, in which representatives from practitioner organisations, research centres and publishers will be able to share information. One of the keynote presentations (Prof Shirli J Hoffman) will focus on the recently published "*Declaration for Sport and Christian Life*", which is a benchmark document for the field of sport and Christianity ([www.sportandchristianity.com](http://www.sportandchristianity.com)).

To ensure the continued development and long-term sustainability of the field, an international organising committee has been established to devise and operationalise a long-term strategic plan to ensure similar events take place every three years. The importance and timeliness of the IGCSC 2016, has been endorsed by a wide variety of individuals (see Appendix 1).

The IGCSC website can be viewed at [www.yorks.ac.uk/health-life-sciences/faculty-of-hls/faculty-events/igcsc.aspx](http://www.yorks.ac.uk/health-life-sciences/faculty-of-hls/faculty-events/igcsc.aspx)



## Aims

The aims of the IGCSC are to:

- Encourage global collaboration between academics, practitioners, politicians, administrators and athletes.
- Produce quality academic and practitioner publications that have societal impact.
- Through intentional mentoring and collaboration, develop individuals in their sphere of influence.
- Affect a culture shift in modern sport through the sharing of ideas and practices and a coming together of individuals from across the academic disciplines and all streams and denominations of Christianity, culminating in an inclusive and ecumenical event.



## Thematic Strands

The IGCSC will comprise eleven thematic strands (see below), which collectively address existing and emerging topics in the broad area of sport and Christianity. During the congress there will be a three hour interactive seminar on each thematic strand which will be facilitated by a small group of academics and/or practitioners who are recognised for excellence in their respective fields (see Appendix 3). A number of academic and practitioner publications will emerge from these thematic strands, as detailed below. Abstracts submitted for consideration for oral presentations (parallel sessions) to be scheduled through the four days of the congress, can focus on the thematic strands, or may address any topic within the broad field of sports and Christianity. The thematic strands are as follows:

- Sports Chaplaincy
- Sports, Peace and Religion (with a focus, but not exclusively, on the 2016 Rio Olympic and Paralympic Games)
- Theology of Disability Sport
- Sports, Bioethics, Performance Enhancements, and Biotechnology: Theological Reflections
- Fathering and Mentoring through Sports and Physical Education
- Women, Sports and Christianity
- Sports Ministry
- Historical Perspectives on Sports and Christianity
- Catholicism and Sports
- Ethical and Social Issues in Sports: Christian Reflections
- Global Perspectives in Sports and Christianity

## Keynote Speakers

The following individuals have made a provisional commitment to deliver keynote presentations at the IGCSC (see Appendix 2 for full biographies).

**Professor Stanley Hauerwas** - *God, Baseball and the Church*. Stanley Hauerwas is an American theologian, ethicist, and public intellectual and currently teaches at Duke University, serving as the Gilbert T. Rowe Professor of Theological Ethics at Duke Divinity School with a joint appointment at the Duke University School of Law.

**Anne-Wafula Strike MBE** - *Paralympics and the Christian Faith: A Story of Hope from Africa to England on Wheels*. Anne-Wafula Strike is a two-time paralympian, author and motivational speaker. Anne has spoken as an advocate for those with disabilities, in the House of Commons and the House of Lords.

**Professor Michael Novak** - *The Joy of Sports (1967): Reflections on a Seminal Text and Beyond*. Michael Novak is a former US ambassador and the retired George Frederick Jewett Chair in Religion, Philosophy, and Public Policy at the American Enterprise Institute in Washington, D.C.

**Cassie Carstens** - *Fatherlessness, Fatherhood and Faith: Reflections on the Redemptive Role of Sport*. Cassie Carstens founded the International Sports Leadership School (ISLS) in 1999 and was chaplain of the 1995 South-African Rugby World Champion winning team. He specialises in addressing the global pandemic of fatherlessness and has recently started a movement called, The World Needs a Father.

**Professor John Swinton** - *Running for Jesus!: The Virtues and the Vices of Disability and Sport*. John Swinton is Professor in Practical Theology and Pastoral Care in the School of Divinity, Religious Studies and Philosophy, and Director of the Centre for Spirituality, Health and Disability at the University of Aberdeen, UK.

**Graham Daniels** - *Practitioner Reflections on Sport and Faith: Ministry and Chaplaincy in and through Sport*. Graham Daniels is the Director of Christians in Sport, UK, and a former professional football player and Director of Cambridge United FC. He is an Associate Staff member of The Round Church at St. Andrew the Great.

**Professor Shirl J Hoffman** - *A Declaration on Sport and the Christian Life: A Call to Action*. Shirl Hoffman is Professor Emeritus of Kinesiology at the University of North Carolina at Greensboro, North Carolina, US, and is presently the Executive Director of the American Kinesiology Association and has been a leading authority on sport and Christianity over the last four decades.

**Emeritus Bishop, James Jones** - *The Hillsborough Football Disaster 1989: Reflections from Bishop James Jones who as Bishop of Liverpool Chaired the Hillsborough Independent Panel*. James Jones is the former Bishop of Liverpool, and in 2009, he was appointed by the Home Secretary to Chair the Hillsborough Independent Panel. He has been a member of the House of Lords and Co-President of Liverpool Hope University, and has been awarded honorary doctorates from seven universities.

**Dr Afe Adogame** - *The Intermix of Sports and Christianity in Africa and the African Diaspora*. Dr Afe Adogame is Senior Lecturer in Religious Studies and World Christianity at the University of Edinburgh, UK, and was a Senior Fellow at Harvard University Centre for the Study of World Religions, US (2003-04). Afe recently convened two international conferences/seminars on sport and faith.

**Joni Eareckson Tada**, CEO and Founder of Joni and Friends International Disability Center, US, will also be delivering a short address by video-link.

# Publications

## Reports

The London based Christian Think-Tank, Theos ([www.theosthinktank.co.uk/home](http://www.theosthinktank.co.uk/home)) hope to publish an accessible report that will comprise a number of short essays from the IGCSC. The report will be disseminated widely in the public domain, in order to maximise societal impact.

## An International Peer-Review (Academic) Journal

There is a possibility that an *International Journal on Sports and Christianity* (IJSC) will be launched at the IGCSC, which will be hosted by the *Centre for Sport, Spirituality and Religion* at the University of Gloucestershire, UK. An academic publisher has expressed an interest in this project and has welcomed a proposal. The proposed editorial board of this journal will comprise internationally renowned scholars from across the academic disciplines, in particular, theology and the social-scientific study of sport. Alongside the publication of academic research in the proposed IJSC, the plan is to include an open-access (free online) practitioners corner as part of the journal, which would significantly increase the societal impact of this publication and would provide a forum for sports chaplains, coaches, administrators, parents and those involved in sports ministry to publish and disseminate essays, reflections, reports and information on events. Thus, a number of leading practitioners will also be included on the Editorial Board of the proposed journal to co-review work with academics.

## Special Editions of Related Disciplinary Journals

Eight special editions of the following peer-review journals have been commissioned (i.e. a provisional commitment has been made by the editor of each journal) and the guest editors have made a provisional commitment to attend the IGCSC and to lead these publication projects that map to some of the thematic strands of the IGCSC:

- *International Journal of Public Theology* – Brill (Guest editors. Professors Sebastian Kim and Grant Jarvie). Strand: Sports, Peace and Religion.
- *Christian Bioethics: Non-Ecumenical Studies in Medical Morality* – Oxford University Press (Guest editor. Professor Patrick T Smith). Strand: Sports, Bioethics, Performance Enhancements, and Biotechnology: Theological Reflections.
- *Qualitative Research in Sport Exercise and Health* – Routledge (Guest editors. Professor Andrew Parker and Dr Nick J Watson). Empirical Studies on Sports and Christianity.
- *Sport, Ethics and Philosophy* – Routledge (Guest editors. Professors Scott Kretchmar and John White). Strand: Ethical and Social Issues in Sports: Christian Reflections.
- *Journal of Religion and Society* (Guest editor. Professor Ft. Patrick Kelly): Catholicism and Sport.
- *International Journal of the History of Sport* – Routledge (Guest editor. Professor Rob Hess). Strand: Historical Perspectives on Sports and Christianity.
- *Practical Theology* – Maney (Guest editors. Professors Stephen Waller and Rob Hardin). Strand: Sport Chaplaincy
- *Studies in World Christianity* – Edinburgh University Press (Guest editor. Dr Afe Adogame). Strand: Global Perspectives in Sports and Christianity



## Publications

### Books

At present there are six books planned for publication surrounding the IGCSC, four of these are forthcoming, and two are at proposal stage with the publishers:

- Adogame, A. et al., (eds.) (2016, forthcoming) *Global Perspectives on Sports and Christianity*. London: Routledge.
- Parker, A. et al., (eds.) (2015, forthcoming) *Sports Chaplaincy: Trends, Issues and Debates*, Surrey, UK: Ashgate Publishing.
- Trothen, T. et al., (eds.) *Sport, Women and Christianity* (publisher to be confirmed).
- Brock, B. and Hopsicker, P. (eds.) *Theological Reflections on Disability Sport* (publisher to be confirmed).
- Trothen, T. (2015) *Sport, Religion, and Technoscience: Hope and the Re-Shaping of the Enhancement Debate*, Macon, US: Mercer University Press (Sport and Religion Series).
- Hill, B.V. and White, J. eds. (2016) *God, Nimrod, and the World: Exploring Christian Perspectives on Sport Hunting*. Macon, GA: Mercer University Press (Sports and Religion Series).

**Convener:** Dr Nick J Watson, York St John University, UK.

**International Organising Committee:** Professors Shirl Hoffman, Andy Smith, Tracy Trothen, Andrew Parker, John White, Brian Bolt, Scott Kretchmar, Drs Mark Nesti and Steven Wright.



## Appendix 1: Endorsements

“What an intriguing idea to finally put athletics and Christianity into conversation. This promises to be a fascinating event.”

**Stanley Hauerwas** is an American theologian, ethicist, and public intellectual who has published over 45 books who taught (Emeritus Professor) at the Duke University, US. He is considered by many to be one of the world's most influential living theologians and was named “America's Best Theologian” by *Time Magazine* in 2001.

“This global conference is an excellent opportunity to further explore and debate the connection of faith and sports. In sports chaplaincy we are experiencing increasing demand from professional sporting bodies, and it is vital that the church can be envisioned to meet sport where it is expressing a need.”

**Richard Gamble**, CEO, Sports Chaplaincy UK.

“This Conference is an excellent way to bring together the various practitioners and disciplines of sport and Christianity. The emphasis on the integrity of its enquiry should ensure that the Conference’s conclusions are taken seriously.”

**Rt. Hon. Lord Mawhinney**, former Shadow Home Secretary and Chairman of The Football League, Board Member, England 2018 FIFA World Cup Bid Team, and, Chairperson, *More Than Gold*.

“The distinctive contribution of this global Congress lies in the interplay between the two academic disciplines, which will provide much needed insights not only for the academics concerned but also for the general public. The Congress will draw a wide range of academics, practitioners and church leaders from various contexts to discuss and examine issues from interdisciplinary perspectives. I am convinced that this event will be a milestone in the furtherance of academic research as well as delivering practical wisdom for both sports and Christian communities.”

**Professor Sebastian Kim**, FRAS, Chair in Theology and Public Life, York St John University, UK, and Chief Editor, *International Journal of Public Theology*.

“Sport and Christianity are both global in their reach. They both shape the culture of nations. Their best expressions share the values of excellence and integrity. Yet they are distinguished by two very different dynamics – competition and reconciliation. The roles of Sport and Religion cannot be ignored in the future shaping of the world and thus, the *Inaugural Global Congress on Sports and Christianity* is an important and timely event.”

**James Jones**, Bishop Emeritus Liverpool, UK.

“After so many years of tremendous reflective achievements, it is time for their light to infuse an ever broader public awareness and practice. Sport is partly rigorous exercise and discipline, partly joy, partly self-denial, partly near-death in defeat, and in victory exultant life. To come from behind to win together, sport calls forth the most intense communion of heart and sweat in those determined to prevail. Sport casts light on 'running the race' (as Saint Paul said) - and also running the race of becoming thoroughly Christian. Sport and Christianity are different realities, of different ontological weights. But each has much in it by which to better the other. This first Global Congress is a great step forward in a long-term project.”

**Professor Michael Novak** is the retired George Frederick Jewett Chair in Religion, Philosophy, and Public Policy at the American Enterprise Institute (US). A former US ambassador who has authored

over 45 books on theology, culture and philosophy, including the seminal text, *The Joy of Sports* (1967, Basic Books).

“As a paralympian, my mission is to be the best I can be by practicing discipline, focus and self-control, while playing by the rules of sport. The World Congress on Sports and Christianity is an important and timely event for all those that are involved in sport, for example, athletes, coaches and academics, who wish to more fully understand the relationship between sports and faith. To date, there has been very little, if any, reflection on the religious aspects of disability sport, so it is heartening to see a whole thematic strand devoted to the topic at this event”.

**Anne-Wafula Strike MBE**, two time paralympain (2004 and 2012), who has been recognized by Her Majesty the Queen for her athletic accomplishments and advocacy for those with disabilities and has spoken in the House of Commons and the House of Lords.

“I am pleased to support plans for the *Global Congress on Sports and Christianity* scheduled for 2016. The quality of participants promises to be outstanding, and the themes addressed by the congress will help to fill a large void in the humanities literature. In our secular age, we know much about sport from a materialist and generally skeptical perspective. This conference will help, in important ways, to complement that understanding.”

**Professor Scott Kretchmar**, Penn State University, US, is past President of the International Association for the Philosophy of Sport.

“There are many ways to engage the soul, and sports, is one very important avenue in reviving and refreshing the heart of a person with a disability. I'm so glad that sports will be given a solid 'push' in the church and beyond, helping many more Christians reach persons with disabilities through the joy of sports!”

**Joni Eareckson Tada**, Founder and CEO Joni and Friends International Disability Center, US.

“Sport, its symbols, images and its practices pervade the western world. In many forms it is highly commoditised and commercialised, and it is increasingly drawn into the field of public policy. Christian theology has something important to say about that, and the Church and other traditions need to reflect on whether there's something to do about that. *The Global Congress on Sport and Christianity* is an ideal way to push forward the conversation on what can be said and done.”

**Paul Bickley**, Director of Political Programme for Theos and co-author of *Give us our Ball Back: Reclaiming Sport for the Common Good*.

“Today's challenges demand that we move beyond our traditional disciplinary strengths and seek out complementary knowledge and expertise in other fields and in collaboration with partners across the world. The relationship between sports, Christianity and religion more generally, provides us with an exciting opportunity to do just that- advance, promote and engage together to provide a better understanding of the world in which we live in as we strive to make it a better place.”

**Professor Grant Jarvie**, Chair of Sport, University of Edinburgh, UK, and international advisor to UNESCO.

“You cannot understand the contemporary world until you've grasped the place of sports within it. It is exercise, politics, business, social justice and injustice, drama, play, and even religion sometimes. How great to hear that leading Christian academics, ministries, and practitioners are gathering to think more deeply about how to shape the world of sports for the common good. It could not have come at a more critical juncture in the history of sports.”

**Mark Galli**, editor, *Christianity Today*

“As perceptions of the value of the body and thus sport have developed, a dialogue between faith and sport is vital for optimising the common good. So good on the IGCSC”.

**Mgr. Vladimir Felzmann** D.D, Founding CEO, *John Paul II Foundation for Sport* (2011-).

“The expansion of discussion around the sport-Christianity relationship in recent years bears testament to the increasing interest in the topic area and its kudos as a legitimate field of enquiry. The 2016 *Global Congress on Sports and Christianity* will be an ideal opportunity for academics and practitioners to build stronger allegiances and to take these discussions to a new level.”

**Andrew Parker**, Professor of Sport and Christian Outreach, University of Gloucestershire, UK, and Co-Director of the *Centre of Sport, Spirituality and Religion*.

“Neither the public’s fascination with sport, nor, the increasingly familiar blending of religious and sportive expressions know geographical, national or cultural boundaries. A global conference addressing this curious development is a welcome undertaking, clear evidence of growing interest by scholars to understand its meaning for both sport and religion.”

**Shirl James Hoffman**, Emeritus Professor, University of North Carolina at Greensboro, and Executive Director, American Kinesiology Association.

“When London was granted the Olympic Games in July 2005 many involved in sport as Christians partnered with the resolution that in ten years’ time we would have transformed the relationship between the world of sport and the Christian community in the UK. This major global conference in August 2016 will give us a significant opportunity to assess our progress.”

**Graham Daniels** is the General Director of *Christians in Sport* (UK), was an ex-professional footballer and he is currently a Director of Cambridge United Football Club. He continues to play football for Cambridge Veterans.

“We live in an age when sport has become a great passion for many and a source of deep personal meaning for some. Studied through the prism of scientific concepts and philosophical thought, university courses abound that testify to the academic credibility attached to this special human pursuit. Largely absent, until recently, has been serious consideration of how sport can be understood as part of God’s plan for the human person. This congress will be a wonderful opportunity to examine how sport can be viewed from within a Christian perspective in a way that develops our understanding and practice.”

**Dr Mark Nesti**, AFBPsS., is a Chartered Psychologist who has worked in a number of premierhip football clubs, is a Reader in Sport Psychology, Liverpool John Moores University, UK, and was a Founding Board Member, *Pope John Paul II Foundation for Sport*.

“This Congress is an excellent way to move forward some of today’s thinking on the role of sport in our culture. I am excited for a conversation that will surely help crystallize the ways athletics is viewed from a Christian perspective.”

**Julie Davis**, Director of Athletics, Wheaton College, IL, US.

“For better or worse, many of my most vivid and significant life experiences have taken place on football fields or in athletic arenas. Sport has fuelled my dreams and my writing, and has sometimes led me to me to consider the spiritual dimension of life and thus virtuous behaviour and other times it has drawn me away, and deeper into my own individualism and narcissistic quest for success. Christian athletes and coaches need to be more reflective about the business of

guarding athletes' hearts and minds, just as much as they are about the business of developing their bodies for competition. *The Inaugural Global Congress on Sport and Christianity* promises to open up this discussion in exciting ways.”

**Ted Kluck** is the author of *The Reason for Sports: A Christian Fanifesto* (2010), as well as *Facing Tyson: Fifteen Fighters, Fifteen Stories* (2009) and *Robert Griffin III: Athlete, Leader, Believer* (2013). He is a former professional indoor football player, has managed a professional boxer, and has coached football at the semi-pro, high school, and youth levels.

## Appendix 2: Keynote Speaker Biographies

### ***The Joy of Sports* (1967): Reflections on a Seminal Text and Beyond**

Professor Michael Novak is the retired George Frederick Jewett Chair in Religion, Philosophy, and Public Policy at the American Enterprise Institute in Washington, D.C. A former U.S. ambassador, he has authored over 45 books on theology, culture and philosophy, including the seminal text, *The Joy of Sports* (1967, Basic Books), which according to *Sports Illustrated*, is “one of the best sports books of the century”. His writings have appeared in every major Western language, and in Bengali, Korean and Japanese. His most influential work, *The Spirit of Democratic Capitalism*, was translated and distributed by underground presses behind the Iron Curtain in the 1980s as well as in China and Latin America. Michael has received many international awards including the million-dollar Templeton Prize for Progress in Religion in 1994.

### **Paralympics and the Christian Faith: A Story of Hope from Africa to England on Wheels**

Anne-Wafula Strike MBE was the first wheelchair racer from East Africa to compete at the Paralympics (in Athens, 2004), and further to receiving British citizenship in 2006, represented Great Britain at the London 2012 Paralympics, where she was a member of BBC and ITV television commentary teams. She has been recognized by Her Majesty the Queen for her athletic accomplishments and involvement with a range of charities for those with disabilities. Anna is a motivational speaker and has spoken as an advocate for those with disabilities, in the House of Commons and the House of Lords, and recently made her debut with the Graeae Theatre Company’s show at the Royal Festival Hall. Her autobiography, *In My Dreams I Dance* (2010, Harper Collins), was written after winning a BBC prize for individuals with extraordinary life stories.

### **God, Baseball and the Church**

Stanley Hauerwas is an American theologian, ethicist, and public intellectual who has published over 45 books. Hauerwas currently teaches at Duke University, serving as the Gilbert T Rowe Professor of Theological Ethics at Duke Divinity School with a joint appointment at the Duke University School of Law. Before coming to Duke, Hauerwas was a longtime professor at the University of Notre Dame. He is considered by many to be one of the world's most influential living theologians and was named “America's Best Theologian” by *Time Magazine* in 2001. He was also the first American to deliver the prestigious Gifford Lectures in over forty years. His work is frequently read and debated by scholars in fields outside of religion, theology, or ethics, such as political philosophy, sociology, history, and literary theory. Hauerwas has achieved notability outside of academia as a public intellectual, even appearing on *The Oprah Winfrey Show*. He is also a passionate baseball fan and has written a number of essays on this topic.

### **Running for Jesus!: The Virtues and the Vices of Disability and Sport**

John Swinton is Professor in Practical Theology and Pastoral Care in the School of Divinity, Religious Studies and Philosophy, and Director of the *Centre for Spirituality, Health and Disability* at the University of Aberdeen, UK. He has published extensively on the theology of disability, most recently: *Dementia: Living in the Memories of God* (2012, Eerdmans), *Disability in the Christian Tradition: A Reader* (2012, with Brian Brock, Eerdmans) and *Living Gently in a Violent World: The Prophetic Witness of Weakness* (2008, with Stanley Hauerwas and Jean Vanier, IVP). In 2012, John delivered a keynote presentation at an international conference that examined Catholic perspectives on Paralympic sport. John is currently working with Jean Vanier on issues of theology and mental health and is an ordained minister of the Presbyterian Church and works closely with the church in both research and practice.

### **Practitioner Reflections on Sport and Faith: Ministry and Chaplaincy in and through Sport**

Graham Daniels is the Director of *Christians in Sport*, UK and a former professional football player and Director of Cambridge United FC. He joined the Christians in Sport staff team in 1989 and has been General Director since 2002. He has been involved in sport all his life and continues to play football for Cambridge Veterans. He is an Associate Staff member of The Round Church at St Andrew the Great (StAG). Graham has contributed articles and chapters to a number of publications on sport and the Christian religion (specifically on sports ministry).

### **'A Declaration on Sport and the Christian Life': A Call to Action**

Shirl J. Hoffman is professor emeritus of kinesiology at the University of North Carolina at Greensboro, North Carolina, US. He is presently the Executive Director of the *American Kinesiology Association* and has arguably been the world's leading authority on sport and Christianity over the last four decades, having published extensively on sports and Christianity, most recently, *Good Game: Christianity and the Culture of Sports* (2010, Baylor University Press). He is a former college basketball coach, soccer and basketball official, and for over 30 years has taught and researched various aspects of kinesiology. He is editor of *Introduction to Kinesiology* (2013, Human Kinetics), now in its third edition. Shirl has been featured in a number of documentaries on sport and religion televised on CBS, ESPN, and Channel 4 in Britain, and on nationally aired radio broadcasts on NPR, BBC, and the CBC.

### **The Intermix of Sports and Christianity in Africa and the African Diaspora**

Dr Afe Adogame is Senior Lecturer in Religious Studies and World Christianity at the University of Edinburgh, UK. Previously, he was a Senior Fellow at Harvard University *Centre for the Study of World Religions*, USA, from 2003-04. Afe recently convened two international conferences: Sports, Leisure, Religion and Spirituality in African and the African Diaspora (Egerton University, Kenya, 2012); Religion, Conflict, Violence and Tolerance in Global Perspectives (Abuja, Nigeria, 2012) and an international seminar, Religion and Sport: Past, Present and Future (University of Edinburgh, 2013). Afe is the Associate Editor of, *Studies in World Christianity* (Edinburgh University Press) and has published widely, recent examples include: *The African Christian Diaspora: New Currents and Emerging Trends in World Christianity* (2013, Bloomsbury), *African Traditions in the Study of Religion, Diaspora, and Gendered Societies* (2013, Ashgate, 2013) and *Religion on the Move: New Dynamics of Religious Expansion in a Globalizing World* (2012, Brill).

### **The Hillsborough Football Disaster 1989: Reflections from Bishop James Jones who as Bishop of Liverpool chaired the Hillsborough Independent Panel**

James Jones became Bishop of Liverpool in 1998 having been Bishop of Hull since 1994. He retired in August 2013. In 2009 he was appointed by the Home Secretary to Chair the Hillsborough Independent Panel which made its report in September 2012, on the football disaster that

occurred in 1989, which resulted in the deaths of 96 people and injuries to 766 others. He broadcasts regularly, especially on *Thought for the Day* for the BBC and has presented programmes on Radio 4. He has authored a number of books: *The Moral Leader* (2002, IVP), *Jesus and the Earth* (2003, SPCK), *Why do People Suffer?* (2007, Lion) and *With my Whole Heart* (2012, SPCK). He has been a member of the House of Lords, Bishop for Prisons, Visitor to St Peter's College in the University of Oxford, Co-President of Liverpool Hope University and a WWF Ambassador. He has been awarded Honorary Doctorates from seven universities including Liverpool and Exeter. James is Adviser to the Home Secretary on Hillsborough and Adviser to Waitrose on Corporate Social Responsibility.

### **Fatherlessness, Fatherhood and Faith: Reflections on the Redemptive Role of Sport**

Cassie Carsten's central mission is to train transformational leaders. He founded the *African Leadership Institute for Community Transformation* (ALICT) in 2004, and co-founded the *International Sports Leadership School* (ISLS) in 1999. He initiated *Ubabalo*, now operating in 140 countries, by which sport coaches are trained to be life-coaches and thus model sound fatherhood to the youth. As chaplain of the 1995 South-African Rugby World Champion winning team that was championed by the former President, Nelson Mandela, he has seen how societal and cultural reconciliation and transformation can materialize through the vehicle of sport. Serving the *International Sports Coalition* (ISC) he is now part of a group training 100,000 leaders per year. Most recently, Cassie specialises in addressing the global pandemic of fatherlessness and has started a movement called, *The World Needs A Father*. A book which addresses the issue of fatherlessness will be released in May 2014. As an international speaker, trainer and strategist, Cassie believes in actively encouraging the integration of Christian principles in all societal institutions, not least, sports.

**Joni Eareckson Tada**, CEO and Founder of Joni and Friends International Disability Center, US, will also be delivering a short address by video-link.

### Appendix 3: Thematic Strands

Thematic Strand	Co-Strand Leaders
<p><b>Theology of Disability Sport</b></p>	<p><b>Chair: Dr Brian Brock</b>, is Reader in Moral and Practical Theology at The University of Aberdeen, Scotland. He has published widely on theological ethics and disability theology, and is an editor of the <i>Journal of Religion and Disability</i>. His main work on disability is <i>Disability in the Christian Tradition: A Reader</i> (2012, with John Swinton, Eerdmans), and has also published on the theology of sport: <i>Discipline, Sport and the Religion of Winners: Paul on Running to Win the Prize</i>, <i>Studies in Christian Ethics</i>, 25.1, February 2012, 4-19.</p> <p><b>Peter Hopsicker</b> is an Associate Professor of Kinesiology at Penn State Altoona. He has written works on Christianity and embodiment, the nature and meaning of miracles in sport, and, most recently, a Pauline analysis of disability sport specifically related to the interplay of ‘God-given’ and ‘human-made’ flesh (<i>Journal of Religion and Disability</i>). Peter earned his doctorate from the Pennsylvania State University in Kinesiology specializing in the history and philosophy of sport.</p> <p><b>Professor John Swinton</b> is Professor in Practical Theology and Pastoral Care and Director of the <i>Centre for Spirituality, Health and Disability</i> at the University of Aberdeen, UK. He published extensively on the theology of disability and in 2012, delivered a keynote presentation at an international conference that explored Catholic perspectives on Paralympic sport. John is currently working with Jean Vanier on issues of theology and mental health and is an ordained minister of the Presbyterian Church and works closely with the church in both research and practice.</p> <p><b>Cristina Gangemi</b> holds a Master’s degree in Pastoral Theology with a special focus on Disability. She is Co-Director of <i>The Kairos Forum</i> (University of Aberdeen, Scotland), which focuses on enabling communities to be places of belonging for disabled people. Cristina coordinated activities for the Catholic Church during the 2012 Games and has been a keynote speaker at the Vatican, in Rome, on the subject of disability, theology and sport.</p> <p><b>Anne-Wafula Strike MBE</b> was the first wheelchair racer from East Africa to compete at the Paralympics (in Athens, 2004), and further to receiving British citizenship in 2006, represented Great Britain at the London 2012 Paralympics, where she was a member of BBC and ITV television commentary teams. She has been recognized by the Queen for her athletic accomplishments and involvement with a range of charities for those with disabilities. Anna has spoken as an advocate for those with disabilities, in the House of Commons and the House of Lords, London.</p>

## Fathering and Mentoring through Sports and Physical Education

**Chair: Cassie Carsten's** central mission is to train transformational leaders. He founded the *African Leadership Institute for Community Transformation* (ALICT) in 2004, and co-founded the *International Sports Leadership School* (ISLS) in 1999. He initiated *Ubabalo*, now operating in 140 countries, by which sport coaches are trained to be life-coaches and thus model sound fatherhood to the youth. As chaplain of the 1995 South-African Rugby World Champion winning team, he has seen how societal and cultural reconciliation and transformation can materialize through the vehicle of sport. Most recently, Cassie specialises in addressing the global pandemic of fatherlessness and has started a movement called, *The World Needs A Father*.

**Dr Brian Bolt** is a Professor of Kinesiology, Department Chair, and intercollegiate men's golf coach at Calvin College, US. His scholarly and service work includes practical connections between sport and Christianity, coaching and teaching methodology, and working with underprivileged youth in sport and mentoring. He is the Founding Co-Chair of the *Sports and Christianity Group* (2014-), who developed the 'Declaration on Sport and Christian Life'.

**Joe Ehrmann** has been a speaker, author, activist, and coach for more than 30 years. Joe was an All-American football player at Syracuse University and was selected to the All-Century Football Team. Joe went on to play professional football for 13 years. He was named the Colts "Man of the Year" and was the NFL's first Ed Block Courage Award winner. *Parade Magazine* featured him on its cover, naming him "*The Most Important Coach in America*" because of his work to transform the culture of sports and author of the book, *InSideOut Coaching: How Sports Can Transform Lives* (2011, Simon and Schuster).

**Dr Steven Wright** is the Head Football Coach and Assistant Athletic Director at Cardinal Gibbons High School in Raleigh, North Carolina (US). A former NCAA Division I athlete and 15 year coaching veteran, his focus is on leveraging his position as a coach to impact student-athletes with the gospel. He seeks to do this by intentionally integrating the Christian faith and the sports experience. Steven is also the Founder and President of *A Coaching Revolution* ([www.acoachingrevolution.com](http://www.acoachingrevolution.com)) an organization dedicated to equipping coaches with a philosophy of leadership that is biblically-driven.

**Dr Don Vinson** is a Principal Lecturer in Sports Coaching Science at the University of Worcester. Don's interests surround sports pedagogy, coaching, performance analysis, spirituality and research methods. Don is a Senior Fellow of the Higher Education Academy and is interested in contemporary models of higher education teaching. Don is also involved in elite sport, working as Head Coach at Sutton Coldfield Ladies Hockey Club in the England Hockey League Premier Division.

**Dr Nick J Watson** is Senior Lecturer in Sport, Culture and Religion and head of pastoral care for sports students at York St John University, UK, and, Co-Director of the *Centre for Sport, Spirituality and Religion*, University of Gloucestershire, UK. Reflecting his practical and academic background in the world of sport, and experience of

	<p>Church leadership, a major aim of Nick's work is to facilitate the coming together of scholars, athletes, church leaders and practitioners from across all denominations and streams of Christianity, to affect a 'culture shift' in the world of sports.</p>
<p><b>Women, Sports and Christianity</b></p>	<p><b>Chair: Professor Tracy J Trothen</b> is Associate Professor of Ethics and Theology at the Queen's University School of Religion, Kingston, Canada. She has four books published or in press, and over 25 articles and book chapters addressing feminist theologies, embodiment, sexuality and techno-science enhancements in sport. Trothen is currently at work on a book entitled, <i>Sport, Religion and Enhancements: Implications for Hope in Sport</i> (Mercer University Press, Sport and Religion Series, 2015).</p> <p><b>Ruth Gravelling</b> MA MSc is heavily involved in sport-faith initiatives and was commissioned by <i>Scripture Union</i>, in 2014, to conduct a nationwide review of sport ministry provision in the UK. She recently completed a Masters in Sport and Christian Outreach at the University of Gloucestershire, UK, and previously studied for a MSc in Sport and Exercise Science. Ruth is passionate about sport, in particular, basketball, running and water-sports, and has worked as a Youth and Sports Minister for over five-and-a-half-years in a variety of contexts in the UK. A recent article published in the <i>Journal of Religion and Society</i> (with Andrew parker and Mike Collins), is based upon this experience and data collected in sport-faith environments.</p> <p><b>Dr Synthia Sydnor</b> is Associate Professor in the Department of Kinesiology &amp; Community Health, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign. Her work concentrates on cultural-historical analysis of play, ritual, and physical culture. She is co-author of a book about the history and ethnography of extreme sports and has been a National Endowment for the Humanities scholar. After her conversion to Roman Catholicism in 1998, she published a range of articles and book chapters that explored radical orthodoxy, Catholicism and embodiment.</p> <p><b>Dr Valerie J Gin</b> is Professor and Chair of the Department of Recreation, Sport and Wellness at Gordon College, MA, US. She has published a number of articles, book chapters and a book on sport and Christianity. Val also served as a Sport in Society Research Fellow at Northeastern University, US. She led the Gordon volleyball team to multiple NCAA appearances and is the winningest coach in Gordon volleyball and softball history. Val recently co-authored, <i>When Women Became Lions</i>, a novel on the challenges before Title IX. She is the Founding Co-Chair of the <i>Sports and Christianity Group</i> (2014-) who developed the 'Declaration on Sport and Christian Life'.</p> <p><b>Dr Carmen Nanko-Fernández</b> is associate professor of Hispanic Theology and Ministry, and director of the Hispanic Theology and Ministry program at the Catholic Theological Union, Chicago, Illinois, US. A Latin theologian, her scholarship includes focus on theology and béisbol, with attention to race, migration and colonization. Among Carmen's publications reflecting this interest are <i>Theologizing en Espanish: Context, Community and Ministry</i></p>

	<p>(Orbis, 2010); <i>Ordinary Theologies, Extraordinary Circumstances: Intersections of Faith and Popular Culture among the Ruins</i>, in <i>Recovering 9/11 in New York</i>, Fanuzzi and Wolfe, eds, (Cambridge Scholars Press, 2014); and in progress, <i>El Santo! Baseball and the Canonization of Roberto Clemente</i>, (Mercer University Press, TBA).</p>
<p><b>Sports, Bioethics, Performance Enhancements and Biotechnology: Theological Reflections</b></p>	<p><b>Chair: Patrick T Smith</b>, PhD is an Assistant Professor of Theology and Philosophy at Gordon-Conwell Theological Seminary, South Hamilton, MA, USA. He received an academic appointment as a Research Fellow in Medical Ethics through the Department of Global Health and Social Medicine, Harvard Medical School, Boston, MA, USA for the 2013 - 2015 academic years. He is dedicated to global education having taught courses and provided lectures to pastors, medical professionals, educators and community leaders in Kitwe, Zambia; Johannesburg, South Africa; Nairobi, Kenya; and various regions in the West Indies.</p> <p><b>Professor Tracy J Trothen</b> is Associate Professor of Ethics and Theology at the Queen's University School of Religion, Kingston, Canada. She has four books published or in press, and over 25 articles and book chapters addressing feminist theologies, embodiment, sexuality and techno-science enhancements in sport. Trothen is currently at work on a book entitled, <i>Sport, Religion and Enhancements: Implications for Hope in Sport</i> (Mercer University Press, Sport and Religion Series, 2015).</p> <p><b>Professor Fabrice Jotterand</b>, PhD, MA, is Associate Professor in the Department of Health Care Ethics at Regis University and Senior Researcher at the Institute for Biomedical Ethics, University of Basel. He has edited three books and has published multiple articles and book chapters on topics including human and moral enhancement, transhumanism, neurotechnologies and human identity, the use of neurotechnologies in psychiatry, and moral and political philosophy. He is currently working on an edited volume on cognitive enhancement under contract with Oxford University Press.</p>
<p><b>Catholicism and Sports</b></p>	<p><b>Chair: Fr. Patrick Kelly</b>, SJ, is Associate Professor of Theology and Religious Studies at Seattle University, where he teaches courses about sport and spirituality. He is the author of <i>Catholic Perspectives on Sports: From Medieval to Modern Times</i> (Paulist, 2012), and the editor of <i>Youth Sport and Spirituality: Catholic Perspectives</i> (The University of Notre Dame Press, forthcoming).</p> <p><b>Mgr. Vladimir Felzmann D.D</b> (aka Fr Vlad) is the Founding CEO of the <i>John Paul II Foundation for Sport</i> (2011-). He was born in Prague 1939, came to the UK in 1946, and was ordained in 1969. He gained an MSc (Eng.) at Imperial College, London, and a doctorate of divinity, Lateran University, Rome. Vlad has worked as a teacher (1973-1985),</p>

	<p>Diocesan Director of School Chaplains (1985-2014) and Director All Saints Pastoral Centre (1991-2001). In 2011 he was appointed Catholic Chaplain to Canary Wharf and Catholic Chaplain for Sport.</p> <p><b>Susan Saint Sing</b>, PhD is an Alumni Fellow of The Pennsylvania State University. She has published nine books and spoken internationally on sport and spirituality. Her recent book in sport philosophy, <i>Play Matters, So Play as if it Matters</i> (2013), was endorsed by sport philosopher, Scott Kretchmar. She received a Vatican Appointment to speak on her book, <i>Spirituality of Sport</i> (2007). Saint Sing has coached crews to seven national rowing medals and was a member of the 1993 US World Rowing Team. She resides in Stuart, FL, US.</p> <p><b>Dr Mark Nesti</b> is a Chartered Sport Psychologist and Associate Professor in Sport Psychology at Liverpool John Moores University, UK. He is a Founding Board member of the John Paul II Foundation, UK for Sport (UK), has published a number of books and carries out sport psychology consultancy work with Olympic athletes, and in a number of English Premier League football clubs.</p> <p><b>Mr. Santiago Perez Camino</b> is the Head of the Vatican's 'Sport and Church' office, in charge of the relations of the Catholic Church with all the International Organizations on Sports and the study and promotion of the values and virtues on sports and through sports on society. Santiago, born in Madrid in 1986 is a lawyer specialized on International Law. Has been responsible for the Visa Office at the General Secretariat of World Youth Day Madrid 2011. He has collaborated for 10 years in youth ministry in the diocese of Madrid, including training coaches and soccer players in schools and youth clubs.</p>
<p><b>Sports Chaplaincy</b></p>	<p><b>Chair: Andrew Parker</b> is Professor of Sport and Christian Outreach and Co-Director of the Centre for Sport, Spirituality and Religion (CSSR) in the Faculty of Applied Sciences at the University of Gloucestershire, UK. Since 2008, Andrew has convened the University's suite of postgraduate courses in Sports Ministry and Sports Chaplaincy. He has published a number of articles, working papers and commissioned reports on sport and the Christian faith. Andrew was co-editor of the <i>International Journal of Religion and Sport</i> between 2010-2012.</p> <p><b>Roger Lipe</b> is the Field Representative for the Fellowship of Christian Athletes (1994-) in the 24 southernmost counties of Illinois (USA). He has served as as a sport chaplain in amateur and professional contexts. Roger is the author of six books of devotions for athletes and coaches, including, <i>Heart of a Champion – Devotions for the People of Sport</i> (2005), <i>Transforming Lives in Sport – A Guide for Sport Chaplains and Sport Mentors</i> (2006 ) and <i>Free to Compete – Reflections on Sport from a Christian Perspective</i> (2013). Roger chairs the Sport Chaplaincy Table within the <i>International Sport Coalition</i> and has been privileged to contribute to sport chaplaincy training and development in several nations around the world.</p>

	<p><b>Richard Gamble</b> is Chief Executive Officer of Sports Chaplaincy UK a charity which places chaplains into professional and amateur sport. He also served as a chaplain for Leicester City for three seasons and in the Olympic village during 2012. He is also director of Hinckley AFC a lower league community owned club. He completed the first MA in Sports Chaplaincy and now supports on the course at the University of Gloucestershire. He is currently researching pastoral care for elite academy footballers.</p> <p><b>Steven N Waller</b> is Associate Professor of Sport Management at the University of Tennessee-Knoxville, USA. He also co-directs the sport chaplaincy cohort in the Doctor of Ministry program at United Theological Seminary (Dayton, OH). His research interests include contextualized pastoral care for athletes, holistic care, and professional certification of sport chaplains. Steven is an ordained clergyperson who has served athletes in congregations for more than two decades and has published widely on sports chaplaincy.</p> <p><b>Anthony MJ Maranise, Obl.S.B.</b> is a research scholar in the Department of Religion &amp; Philosophy affiliated with the Master of Arts in Catholic Studies Program at Christian Brothers University in Memphis, Tennessee. He is an Oblate of the Order of St Benedict in the Roman Catholic Church, having dedicated his life to academic research and instruction with specializations in the intersection of Sports, Spirituality, and Religion, Catholic Spirituality, and Benedictine Monasticism. As a Certified Sports Lifestyle Coach, recognized through the International Sports Professionals Association, he happily serves student-athletes as a sports chaplain at various institutions throughout the Southern United States and is the author of the book, <i>Sport &amp; the Spiritual Life: The Integration of Playing &amp; Praying</i> (Amazon Press, 2013). He has also published on religious issues in the in <i>The Sport Psychologist</i> journal.</p>
<p><b>Sports, Peace and Religion International Perspectives on the 2016 Rio Olympic and Paralympic Games</b></p>	<p><b>Chair: Professor Sebastian Kim</b> holds the Chair in Theology and Public Life in the Faculty of Education &amp; Theology and Director of the <i>Centre for Religion in Society</i>, York St John University, UK. He is the founding chief-editor of the <i>International Journal of Public Theology</i> and has published widely on peace and reconciliation in the discipline of theology. He is a Fellow of the Royal Asiatic Society and was formerly Director of the Christianity in Asia Project and taught World Christianity at the Faculty of Divinity of the University of Cambridge, UK.</p> <p><b>Dr Davies Banda</b> is a Senior Lecturer in Sport policy and Development at York St John University, UK. His research focuses on sport policy and political science analysis with particular interest in the use of sport for addressing wider social agendas. He has published widely on international development in sport (including initiatives surrounding sport, church and NGOs in Africa) and is a consultant for a number of sport-for-development organisations and international sport organisations such as the Euroleague Basketball.</p> <p><b>Drew Gibson</b> is Professor of Practical Theology at Union Theological College, Belfast, Northern Ireland. He is an</p>

	<p>ordained Presbyterian minister and has served in five congregations in the province, in England and in East Africa and has taught theology for twenty five years. He has published on Calvin as a preacher and exemplar for mission, sport and identity and church and community in Northern Ireland.</p> <p><b>Professor Grant Jarvie</b> is Chair of Sport at the University of Edinburgh where he is linked to both the School of Education and the Academy of Government. He was awarded an Honorary Doctorate in recognition for his services to international collaboration and has worked with the Prince Albert Foundation to promote peace and reconciliation through sport. He continues to act as an international advisor to UNESCO.</p> <p><b>Dr Joel Rookwood</b> studied football science at undergraduate level, Masters degrees in notation analysis and sport sociology, and a PhD in football fan culture. He is a senior lecturer at Liverpool Hope University, UK. Joel has travelled to 130 countries in a variety of capacities, many of which reflect his key research interests of social involvement, peace-building, football fandom and collective identity. Over the last decade he has been involved in practical and research-based international development programmes across six continents, and has published several related books and articles.</p>
<p><b>Ethical and Social Issues in Sports: Christian Reflections</b></p>	<p><b>Chair: Scott Kretchmar</b> is Professor of Sport and Exercise Science at Penn State University, USA. He is past president of the International Association for the Philosophy of Sport and has been chief editor of the <i>Journal of the Philosophy of Sport</i>. During the last four decades he has published widely on the philosophy of sport, and more recently, sport and Christianity.</p> <p><b>John White</b> is the Harold and Dottie Riley Assistant Professor of Practical Theology/Ethics and Director of the Sports Chaplaincy/Ministry Programme at Baylor University, TX, US. He was formerly a staff member of Athletes in Action and has authored/edited a number of academic and practitioner books on sport and Christianity and convened an international Think-Tank on sports and Christianity in 2005.</p> <p><b>Reverend Dr Gordon Preece</b> is an ordained Anglican minister leading a parish in Melbourne, Director of Ethos: EA Centre for Christianity &amp; Society, and has an ethics consultancy. He is former director of the Ridley College Centre for Applied Christian Ethics, Macquarie Christian Studies Institute, and Urban Seed, Australia. With Professor Robert Hess, he co-edited the book, <i>Sport and Spirituality: An Exercise in Everyday Theology</i> (2009) and edited <i>Spirituality &amp; Sport, Zadok Perspectives</i> 115, Winter 2012.</p> <p><b>Andrew R. Meyer</b> is an Assistant Professor of Sport Foundations at Baylor University, TX, US in the Health, Human Performance and Recreation Department. His research examines historical muscular Christian values and themes that persist in contemporary American sport, evidenced through media representations of athlete hero-icons. His</p>

	<p>research and publication areas include muscular Judaism, Radical Orthodoxy, sport media, sport ideology in the contemporary social context, disability and health in religious contexts, and meaning creation at “for-cause” athletic events.</p> <p><b>Chad Carlson</b> is an Assistant Professor of Kinesiology and an Assistant Men’s Basketball Coach at Hope College, MI, US. He serves on the executive board of the International Association for the Philosophy of Sport and has served in various administrative capacities with the North American Society for Sport History. He has published in the fields of sport philosophy, sport history, and sport and religion. His research focuses on the philosophy of play and games, sport metaphysics, sport ethics, cultural narratives in modern sport, and the history of American intercollegiate sport.</p>
Sports Ministry	<p><b>Chair: Graham Daniels</b> joined the <i>Christians in Sport</i> (UK) staff team in 1989 and has been General Director since 2002. He has been involved in sport all his life, was an ex-professional footballer and he is currently a Director of Cambridge United Football Club. He continues to play football for Cambridge Veterans. He is an Associate Staff member of The Round Church at St. Andrew the Great (StAG).</p> <p><b>David Oakley</b> is the British Director, CEO, Europe and International Executive Member of <i>Ambassadors Football</i> (formerly known as Ambassadors in Sport). Ambassadors work in 25 countries to bring transformation to individuals/communities through football outreach and have been nominated three times globally (one time winner) by <i>Beyond Sport</i> for their social change impact through football. For over 20 years David has been an international conference speaker, lecturer, Bible teacher and has completed a Masters in Applied Theology (sport ministry) from Regents Bible College/Manchester University, UK.</p> <p><b>Dr Greg Linville</b> has been a Sports Chaplain to Professional and College teams for over 40 years and is Executive Director of the Christian Sports and Recreation Ministries. He is a Licensed Christian Worker with the Evangelical Friends Church and has acted as a teaching Professor at four different Seminaries and Universities in three different countries. Greg was awarded the world’s first Honorary Doctorate in Sports Ministry and also holds an earned Doctorate. His latest book is, <i>Christmanship: A Theology of Competition and Sport</i> (2014, Oliver House Press) and he is a married father of two married children and grandfather of a growing number of grandchildren.</p> <p><b>Dave Geuring</b>, European Director of the Fellowship of Christian Athletes (Italy): in partnership with different agencies, churches and individuals David and his team envision, launch, build and develop ministry to coaches and athletes and through sport in the European countries that have little or no sports ministry. The team also offers internships combining training with field experience throughout Europe. His vision is to invest in the next generation of Sports Ministry Leaders. David has been playing and coaching Handball for 25 years and lives in</p>

	Northern Italy with his wife Rita and their daughter Elsie.
<p><b>Global Perspectives in Sports and Christianity</b></p>	<p><b>Chair: Dr Afe Adogame</b> is Senior Lecturer in Religious Studies and World Christianity at the University of Edinburgh, UK. Previously, he was a Senior Fellow at Harvard University <i>Centre for the Study of World Religions</i>, USA, 2003-04. In 2012, Afe has convened an international conference (Egerton University, Kenya, 2012) and seminar (University of Edinburgh, 2013) on sports and religion. Afe has authored/co-edited numerous books, a recent example being: <i>The African Christian Diaspora: New Currents and Emerging Trends in World Christianity</i> (2013, Bloomsbury Academic).</p> <p><b>Dr Abel Ugba</b> is a Senior Lecturer in the School of Arts and Digital Industries, University of East London, London. He obtained an MA in journalism (DCU, Ireland) and a PhD in sociology (Trinity College Dublin). His research and publishing activities cover the sociology of religion, media, and migration. In 2009 he published <i>Shades of Belonging: African Pentecostals in Twenty-first Century Ireland</i> (Trenton: Jersey Africa World Press). This highly-acclaimed seminal publication has been cited by writers on and researchers of immigrant religious communities.</p> <p><b>Professor Dr Dr Frieder Ludwig</b> (FIT Hermannsburg) received his PhDs in history (1991) and theology (1995) from Heidelberg University and the Habilitation from Munich University (LMU, 1999). Ludwig lectured in Germany, Nigeria and the USA. He focuses on African Religions, History of Christianity, Interreligious Relations and Religion and Sport. His more than hundred contributions include articles in <i>Journal of Religion in Africa</i>, <i>Zeitschrift für Kirchengeschichte</i>, <i>Theologische Zeitschrift</i> and <i>Journal of the American Academy of Religion</i>.</p> <p><b>Damaris Seleina Parsitau</b> is a Senior lecturer of Religion, Gender and Human Rights at Egerton University Kenya, Africa. She is also the Director of the <i>Institute of Women Gender and Development Studies</i> (IWGDS). Parsitau is widely published on the area of religion, civic engagement and public life, religion and gender, religion and politics, religion and Human Rights and Faith Based Humanitarianism. Parsitau has held Visiting Research Fellowships and the Universities of Cambridge, UK, and University of Edinburgh in Scotland. She was the convener of the 5th AASR conference 2012 on Religion, Sports and Entertainment in Africa and the African Diaspora.</p>
<p><b>Historical Perspectives on Sports and Christianity</b></p>	<p><b>Chair: Rob Hess</b> is an Associate Professor in sport history at Victoria University, and is one of Australia's foremost sport historians. He also has an international reputation for sport history scholarship, and is the appointed Managing Editor of the discipline's foremost journal, the <i>International Journal of the History of Sport</i>. He is also the former President of the Australian Society for Sports History and, with Gordon Preece, the co-editor of <i>Sport and Spirituality</i> (2009).</p>

**Nils Martinus Justvik** is Associate Professor of History at the University of Agder, Norway. His doctoral thesis, published in Norwegian, thematized Sport and Christianity in the Biblebelt of Norway (1945 – 2000) and was subsequently published as a book. Currently he is working on a historiographical article – in English – comparing his doctoral thesis to three milestones of the US literature of Muscular Christianity.

**Hugh McLeod** is Professor of Church History at the University of Birmingham, UK. His research focuses on the social history of religion in Western Europe and the US in the nineteenth and twentieth centuries. His books include *Piety and Poverty: Working Class Religion in Berlin, London and New York, 1870–1914* (1996) and *The Religious Crisis of the 1960s* (2007). He has published several articles on the relationship between religion, politics and sport.

**Dr Dominic Erdozain** is Visiting Scholar at the Candler School of Theology, Emory University, and Research Fellow at King's College London, where he taught for seven years. His first book, *The Problem of Pleasure: Sport, Recreation and the Crisis of Victorian Religion* (2010) explored the relationship between Christianity and sport in the nineteenth century. His current project, *The Soul of Doubt: The Religious Roots of Unbelief from Luther to Marx*, includes a discussion of the role of dualistic or 'anti-physical' attitudes in the making of modern skepticism. Although no longer specializing in the history of sport, he remains as convinced as ever of the importance of putting sport and Christianity into conversation.

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