2009 ESDN SYMPOSIUM ‘THE THEORY AND PRACTICE OF SPORTS DEVELOPMENT’ @ NOTTINGHAM TRENT UNIVERSITY (NTU).

Collaboratively organised by the European Sports Development Network (ESDN) and the NTU ‘PE and Sports Development Research Team’ (Dept of Education, NTU).

To be held on:
3rd – 4th September 2009: A two day symposium at Nottingham Trent University, Nottingham, United Kingdom.

European Sports Development Network (ESDN) 2009 launch symposium

Building upon the momentum generated by London 2012, the new Sport England strategy (2008) and recent changes in the governance of sport in England between National Governing Bodies of Sport and County Sports Partnerships – what does the lead up and ‘legacy’ of 2012 hold for grass roots community sports development? More crucially, what areas of theory currently inform the practice, pedagogy and evaluation of sports development? This two day conference will be of interest to established academics, policy makers, sports development practitioners and postgraduate students.

Equally, what can we learn from sports development practice and theoretical developments outside the United Kingdom? The goal of this conference is to provide an opportunity to share ideas, different theoretical perspectives and build a network of academics (newly formed European Sports Development Network) policy makers/evaluators and practitioners that share a common interest in sports development practice in local communities.

Presentation themes

There are six broad presentation themes:

- The voluntary sector sports club, local networks and communities
- School sport, health promotion and sports development
- Theorising sports development policy and practice
- Grass roots sport and elite talent pathways
- Coach education, coaching practice and sports development
- Evaluating sports development: Evidence-based practice – what works?

The conference is supported by the International Journal of Sports Policy (IJSP) and will be linked to a special one-off edition of the IJSP. All oral papers will be a maximum of 20 minutes in length with 10 minutes for questions/responses. The symposium will also include an opportunity for workshops, discussions and networking. The Conference is also supported by the European Sports Development Network (ESDN) based at Nottingham Trent University. A core aim of the conference is to develop a longer term network of academics, practitioners and postgraduate students with a shared interest in sports development. Future links, visiting scholarships, idea exchange and collaboration between members of the ESDN is to be in part fostered through the symposium sessions.

Key note speakers confirmed to date include:
Professor Joyce Liddle, Nottingham Trent University, UK.
John Eady, KKP Sports Management Consultancy, Manchester, UK.
Prof Fred Coalter, Stirling University, UK (TBC).
Prof Barrie Houlihan, Loughborough, UK (TBC).
Reader in Sport, Dr Kevin Hylton, Leeds Metropolitan University, UK (TBC).
Conference Scientific Committee

Professor Joyce Liddle – International Professor of Public Sector Management, Nottingham Business School, NTU, UK.
John Eady, Chief Executive KKP Sports Management Consultancy, UK
Prof Vassil Girginov, Brunel University (TBC), UK.
Prof Barrie Houlihan, Loughborough University (TBC), UK.
Dr Nils Bergsard, Norway (TBC).
Reader in Sport Dr Kevin Hylton, LMU (TBC), UK.
Chris Mackintosh – Senior Lecturer and Research Team Leader for Sports Development, NTU, UK (ESDN Secretary).

Paper submission and conference administration

Submit a maximum 500 word abstract by May 1st 2009 to christopher.mackintosh@ntu.ac.uk include within this abstract a title, main research question(s), methods, findings and implications for practice as well as 4 key words and the theme you wish to present under.

- Abstract acceptance notification by May 22 2009;
- Conference programme and details published on ESDN/Nottingham Trent University website July 2009;
- Conference date 3-4 September 2009 – location Nottingham Trent University, Nottingham.

There is also a postgraduate poster session and workshop on Sept 4th which will be led by Chris Mackintosh and the PESD team to encourage peer support and collaboration in sports development research.

Outline Programme Structure

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Accommodation, Fees and Travel:

There are a range of city centre hotels available. The conference venue will be located in the city centre but further details of the full social programme will be released with the acceptance of papers. It is hoped that a sporting venue will be available. Catering will be kept to a minimum to avoid increasing the cost of the
symposium. Travel to Nottingham is possible through EAST Midlands airport and the connecting SKYLINK bus that runs every 20 mins to the City centre. Likewise Nottingham city centre is well served by public transport by bus and train services in the region and nationally if people fly into other national or regional airports.

FEES; The cost of the inaugural ESDN symposium is £100 for working academics, practitioners in sports development and policy makers. The fee for postgraduate students is £70. This includes coffee, light refreshments and two lunch buffets. It does not include evening meals. There will be evening social programme on 3 and 4th September with a planned meal option both nights. The ESDN is set-up as a not-for-profit co-operative society, so all profits from fees will be used to go back into organising future seminars and events in Europe. The 2010 Symposium will be linked to ESDN membership and likely reduced rates.

Other (Non-symposium) NTU Sports Development Research Information:

The ESDN is also looking into the development of a European Journal of Sports Development (EJSD) with Routledge (Taylor and Francis) and is currently in negotiation with them, and, is looking for interested academics and practitioners to sit on the editorial board, help with book reviews and contribute towards on-line newsletters. We are also launching an independent website which members of ESDN (cost free) will be able to interact with, exchange ideas and blog (launch June 2010). If you require further info, or would like to register as a member then email Christopher.mackintosh@ntu.ac.uk or contact me at NTU, Room E007, Clifton Campus, Nottingham, NG11 8NS United Kingdom. Telephone: 0044+7957734053 (work mobile) or 0044+01159230268(ESDN office). We currently need more people from France, Germany and Eastern Europe.

PE and Sports Development Research Cluster

Nottingham Trent University has a thriving research culture, as seen by recent RAE results, within our cluster of five academics we have a seminar series running each year, workshops and cross cluster collaboration (e.g. SEN and sports development project 2009-10). We pride ourselves on being inclusive and collaborative and encompass geographers, political scientists, sociologists, health promotion specialists, criminologists and ex-physical education teachers and Sports Development Officers (SDO’s). We have seminars running in February, May and July in the lead up to the symposium and welcome external people from local authorities, partner universities, PE colleges and school sport providers. Further information can be obtained from the graduate research administrator kate.booth@ntu.ac.uk or, if you would like to present, be a visiting scholar in 2009-2011 then contact Christopher.mackintosh@ntu.ac.uk (PE and Sports Development Cluster Leader and Senior Lecturer in Sports Development, NTU). Our team is hosting Qiang Yin from China in April for 3 months as a first for our team in PE and Psychology linking into sports development. We also support PhD applications and are looking into scholarships in the field of sports development and PE.
The PE and Sports Development research team at NTU links into the ESDN. Founding members and presenters at this years bi-monthly seminars include:

**Dr Jackie Tivers** – Sports geography and sports development, gender and role of space/place in sports development *(October 2008).*

**Dr David Hindley** – sports governance, football communities – awarded FIFA scholarship (2007) and currently researching Corporate Social Responsibility in English Professional Football Clubs and their local communities *(December 2008).*

**Zoe Butcher** – Physical activity and health, measuring and evaluating physical activity patterns at primary school age settings *(March 18th 2009 4-5pm, NTU, Clifton Campus)*

**Chris Mackintosh** – Community sports development, voluntary sports clubs, multi-agency collaboration, programme evaluation and the politics of sports development practice/policy *(May 2009 date/title TBC).*

**Other cluster collaborative members:** Prof Joyce Liddle (NTU International Centre for Public Sector Management), Jackie Scruton (NTU special needs cluster) cycling and disability specialism, Pete Shaw (RFU), Simon Starr (Nottinghamshire Sports Partnership), Tom Mapp (Lincolnshire Sports Partnership Senior Competition Manager, Lincolnshire region).

PE and Sports Cluster leader at NTU for 2008-2012 is Chris Mackintosh. Our web presence is being developed and we will link to the work of the International Centre for Public Sector Management Research with Prof Joyce Liddle in 2010. We publish a regular newsletter (available on request) which will be expanded to the ESDN newsletter twice a year and actively encourage external colleagues to join our seminar series debates that run bi-monthly at NTU.

We would also like to thank ISPAL, NTU, Prof Joyce Liddle for their support in this academic venture.

Yours in sport,