



THE UNIVERSITY OF
SYDNEY

The Business and Development of Women's Football Conference

31 July to 3 August 2023



We acknowledge the tradition of custodianship and law of the Country on which the University of Sydney campuses stand. We pay our respects to those who have cared and continue to care for Country.

Conference Painting

Many Women Dreaming on Gadigal Country



Tarunna Sebastian (2023)

Many women travelling across the seven seas looking forward to being part of a global gathering and camping on Gadigal Country, the Lands of the Gadigal People. They are taking part in a Yarning Circle about women's football where the camp looks inwards. The Camp is encircled by many wind breaks. There are men there also, looking outwards to protect the Gadigal Camp.

Conference Sponsors



THE UNIVERSITY OF
SYDNEY



Sydney Uni
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SYDNEY UNIVERSITY
SOCCER FOOTBALL CLUB

Conference Organiser



Sport, Movement and Social & Human Development Research Group - The University of Sydney

Sydney University SFC Alums and Current Matildas



Sydney University Alum, Matilda and Sydney University SFC graduate Clare Hunt



Sydney University Alum, Matilda and Sydney University SFC graduate Clare Wheeler



Hunt, Wheeler and the Rest of the Matildas Receiving their World Cup Jerseys

CONFERENCE SCHEDULE

Monday 31st July 2023

7:30pm –10:30pm

Sydney University Soccer Football Club will be hosting a “watch party” for the Matildas v. Canada World Cup match at TAG Stadium, Sydney University.
Cash Bar Will Be Open

Tuesday 1st August 2023

Conference Location:

TAG function room Oval Number Two, University of Sydney

Welcome/Acknowledgement to Country and Smoking Ceremony 8.30-9am

Auntie Deb Lennis, Uncle Wadiya Wiriyanja and Dr. Tarunna Sebastian, University of Sydney

Welcome Session 9-9.40am

MC: Tracey Holmes, ABC and University of Canberra

Welcome to Australia (video message)

The Hon. Tanya Plibersek MP, Federal Minister for the Environment and Water

Welcome to The University of Sydney

Professor Mark Scott AO, VC & President of The University of Sydney

Sydney University Sport Welcome

Ed Smith, CEO of Sydney University Sport and Fitness Limited

Football NSW Welcome and Comments

John Tsatsimas, CEO Football NSW (New South Wales)

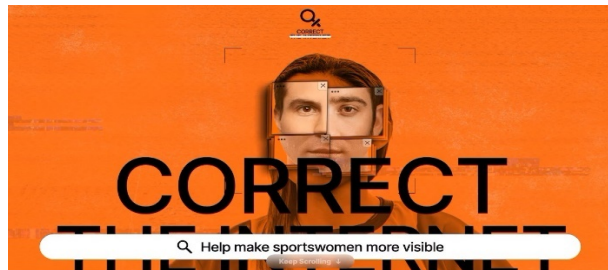
Organising Committee Welcome

Dr Anthea Clarke, Dr Andy Harper, Professor John Nauright

KICKOFF

9.40-9.45am

Correct the Internet



Rebecca Sowden

Team Heroine Founder & WeAreFearless Women's Sport Director, Former Aotearoa NZ Football Fern

OPENING SESSION

9.45-10.45am

The Incredible Rise of Women's Football

MC: Tracey Holmes, ABC and University of Canberra

Panel:

Julie Dolan, AM, Matilda #1 and first Matildas Captain; Legacy '23 Ambassador

Dr. Gabriela Garton, Melbourne Victory, Argentina National Team & Victoria University

Bonita Mersiades, Fair Play Publishing

Professor Jean Williams, University of Reading & JJHeritage, England



PANEL TWO: Women's Football and Inclusion 11-Noon

MC: Tracey Holmes, ABC and University of Canberra

Panel:

Rae Anderson, ParaMatilda, Paralympian & Disability Sport Australia

Ros Moriarty, Co-Founder, Co-Chair & Hon. Managing Director, Moriarty Foundation

A/Professor Sarah Zipp, Power to Play, Period & Mount St. Mary's University, USA



LUNCH BREAK

Noon-12.45pm

Informal Meet & Greet with Power to Play, Period

Hosted by: A/Professor Sarah Zipp, Founder and CEO

PANEL THREE: Global Opportunities in Women's Football 12.45-1.45pm

Moderator: Professor John Nauright, University of Sydney

Panel:

Jessie Davis, Captain & Director of Women's Football, FC Nordsjaelland, Denmark

Sarah Karlik, Swinburne University of Technology & Melbourne Victory FC

Elise Kellond-Knight, OLY, Matilda and Melbourne Victory FC

Brianne Reed, Dominican Republic National Team and South Melbourne FC

Emma Starr, Eastern Suburbs FC, Brisbane

Professional Women Players Can Go Anywhere



Note: Hayley Raso has signed with Real Madrid for 2023-24

Ellie Carpenter plays for Olympique Lyonnais in France

Alex Chidiac plays for Racing Louisville in the USA

Kyra Cooney-Cross plays for Hammarby IF in Sweden

Emily Van Egmond plays for the San Diego Wave in the USA

Katrina Gorry, Charlotte Grant & Clare Polkinghorne play for Vittsjö GIK in Sweden

Aivi Luik plays for BK Häcken in Sweden

Teagan Micah plays for FC Rosengård in Sweden

Tameka Yallop & Larissa Crummer play for SK Brann in Norway

PANEL FOUR: Roundtable: The Global Impact of Sam Kerr and the Matildas 2-2.45pm

Moderator: Professor John Nauright, University of Sydney

Panel:

Dr. Andrew Grainger, Western Sydney University

Tracey Holmes, ABC and University of Canberra

Professor Andrei Markovits, University of Michigan, USA

Professor Jean Williams, JJ Heritage and University of Reading, England



PANEL FIVE: Women's Football Markets and Supporters 3-4.10pm

Moderator: A/Professor Sarah Zipp, Mount St. Mary's University

By video: A/Prof Stacey Pope, University of Durham "Women's Football Fandom"

Panel:

Dr. Adam Beissel, Miami University, Ohio, USA

John Didulica, Melbourne Victory FC

Dr. Jacqui McAssey, Liverpool John Moores University, England

Professor John Nauright, University of Sydney

PANEL SIX: Sport Performance and Rehabilitation in Women's Football 4.20-5.20pm

Moderator: Dr. Anthea Clarke, La Trobe University

Panel:

Dr. James Barkell, University of Sydney

Dr. Alicia Edge, Compeat Performance

Dr. Nico Furlan, Athletic Performance Program Lead, Jointli

Dr. Billy Mason, University of Canberra



BOOK LAUNCH

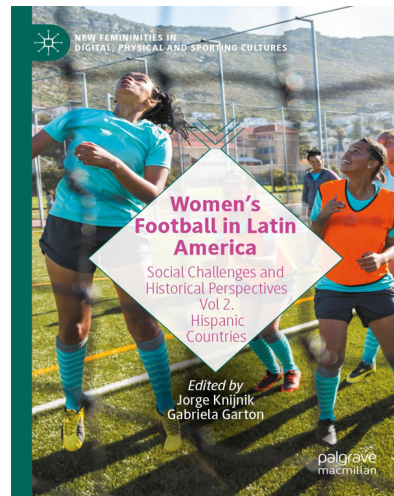
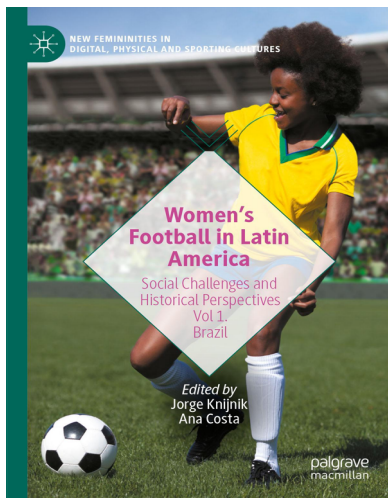
5.30-6.30pm

Jorge Knijnik, Ana Costa and Gabriela Garton, eds.

Women's Football in Latin America, 2 vols.

Volume One: Brazil

Volume Two: Hispanic Countries



Introduction:

Professor John Nauright

Convenor of the SMASHD Research Group, University of Sydney

Featured Speaker:

Professor Brenda Elsey, Hofstra University, USA

Author of *Futbolera: A History of Women and Sports in Latin America*; and *Citizens and Sportsmen: Fútbol and Politics in Twentieth Century Chile*

Remarks and Thanks:

Jorge Knijnik, Ana Costa and Gabriela Garton

Wine and Cheese reception to follow

Wednesday 2 AUGUST 2023

PANEL ONE: Football and Capacity Building for Girls and Women Around the World 8.15-9.15am

Moderator: Professor Martha Saavedra, University of California at Berkeley

Video presentation on the Caribbean:

Dr. Sasha Sutherland, Barbados Olympic Association; University of the West Indies

Panel:

Dr. Gabriela Garton, Argentina National Team & Melbourne Victory FC

Kylee Parsons, Right to Dream Foundation, Denmark, Ghana, & Egypt

Professor Nico Schulenkorf, University of Technology Sydney

PANEL TWO: Wellbeing and Mental Health 9.30-10.30am

Moderator: Professor Jioji Ravulo, University of Sydney

By video: Dr. Ritesh Agarwal, CEO Psynergy Mental Health

Panel:

Dr. James Barkell, University of Sydney

Dr. Abbe Brady, St. Mary's University Twickenham, UK

Dr. Katrina L. Wahlstrom, United States Sports Academy

A/Professor Sarah Zipp, Power to Play, Period, USA

Session Supported by:



PANEL THREE: Players, Politics & Power 10.45-11.45am

Moderator: James Kitching, The FC

Panel:

A/Professor Giuseppe Carabetta, University of Technology, Sydney

Professor Andrei Markovits, University of Michigan

A/Professor Catherine Ordway, University of Canberra

A/Professor Popi Sotiriadou, Griffith University

Important Football Books by Our Presenters

Adam Beissel, V. Postlewaite, Andrew Grainger & J. Brice, eds. (2023) *The 2023 FIFA Women's World Cup Politics, Representation, and Management*

Andrei Markovitz (2023) *Women in American Soccer and European Football*

Bonita Mersiades (2023) *Hear Us Roar: An anthology of emerging women football writers*

Bonita Mersiades (2022) *Whatever It Takes: The inside story of the FIFA Way*

Jean Williams (2022) *The History of Women's Football*

John Didiluica (2021) *Football Belongs: Eight matches that explain Australia*

Brenda Elsey & Joshua Nadel (2019) *Futbolera: A History of Women and Sports in Latin America*

Brenda Elsey & S. Pugliese (2017). *Football and the Boundaries of History: Critical Studies in Soccer*

John Nauright & Charles Parrish (2014) *Soccer Around the World: A Cultural Guide to the World's Favorite Game*

Andrei Markovits (2014) *Offside: Soccer and American Exceptionalism*

Jean Williams (2007) *A Beautiful Game: International Perspectives on Women's Football*

Jean Williams (2003) *A Game for Rough Girls?: A History of Women's Football in Britain*

PANEL FOUR: Empowering Girls & Women Through Football Noon-1.00pm

Moderator: A/Professor Sarah Zipp, Mount St. Mary's University & Power to Play, Period

Panel:

Professor Tanya Evans, Macquarie University

Helen Hardy, BBC, Foudys, & Manchester Laces FC

A/Professor Popi Sotiriadou, Griffith University

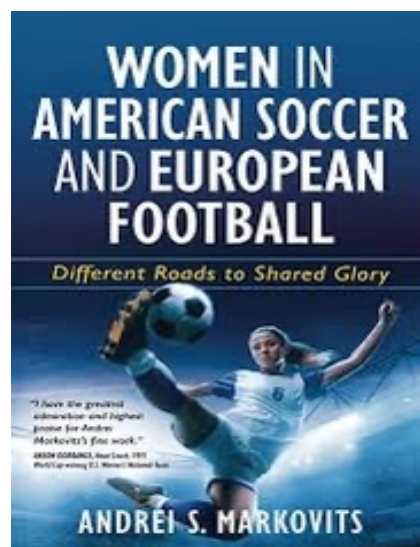
Professor Selvaraj Velayutham, Macquarie University

LUNCH BREAK 1.00-1.45pm

Special lunchtime feature 1:15-1:45pm

Q&A with Professor Andrei Markovits

Author: [Women in American Soccer and European Fotball: Different Roads to Shared Glory](#)



PANEL FIVE: Towards the World Cup: Powerchair & International Federation of Cerebral Palsy Football 1.50-2.35pm

Moderator: Dr. Andy Harper, LOC Chair of the Powerchair World Cup

Panel:

Rae Anderson, PLY, ParaMatilda and Paralympian, Disability Sport Australia

Professor Simon Darcy, University of Technology Sydney

Becky Evans, Poweroos

Session in Memory of Dr. Eli Wolff Founding Member of the Disability Football Alliance



PANEL SIX: Talent Development in Women's Football 2.40-3.30pm

Moderator: Professor Donna O'Connor, University of Sydney

Short video welcome: Neil Tunnah, The Performance Chain

Panel:

Alex Epakis, Head Coach, Perth Glory Women's W-League Team

Ante Juric, Head Coach, Sydney FC Women's W-League Team

Jessie Davis, Director of Women's Football, FC Nordsjaelland, Denmark

Berti Mariani, Marconi Football Club

Session supported by:



PANEL SEVEN: Paper Presentations 3:40-4:55pm

(Format: 10-minute presentations; short discussion after all presentations)

Developing a strategy to better engage and retain women and girls in Football: Using data to create a more equitable future.

Dr. Meghan Casey, Federation University of Australia

Leveraging Sport Mega Events to Create Sustainable Fan Engagement in Australian Women's Football

Corey Cutrupi, University of Technology Sydney

Changing Coaching Behaviour to Provide Strategies for Promoting Positive Body Image and Psychological Well-being

Dr. Vandy Pacetti-Donelson and Dr Katrina Wahlstrom, United States Sports Academy

Preliminary Findings: Innovative programme for the development of high-performance coaches in the women's professional game in England (video presentation)

Dr. Abbe Brady, St. Mary's University Twickenham, London, England

Sport for Women and Peace through Mega Sports Events and Tourism

Dr. KH Rezatab, University of Tabriz, Iran; Dr. Andrea Giampiccoli, Durban University of Technology, South Africa and Professor John Nauright

The Development of Elite Women's Football in China

Dr. Hongxin Li & Professor John Nauright

PANEL EIGHT: The Future of Women's Football 5-5.50pm

Moderator: Dr Meghan Casey, Federation University of Australia

Panel:

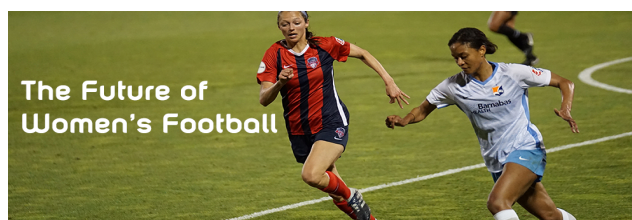
Arianna Criscione, Director of Women's Football, N3XT Sports, France

Rae Dower, Football Australia – Women's Technical Director

Helen Hardy, BBC, Foudy's & Manchester Laces, UK

Professor Andrei Markovits, University of Michigan, USA

Professor John Nauright, University of Sydney



FIFA WORLD CUP MATCH EXPERIENCE

8-10.30pm

FRANCE v PANAMA

ALLIANZ STADIUM OR CONFERENCE WATCH PARTY

NOTE: Our conference partner is Football Australia, however, we are not formally connected with the FIFA Women's World Cup 2023 or FIFA. We will have a social gathering near the Stadium for those attending the match and a watch option on the big screen for those who do not have match tickets.



Les Bleues



Las Canaleras

Thursday 3rd AUGUST 2023

Football Coaching Accreditation (focus on women)

University Oval 2

Participate in a coaching course aimed at empowering girls and women in the world of football. As champions of equality and inclusivity, we recognise the immense potential and talent within this underrepresented group. This course will provide you with a unique opportunity to enhance your coaching skills specifically tailored to the needs of girls and women, and to contribute to the development of the next generation of female footballers. Led by homegrown experts in women's football, the course will explore specialised training methodologies, effective communication strategies, and fostering a supportive and empowering environment for female players. Through engaging, interactive practical demonstrations, you will gain invaluable insights into the nuances of coaching girls and women, helping you to unlock their full potential on and off the field.

9am–noon

Football Coaching Accreditation (focus on junior female players)

Lunch 12-1pm

Barbecue and drinks courtesy of University of Sydney Union



12.30–3.30pm

Football Coaching Accreditation (focus on senior female players)

Concluding Panel: Coaching and Leadership Futures 3.45-4.45pm

Moderator: Dr James Barkell, University of Sydney

Panel:

Professor Richard Light, University of Sydney

Dr Gina Haddad, University of Sydney

Louise McColl, Football Australia

Sam McGowan, Football NSW and University of Sydney FC

CONFERENCE ORGANISING COMMITTEE

Dr James Barkell, University of Sydney (Workshop Coordinator)

Belinda Bonham, University of Sydney

Dr Anthea Clarke, La Trobe University

Dr Meghan Casey, Federation University of Australia

Dr Alicia Edge, Compeat Performance, Football Australia

Dr Steve Georgakis, University of Sydney (Conference Operations Chair)

Oscar Gonzales, Football Australia (Coaching Coordinator)

Dr Andy Harper, Network 10 and Paramount+ (CBS Viacom)

A/Professor Jorge Knijnik, Western Sydney University

Berti Mariani, Marconi Football Club

Professor John Nauright, University of Sydney (Program Chair)

Professor Donna O'Connor, University of Sydney

Dr Tarunna Sebastian, The University of Sydney

Amy Shepherd, Sydney University Soccer Football Club

Kirsty Stevens, Sydney University Sport and Fitness

A/Professor Raj Velayutham, Macquarie University

A/Professor Sarah Zipp, Mount St. Mary's University

GLOBAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE

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Dr Andrea Giampiccoli, Durban University of Technology, South Africa

Anna Goorevich, University of Minnesota, USA

Ana Kazz, Brazil

Dr Hongxin Li, Zhengzhou University of Light Industries, China

Lucy Mills, READY & Lewes Football Club, UK

Professor Christine Nash, University of Edinburgh, Scotland

Professor John Nauright, University of Sydney, Australia (Chair)

Dr. KH Rezatab, University of Tabriz, Iran

Professor Carmen Rial, Universidade Federal de Santa Catarina, Brazil

Dr Sasha Sutherland, University of the West Indies, Barbados

Dr Tomi Wahlstrom, Soccer Universities

A/Professor Sarah Zipp, Mount St. Mary's University, USA

We Celebrate the Transformative and Unprecedented Careers and Impact of Megan Rapinoe (USA) and Marta (Brazil)



SPEAKER BIOS



Dr. Ritesh Aggarwal (Rick) is a qualified Dental Surgeon but has been working within the mental health and wellbeing industry since 2017. He founded Psynergy Mental health in 2019 alongside Dr Danyal Akarca, a medical doctor and neuroscientist at the University of Cambridge. Psynergy Mental Health entered into a research partnership with NHS in March 2020 to look at ways to improve understanding of individual and organisational mental health and wellbeing. Rick is passionate about taking his preventative approach to dentistry and adopting this within Mental health thus shifting the mental health and wellbeing paradigm. We all have mental health all of the time that fluctuates on a continuum from being mentally healthy, mentally unhealthy at times, and also being mentally ill. By adopting preventative techniques for individuals and organisations we can all stay mentally healthy together. He has spoken at numerous UK and international events on the importance of wellbeing and mental health for individuals and organisations.

Rae Anderson is a dual Summer and Winter Australian Paralympian and Para Matilda. She represented Australia at the 2016 Rio Summer Paralympics in athletics and at the 2022 Beijing Winter Paralympics in alpine skiing, becoming the seventh Australian Paralympic athlete and only second female to represent Australia at a Summer and Winter Paralympics. A month after Beijing, Rae followed this achievement by being selected in the Australian Para Matildas squad placing Runners Up at the Inaugural Female Football World Cup Salau 2022. At age one she was diagnosed with Left Hemiplegic Dystonic and Spastic Cerebral Palsy, not being expected to walk unassisted. This was followed by ongoing physiotherapy, several multilevel surgeries and rehabilitation. In 2018, she took a year-long break from elite sport to focus on her studies. She moved to Indonesia for six months to pursue a degree in cultural studies in Bahasa Indonesia at the Gadjah Mada University in Yogyakarta. She has worked as Co-Director at University Bridge Project, a cultural exchanges initiative between Australian and Indonesian university students. In January 2021, she began working part-time as Project Coordinator at Disability Sports Australia before moving into a new role with Disability Sports Australia in 2022. Rae also works for Cerebral Palsy Sporting and Recreation Association in a similar role since May 2017 and speaks across Australia and Indonesia as a motivational speaker in schools and corporations.



Dr. James Barkell is a lecturer in Health and Physical Education, Nutrition and Sports Coaching in the School of Education and Social Work at The University of Sydney. James is a former professional rugby union player who turned his interests to coaching after his playing days, completing a Masters in Coach Education and then finishing his PhD in high-performance sport and coaching. James is still an early career researcher with 10 publications across a range of sports science and coaching journals. His main areas of research include performance analysis, coach pedagogy and skill acquisition. James has also presented at 6 international conferences including the World Congress of Science and Football and the World Congress of Performance Analysis in Sport.

James is also a highly accredited coaching practitioner with Level 4 accreditation in Rugby Union with experience coaching state representative teams and premier rugby. He is an accredited Australian Strength and Conditioning Association (ASCA) Level 2 coach and an Exercise and Sports Science Australia (ESSA) accredited Sports Scientist and Exercise Scientist who works with national level athletes in a variety of other sports such as Track and Field. He is also the host of The Coach Doctor Podcast, which discusses all aspects of sports coaching. His current major projects are in health and physical education, sports coaching, and coaching women's professional team sports.

A/Professor Adam Beissel is an Associate Professor and Director of Undergraduate Studies in the Department of Sport Leadership & Management at Miami University, Ohio (USA). He also holds an appointment as the Coordinator of International Education with the College of Education. Adam's scholarship and teaching interrogates the geopolitical economy of global sport. His primary research interests include: the political economy of Sport Mega-Events; Global Politics of International Sport; Sport Stadiums and Urban Development; Social and Economic (in)justice in College Sport; Sports Labor Markets and Global Athletic Migration. In addition to publishing several book chapters on issues pertaining to the cultural politics of sport, Adam has been published in numerous academic journals, including *Sociology of Sport Journal*; *Journal of Sport and Social Issues*; *Soccer & Society*; *Sport in Society*; *Sport Management Review*, *Journal of Global Sport Management*; and *International Journal of Sport Marketing and Sponsorship*. Adam is the lead editor of the just published book: *The 2023 FIFA Women's World Cup: Politics, Representation, and Management* (with Verity Postlethwaite, Andrew Grainger, and Julie Brice). This edited collection serves as a companion and guide for the 2023 FWWC by introducing questions, topics, and spaces for further exploration, encouraging all stakeholders to understand the multiple dimensions, complexities, and implications of the tournament. The aim of this text is to foreground the 2023 FWWC and act as a calling text for further research into a variety of topics connected to the tournament. The book will be out just in time to provide fans, scholars, and researchers of women's football with the critical context surrounding the quadrennial event held in Australia and New Zealand. Ongoing research projects investigate the social, economic, and political machinations of sports programming at intercollegiate athletic institutions; explore the economic impact of mixed-use development logics guiding stadium construction; and examine the transnational mobility and movement of global athletic laborers in international sport.



Dr. Abbe Brady is the Head of Department for Psychology and Pedagogic Science at St. Mary's University Twickenham in England. Prior to this position, Abbe has been an interim Academic Director for Sport Science and a Programme Director for Sports Coaching Science. Before joining St Mary's, Abbe was Head of Postgraduate Studies at the University of Gloucestershire. Abbe is an HCPC registered Sport and Exercise Psychologist and has 20 years of experience as a BASES accredited Sport Scientist. Abbe is also an ICCE International Coach Developer graduating from the Nippon Coach Development Academy in 2019 and having 20 plus years of coach developer experience with Sports Coach UK and UK Coaching. Abbe is the Director of the SWIFT (Sport, Well-being, Inclusion, and FaiTh) Research Centre launched in 2019. Abbe's research interests fall broadly into three areas: athlete/coach well-being, mentoring and social learning in coach development, and positive psychology interventions in sport and business settings. Presently Abbe is leading two contracted research projects with the Football



Association. The first is a follow-up study of effective coaching in the women's and girls' game which draws upon the success of an earlier FA project which has informed an innovative coach and coach developer programme. The second project is an evaluation of the FA's Coaching Excellence Initiative during 2021-2023.



Professor Giuseppe Carabetta is Associate Professor of Law at the University of Technology, Sydney. He is the principal Australian scholar in police employment law. His writing has been cited in Supreme Court and Court of Appeal decisions in Australia, and he has been called upon to contribute to Parliamentary Inquiries on public sector employment matters. As well as employment law and dispute resolution, Giuseppe is actively involved in the field of sports law. He has facilitated workshops for professional sporting organisations including the national Rugby Union Players Association; and moderated industry panel discussions including the Data Privacy, Marketing, Research and the Consumer Leaders Forum for the Association of Market and Social Research Organisation. Before joining UTS, Giuseppe held positions at the University of Sydney (2005-2022). He is a visiting scholar at the University of Sydney, the Bologna Business School at University of Bologna, Italy and guest presenter on Labour Arbitration at York University - Osgoode Hall Law School in Canada. In addition to his high-quality research, he has received a series of teaching excellence awards including two national Office for Learning and Teaching awards, two University of Sydney Vice-Chancellor's Awards for Outstanding Teaching and various Business School awards.

Dr Meghan Casey is Senior Lecturer and Programme Coordinator in Sport Management at Federation University of Australia. She is a researcher with extensive research experience in the sport and recreation field and demonstrated experience in managing large and complex research projects, including an Australian Research Council Linkage project. Her research has focused on understanding the community, strategic and operational environments in which organisations operate and deliver physical activity and sport opportunities to foster environments promoting and supporting participation in physical activity and sport. In particular, her research has explored the determinants of participation in physical activity and sport, which has been largely informed by socioecological theory; explored the capacity of sporting organisations to promote health through sport; examined organisational change within sporting organisations to implement health promotion strategies; and contributed to the development, implementation and evaluation of a school and community-linked physical activity and sport intervention for adolescent girls. As a result of this research, Meghan has published widely in a range of well-regarded international peer reviewed journals and has informed program and policy development on a range of sport management issues (capacity, organisational changes, program development).



Dr. Anthea Clarke is Senior Lecturer in Sport and Exercise Science at La Trobe University, in Melbourne, Australia. Anthea completed her PhD in 2016 as a collaboration between the Australian Institute of Sport, Australian Rugby Union, and the University of Canberra looking at the physical preparation and development of women's rugby sevens players. Since completing her PhD, Anthea has completed research across numerous team sports and has a specific research focus on female athletes and women in sport, aiming to improve the

sporting experience for these individuals. Anthea has also curated an online short course titled 'Supporting the Female Athlete' aimed at coaching and support staff, which has had over 1000 participants so far.

Arianna Criscione is Director of Women's Football at N3XT Sports. She is a former professional football player having finished her career at Paris Saint-Germain where she had a dual role as a player and as Women's Sponsorship Manager for 2 seasons at the French club, ending her career with the first ever women's league title the club has won. Prior to joining PSG she played in Italy, France, Sweden, Netherlands and Norway, and earned several caps with the Italian Women's National Team, as well as appearances in the UEFA Women's Champions League. Alongside her professional football career, she continued her education receiving a master's degree in football business from the Football Business Academy. She was among the first cohort of students to receive the FIFA Diploma in Club Management- the only female in the course, and she participated in the Crossover to Business Program from Harvard Business School. Passionate about the environmental impact of sport, Arianna was the first football player to join EcoAthletes Champions Roster. She is now the Director of Women's Football at N3XT Sports and uses her experience and creativity to help football stakeholders to build sustainable and accelerated blueprints that raise the women's game.



Corey Cutrupi is currently undertaking his PhD in the Business School at University of Technology Sydney (UTS). His research addresses the sport management space, looking at how to generate sustainable fan engagement through the leveraging of sporting mega events. Corey completed a Bachelor of Sport Science at USYD, as well as a Masters in Sports Management at UTS, going on to work as a Sport Scientist & Strength and Conditioning Coach across several private schools in Sydney. In addition, Corey has spent time working with Football NSW, Tennis

Australia and is now teaching within the Business School at UTS.

Professor Simon Darcy is Professor in the UTS Business School, where he specialises in developing inclusive organisational practices for marginalised groups. Simon has had a long history of advocacy, engagement and research with people with disability where he brings a lived experience that enhances his academic work. His other areas of sport research involve volunteer management and understanding the social impact of sport having held an Australian Research Council linkage Grant. Simon's work has been located from local community development through to major international sport events with organisations including Disabled Winter Sport Australia, Whistler Adaptive Sport, Australian Sports Commission; Australian Rugby Union, Surf Life Saving Australia, Australian Paralympic Committee, IOC & IPC. With colleagues from Griffith University, he currently has an Australian Research Council Discovery Grant 2023-25 using creative methodologies to engage outsiders from gender and intersectional perspectives. He is author or co-author of *Benchmark Games: Sydney 2000 Paralympic Games*; *Australian Leisure* (2013); *Research Methods for Sport Studies and Sport Management* (2014); *Cultural Life, Disability, Inclusion and Citizenship* (2015); *Managing the Paralympics* (2017); and *Enabling Inclusion of Disability Citizenship Within Sports Stadia and Venues* (2024 forthcoming).





Jessica 'Jessie' Davis has been Captain and central defender for FC Nordsjaelland (FCN) in the Danish Premier League, winning the Danish Cup in her final match as Captain in June 2023. Now she is Director of Women's Football at FCN. She has played professionally in 5 different countries, including Australia and Sweden, giving her unique insight into the level and status of women's professional sport across the globe. She was for many years also Marketing Director for Liverpool Football Club's International Academy based in Massachusetts, USA. She holds

a Master's in sport management degree from George Mason University. She played NCAA soccer and holds a bachelor's degree from Penn State. She also works for Right to Dream Foundation, and she successfully led FCN's tour to Ghana in 2022, the first time a major European club toured Africa during pre-season.

John Didulica is Director of Football at the Melbourne Victory Football Club where he works across all Melbourne Victory football programs including the A-League, W-League, NPL and the Academy programs. He has worked previously for Football Australia, Melbourne Heart and completed a successful four years' as Chief Executive of the Professional Footballers' Association (PFA). In his PFA role, he negotiated the world's first national team "blind to gender" equal pay contracts for the Matildas and the Socceroos in 2019. He is the author of the outstanding book *Football Belongs: Eight Matches That Explain Australia* (2021) which explains the place of football at key moments and on pivotal issues that define Australia.



Julie Dolan, AM is Head of Community and Marketing for Central Coast Sports College in New South Wales and is Legacy '23 Ambassador Program member for the 2023 World Cup. Julie started playing football at the age of 14 and became Australia's inaugural captain and Matilda #1 at just 18, leading the team out against New Zealand in 1979. Australia played only occasionally throughout the 1980s but despite limited opportunities, Dolan played 34 matches for Australia across a 14-year career, including 18 full internationals. A commanding

central midfielder, she played in the World Invitational Tournament twice, the first Oceania Cup in 1983 and the first Women's World Cup in China in 1988. In 1988, the Australian Women's Soccer Association created the Julie Dolan Medal for the best female footballer of the year. In 2016, football became the first major Australian sport to jointly name its prestigious awards event in honour of both a legendary female and male player – the Dolan Warren Awards – with Dolan honoured alongside national men's icon Johnny Warren. Julie was inducted into the Football Australia Hall of Fame in 1999. In 2018 she was named a Member of the Order of Australia (AM).

Rae Dower is Football Australia's Womens Technical Director. Rae is also Head Coach of the Australian U-17 Women's National Team. Her role with Football Australia is to provide a position of leadership on women's football matters relating to pathways, competitions, national teams, coach development, and participation. In her role as Technical Director – Women's Football, Dower delivers advice on technical matters across the women's game to all parts of the governing body, encompassing women's national teams (senior and youth) and programs including pathways through to Future Matildas. From 2017 to 2020 she was football commentator and analyst for



Fox Sports. She spent 20 years as a police officer in Queensland while playing football. She represented Australia on the Matildas and coached Canberra United to W-League Championships, all of which speaks to her unique expertise about women's football in Australia.



Alicia Edge is an Advanced Sports Dietitian that had the absolute privilege of learning from the best in the business during her fellowship at the start of her Sports Dietetics career at the Australian Institute of Sport a decade ago now. As a part of that role, she fell in love with Football - working as the Performance Dietitian for the Centre of Excellence squad alongside head coach at the time Tony Vidmar. However, when making the tough decision to move away from Canberra to be closer to family support when she started a family in 2015, she realised her reentry into elite sport was going to be tough. It was this loss of career opportunities, a lack of access to professional athletes and a determination to shake up the nutrition support delivery model, that led to a necessity to innovate. Fast forward a few years and Alicia is now the co-CEO of a tech Startup (Compeat Performance) alongside being a mum to three young kids. Her company has been the nutrition support to Football Australia for the past four years, focusing particularly across the female pathway and now building across the male pathway. During this time servicing has not only focused on individual performance nutrition but shifting a culture to one that prioritised player well-being (in terms of relationship with food, body and permission to fuel) to then enable player best performance.

Professor Brenda Elsey is Professor of History at Hofstra University in New York State. She studies the history of popular culture and politics in twentieth century Latin America, in addition to gender, social theory, sports and Pan-Americanism. She co-edited the 2017 volume *Football and the Boundaries of History* and is the co-author of *Futbolera: Women and Sport in Latin America*. She is a senior editor for Oxford University Press' *Research Essays in Latin American History: Southern Cone* and recently edited a *Radical History Review* issue at Duke University Press, entitled *Historicizing the Politics and Pleasure of Sport* with Peter Alegi and Amy Chazkel. Elsey's earlier publications include a monograph, *Citizens and Sportsmen: Fútbol and Politics in Twentieth Century Chile* (University of Texas, 2011). In 2012 Elsey won the Stessin Prize for best faculty publication at Hofstra University. She has been the co-director of the Latin American and Caribbean Studies program at Hofstra since 2008 and directed the Women's Studies program from 2009 to 2013. She has written on sport and social justice for popular publications including *The New Republic*, *The Allrounder*, *Vice*, and *Sports Illustrated*. Elsey has become a leading voice on the subject of women and sports. Elsey was awarded a Fulbright in Argentina for 2017-2018 to research women, gender, and sexuality in Argentine football. She is also co-host of the podcast "Burn It All Down," which discusses the intersections between sports and feminism.



Alex Epakis: A current Professional Diploma accredited coach who has spent the last three seasons as the Head Coach of Perth Glory Women's A League team. Previous to that, he held the position of Head Coach at Sydney University Soccer Women's program across three premiership winning seasons, and with an additional history of developing coaches as Football Australia/ Football NSW coaching instructor across the last eight years. He completed a Master of Education (Sports Coaching) in 2017.



Bec Evans is a member of the Australian Powerchair Football Team, otherwise known as the Poweroos. Bec has been playing powerchair football since 2018, initially in Perth (where she grew up) before relocating to Melbourne in mid-2022 for the primary purpose of pursuing her powerchair football career and dreams. Bec has previously represented Australia in powerchair football, when she vice-captained the Australian U-21 team who competed at the 2019 Asia-Pacific-Oceania (APO) Cup. More recently, she competed for Melbourne City at the 2023 Australian Powerchair Football Club Championships, where Melbourne City made the grand final (a first for a Melbourne team), only narrowly losing after the match went to a penalty shootout. She was also awarded both joint MVP and joint Player's Player for the tournament. Looking forward, Bec hopes to be able to compete for Australia at the upcoming 2023 Powerchair Football World Cup, which is to be held in Sydney in October. If successful, Bec will be the first female Australian to compete at a Powerchair Football World Cup. Outside of powerchair football, Bec graduated with a Bachelor of Psychology (first class honours) in 2021, and in June will start studying a PhD looking into outcomes for people with disability who move into independent living (a topic that is close to her heart).



Professor Tanya Evans is Professor and Director of the Centre for Applied History at Macquarie University in Sydney. She is a public historian in the Department of History and Archaeology. Her first three books were about the history of 'illegitimacy', poverty and philanthropy. Her third book *Fractured Families: Life on the Margins in Colonial New South Wales* was a history of Australia's oldest surviving charity The Benevolent Society. She curates exhibitions, writes for general as well as academic readers, politicians and social policy makers and she makes radio and television programs based on her scholarship. She is committed to the democratization of historical knowledge. Her most recent book *Family History, Historical Consciousness and Citizenship: a new social history* was published by Bloomsbury in early 2022. She is currently involved in a research project examining how people engage in community sport and how their family, social and cultural contexts make an impact on their engagement.

Debbie Fisher has worked at Football Australia as the Girls Youth Development Manager since 2017. Her role involves overseeing the 7 National Training Centres across the country as well as some Coach Education and mentoring. Debbie's background is in Sports Science (Coaching Major) and Education. Prior to working at Football Australia, Debbie worked in the Education system both as a teacher and as an external sports provider (football coach). She was Director of Football at Endeavour Sports High School for many years as well as delivering Coach Education from community



courses through to advanced coaching qualifications. She has coached from grassroots to senior level, with a passion for Youth Development.



Dr Nico Furlan leads the Athletic Performance Program at Jointli - Landmark Orthopaedics, Australia's first integrated facility specialising in return-to-sport following knee injury. Nico has a background in Strength & Conditioning and Sports Science and has contributed to a range of medals at international and Olympic level. In his previous roles, Nico was the Lightweight Rowing Lead Performance Coach for the Chinese Olympic Committee and has been involved with a range of programs including the Sydney University Rugby Football Club (Women's 7s), Gordon Rugby Club, St Aloysius College, and the Rugby Serie A in Italy. Nico completed a PhD investigating performance, fatigue and recovery in Rugby 7s and conducted research in return to sport following ACL reconstruction during his time at the Sydney Orthopaedic Research Institute.

Dr. Gabriela Garton is a Player Relations Coordinator with the World Players Association, a former member of FIFPRO's Global Player Council, an international professional footballer and an academic. Her passions include women's football, gender equality, and making sport a safe space for athletes. She has played in goal for Melbourne Victory in Australia's A-League Women's competition, formed part of the Argentina team which competed at the 2019 FIFA Women's World Cup, and represented Argentina at the 2017 Universiade in Taipei. Her most recent area of research is women's football in Argentina through an ethnographic and gender perspective from the hybrid point-of-view as a player and academic. She is the author of the book *Guerreras: fútbol, mujeres y poder* ("Warriors: football, women, and power") (2019). Gabriela has a PhD in Social Studies from the University of Buenos Aires, completed her Master's in Sociology of Culture and Cultural Analysis at the National University of San Martín, and has a Bachelor's of Arts in Hispanic Studies from Rice University in Houston, Texas. She is also a sessional lecturer and research assistant at Victoria University in Melbourne, Australia.



Dr. Steve Georgakis is our Conference co-organiser and Senior Lecturer in Physical Education in the School of Education and Social Work at The University of Sydney. He was appointed to the University of Sydney in 2002 and has a long-standing interest and passion in physical education and school sport, teacher education, history and sociology of sport and pedagogy for learning. He is the current director of the Health and Physical Education Program and has taught in all undergraduate teaching programs in the faculty, including primary undergraduate, primary and secondary Master of Teaching, double degree, general education, Online Learning Environment and study abroad. The author of more than 50 academic publications, he has published on wide and varied aspects of physical education and sports studies including archaeology, history, sociology, pedagogy, comparative and international. Steve played professional soccer with Sydney Olympic SC and the Marconi SC. Between 1986 and 1992, he represented Australia successively in the Under 16, the Under 20, and the Olyroo national teams.

Dr. Andrea Giampiccoli holds a PhD on a tourism topic from the Department of Geography of the University of KwaZulu-Natal (South Africa). Since 2010 Dr. Giampiccoli has been a researcher in the tourism sector (mostly focusing on community-based tourism) first at North-West University and currently at Durban University of Technology in Durban. His main research interests are related to all aspects and strategies concerning community-based tourism and sports. His other research interests include alternative tourism, sport events, and food tourism/food. Dr. Giampiccoli has published/co-published various articles in academic journals and presented/authored at local and international conferences. Key publications in sport include 'Beyond the reach of FIFA: Football and community "development" in rural South Africa, towards a politics of inclusion and sustainability'. Soccer in Society. DOI: 10.1080/14660970.2017.1302937; and 'Destination South Africa: comparing global sports mega events and recurring localised sports events in South Africa for tourism and economic development'. Current Issues in Tourism, 16(3), 229-248.



Anna Goorevich is Provost Enhancement Graduate Research Fellow and PhD student in the Tucker Center for Research on Girls & Women in Sport at the University of Minnesota. Anna recently completed her master's degree in sports management on a Fullbright US-UK Scholarship from the University of Stirling in Scotland. Her master's thesis was awarded the Faculty of Health Sciences and Sport at the University of Stirling's Research Based Learning Prize: Best Dissertation for her 2022 master's thesis entitled "‘They seem to only know about bleeding and cramps’: Menstruation, gendered experiences, and athletes' perceived barriers and facilitators to positive coach-athlete relationships." She is a former NCAA soccer player. Her work centres on the gendered nature of coaching, equity in sport leadership, girls and women's sport participation, menstruation studies in sport, and gender identity and sport equity.

Dr. Andrew Grainger lectures in Sport Development, Leisure, and Recreation at Western Sydney University, prior to that he spent several years lecturing at Massey University in Aotearoa New Zealand. He is co-editor of The 2023 Fifa Women's World Cup: Politics, Representation, and Management (2023) which includes his work on social media strategies and the awarding of the 2023 World Cup to Aotearoa and Australia. Andy's research and teaching focuses primarily on the globalisation of sport and the impact of neoliberal ideology and practices on local physical cultural meanings and practices. His current research explores the intersections of sport policy, sport diplomacy, and women's football in Aotearoa New Zealand.



Dr. Gina Haddad is a high-performance sport consultant and academic with a background as an elite athlete, coach, coach developer and administrator in the Australian High Performance Sport network. Her experience includes leading coaching and elite athlete development programs in NSOs and teaching in undergraduate and postgraduate coaching programs. A highly experienced coaching practitioner, with over 25 years' experience as a professional coach and coach developer. She has worked with coaches and athletes across a wide range of sports from youth development to high performance and currently consults to Olympic and professional team sports. Gina has completed a Master of Education (Sports Coaching) and a PhD in the field of Athlete Leadership from the University of Sydney.

Her ground-breaking research on the use of Athlete Leadership Groups in professional football teams has been published in International Journals, including Psychology of Sport and Exercise and the International Journal of Sport Coaching, and she has presented at International Conferences, including the World Congress of Science and Football, and the Global Coaching Excellence conference 2019. Gina brings a practical focus to evidence-based sport leadership development.



Helen Hardy is a women's football commentator, summariser, business owner and football club founder. Her business Foudys is the worlds first official women's football merchandise store which focuses on women's football players and fans to make sure every girl and women feels welcome in football! Manchester Laces is the largest women's football club in Manchester and was founded by Helen in 2021. The club has over 550 participants and over 150 full members. It's an inclusive space for all women, non-binary and transgender people. Helen commentates for The BBC primarily covering The WSL and other women's football leagues.

Dr. Andy Harper is a Physical Education teacher by trade and experience and former player in Australia's National Soccer League. A life member of the Professional Footballers' Association (PFA), he has authored four books on Australian football personalities, including Johnny Warren's Sheilas, Wogs and Poofers and Ange Postecoglou's Changing the Game. His post-playing career began in coaching roles in the NSL, then as inaugural CEO of Sydney FC, and development consulting projects with the Football Federation Australia (now Football Australia). A football commentator, pundit and host, he covered the FIFA Men's World Cup Finals from France 1998 through to Russia 2018, the Men's AFC Asian Cups since 2007, Australia's domestic men's and women's professional leagues and Socceroos and Matildas internationals. Currently working for Network 10 and Paramount Plus covering Australian football, Chair of the Local Organising Committee for the 2023 FIPFA Powerchair World Cup, Board Member of Sydney University Soccer Football Club and coach of Mid North Coast boys in the NNSW talented pathway. He completed his MA (Sports Studies) at UTS and received his PhD from Sydney University in 2020, researching the place and status of football in Australian society and its path to legitimization.



Tracey Holmes is Australia's foremost female sports media personality and is Professorial Fellow in Sport at the University of Canberra. She is also an award-winning senior reporter for the Australian Broadcasting Corporation (ABC) focusing on the politics, governance and business of sport and is presenter of The Ticket podcast. She was Australia's first female host of a national sports program — ABC Grandstand — after starting as a specialist broadcast trainee in the late 1980s. She has anchored, reported and commentated from many of the world's biggest events, including 14 Olympic games. She has a Master of Communications degree and is currently completing a Master of Laws at the University of Melbourne. In 2021, Tracey was awarded the Women and Sports Award from the International Olympic Committee for her contribution to reporting on women's sport, and her work providing mentorship for the next generation of female sporting journalists. In March 2023 Tracey was awarded with the Lifetime Achievement Award at the Australian Sports Commission (ASC) Media Awards.



Ante Juric: Ante is the Head Coach of the Sydney FC Women's team, who are the current reigning premiers in the A-League. He has held coaching positions with the Matildas as assistant coach, the Australian under-17s and 19s women's national teams and he was the Assistant national technical director for the Football Federation Australia. Ante had a glorified playing career which spanned many years including playing for the Socceroos and professionally in Europe. Ante is also a graduate of the University of Sydney completing his Master of Education (Sports Coaching) in 2011. He is a qualified Physical Education teacher and has held teaching roles at Trinity Grammar School and Mattraville Sports High School.

Sarah Karlik is currently a PhD student at Swinburne University and Community Project Officer for Melbourne Victory Football Club. Her experiences working with youth and young adult women football players for over ten years, coupled with her leadership background and personal football experiences, has motivated her to undertake a PhD. Her PhD is an investigation into the lived experiences of migrant women football players. Sarah is a USSF C certified with significant experience coaching women's football at university and youth levels. As a coach and international women's football player, Sarah understands the lenses through which sports are viewed and is motivated to ensure that the next generation of women football players have the necessary tools, resources, and structures in place to be successful. Sarah authored a paper recently published in Soccer & Society "Women's collegiate soccer coaching in the United States: exploring barriers and challenges," which examined the challenges and barriers that women face when coaching women's football teams and how these challenges and barriers impact their capacity to lead. Sarah is also currently playing football in Victoria.



Elise Kellond-Knight, OLY is an Olympian and 2011 and 2015 FIFA Women's World Cup All Star. She plays for Melbourne Victory in the A-League Women. She played with the Brisbane Roar from 2008-2015 and then for several leading European clubs before playing for the OL Reign in Seattle and the Washington Spirit in the NWSL in the USA. She had 13 caps for the U20 Matildas and 113 caps for the Matildas since her debut in 2007. Elise was named to the All-Tournament teams for both the 2011 and 2015 World Cups for her outstanding play. At the 2019 World Cup she scored a goal directly from a corner kick in the Round of 16 match against Norway. Elise was also the W-League's young player of the year in 2009 and the Football Federation of Australia (now Australian Football) Female Footballer of the Year for 2011. The defensive midfielder played a key role in securing two W-League championships and one premiership with Brisbane Roar. She also won the AFC Women's Asian Cup (2010) and Tournament of Nations (2017) with the Matildas. She is on Football Australia's Women's Football Council and is also an Executive Committee Member at the Players' Football Association (PFA) and FIFA Pro Global Player's Council. Growing up on the Gold Coast and enjoying the beauty around her, she has a strong belief in sustainability and contributing to the preservation of the environment. When she does have downtime, she loves nothing more than being in the ocean, hiking, photography, or enjoying time with her family. Elise is currently studying for her MBA and has also completed a bachelor's degree in Pharmaceutical Science at Griffith University.





James Kitching is an experienced senior executive in the sports industry, specialising in governance, regulation, strategy, integrity, and education. His CV includes senior roles at FIFA and the Asian Football Confederation, board memberships in sports federations and sports technology companies, and several sports tribunal appointments. James is based in Adelaide, Australia, and currently advises the global sports community on these matters as Managing Director of **The FC**, a boutique sports consultancy. Among other appointments, he is currently a Supervisory Board Member of the FIFA Clearing House, an Arbitrator at the Court of Arbitration for Sport, and Chair of the Football Australia National Dispute Resolution Chamber. James was previously Director of Football Regulatory at FIFA where he managed a multinational and multidisciplinary subdivision which oversaw all aspects of the football transfer system and the FIFA football regulatory framework. His deliverables included: leading the reform of the international football transfer system, designing and implementing the FIFA Clearing House, developing the new football agent framework, delivering the Covid-19 regulatory response, and designing and implementing the FIFA Football Tribunal. James also spent 5 years at the Asian Football Confederation as Head of Sports Legal Services, where he helped modernise the sports and corporate regulatory framework (including the establishment of the AFC Entry Control Body), bidding processes for Asian competitions, and the AFC judicial bodies. James is a regular lecturer and speaker at conferences, postgraduate and undergraduate courses, and webinars.



Professor Jorge Knijnik is Associate Professor in the School of Education and a researcher in the Institute for Culture and Society and the Centre for Educational Research. Dr. Knijnik is an inaugural committee member of Women in Football Australia, a national association whose mission is to support gender equity within the Australian sports context. His task in this board is to create a research philosophy among all sport participants - communities, NGOs, players, industry and football bodies – thus endorsing an ethos of evidence-based decision making in the arena of sports, education and gender equity. His current research develops procedures that offer clear evidence to industry and governments on where to focus their expenditures to increase youth wellbeing and educational outcomes. He played a leading role in an academia/industry/government network that examined psychological and social topics associated with communal fitness programs delivered to middle-aged men by the state government in Sao Paulo (Brazil). Jorge has produced pioneering work on the intersections of educational results, gender equity, social cohesion, social activism and sports participation, going back to his PhD dissertation which looked at gender diversity and human rights in Brazilian sports. Jorge has a rich know-how - demonstrated by domestic and global accolades - in developing and assessing pedagogical transformative hands-on experiences within super-diverse environments, that respect each participant's complex mix of identities including gender, physical capacities, philosophies and cultural practices, towards positive educational, community and health results. The results of his action-research that saw the win of civic society against the developers who sought to build a shopping mall in one of Rio de Janeiro's most iconic heritage areas during the 2007 Pan-American Games. Jorge's research findings have impacted international public policies, such as the UN WOMEN 2014 report "Envisioning women's rights in the post-2015 context" and the 2014 UNICEF report on social inclusion, sport and youth vulnerability. He is also the leader of the 'Gender in sports community' of the Sports Virtual Centre, the world's largest online sports-research community for Portuguese and Spanish speakers. He has recently published *The World Cup Chronicles: 31*

Days that Rocked Brazil (Fair Play) and Embodied Masculinities in the Global World (FIT).



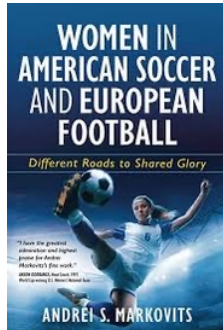
Dr. Hongxin Li is Assistant Professor of Sport Management at Zhengzhou University of Light Industry in Zhengzhou, China. He earned his PhD at the University of North Texas in the USA. He has authored several papers on women's sport in China, especially women's ice hockey. This research has been presented at the World Hockey Forum events in Moscow and appears in several journal articles in leading academic journals. He has also published widely on football in China. He is currently researching the development of women's football in China as well as challenges and reforms in professional football in China. He has also edited a special issue of the journal *Sport in Society* on sport in Asia. His other work has focused on international anti-doping policies and politics and on major investors in professional football. In addition to his academic work, he also works in the School Football Office of Henan Province, China.

Professor Richard Light is Honourary Professor of The University of Sydney and Emeritus Professor at the University of Canterbury in Aotearoa New Zealand. He is a leader in global physical education and coaching research with a multitude of impactful publications and interventions that have driven the field ever forward. He is a prominent figure in research on, and the development of, athlete-centred coaching, his work situates learning and coaching within social and cultural contexts to emphasise the subjective, affective and whole-person nature of experience and learning in sport. His work, which draws on contemporary learning theory, social theory and his experiences of coaching and teaching across a range of cultural settings, has developed into a distinctive approach to sport coaching pedagogy. Recent key works include *Sport Sociology for Physical Education and Sport Coaching* (2023), with Steve Georgakis; *Game Sense for teaching and coaching: International perspectives* (2021); and *Applications of Positive Pedagogy for sport coaching: International cases* (2021).



Alberto (Berti) Mariani born in Sydney, Berti attained his tertiary qualifications of Bachelor of Science, Bachelor of Education (Honours) and Graduate Diploma of Education while playing (semi-) professional football at the then highest level in Australia (State and NSL) – which he did over a 10-year period (1975 - 1985). On retiring as a player, Berti embarked on a career as a Manager / Coach where he achieved consistent and outstanding success - attaining three premierships and two championships in his initial three years while managing all football activities (both Mens' & Womens') at Club Marconi. This period also saw him voted 'Coach of the Year' by his peers in two successive years and, subsequently, he was engaged in representative team management, which included the Mens': NSW State team; the Australian Universities Soccer Coach; and the assistant national team role for the 1992 FIFA Oceania World Cup qualifiers.

Professor Andrei Markovits is the Karl W. Deutsch Collegiate Professor of Comparative Politics and German Studies in the Department of Political Science and an Arthur F. Thurnau Professor at the University of Michigan. He is the author and editor of many books, scholarly articles, conference papers, book reviews and newspaper contributions in English and many foreign languages on topics as varied as German and Austrian politics, anti-Semitism, anti-Americanism, social democracy,



social movements, the European right and the European left. Markovits has also worked extensively on comparative sports culture in Europe and North America. His latest book is *Women in American Soccer and European Football: Different Roads to Shared Glory* second edition, published March 2023. He is also co-author of *Sportista: Female Fandom in the United States*, with Emily Albertson. (Temple University Press, 2012). The typical female sports fan remains very different from her male counterparts. In *Sportista*, Andrei S. Markovits and Emily Albertson examine the

significant ways many women have become fully conversant with sports—acquiring a knowledge of and passion for them as a way of forging identities that until recently were quite alien to women. Professor Markovits is also the recipient of the Bundesverdienstkreuz Erster Klasse, the Cross of the Order of Merit, First Class, the highest civilian honour bestowed by the Federal Republic of Germany on a civilian, German or foreign. It was awarded on behalf of the President of the Federal Republic of Germany by the Consul General of the Federal Republic of Germany in Chicago in March 2012.



Billy Mason is a Lecturer in Sport and Exercise Science and PhD candidate at the University of Canberra. Billy's PhD is investigating the use of acute exercise interventions as game day preparation strategies to improve performance in team sport athletes. Billy is a Professional Level 2 Strength and Conditioning Coach with the Australian Strength and Conditioning Association and an accredited Sport Scientist with Exercise and Sport Science Australia (ESSA). Billy has held several performance support roles within the sports industry over the last 10 years and is the current recipient of the High-Performance Sport Fellowship at the University of Canberra.

Louise McColl is Community Technical Lead for Football Australia. She started her official coaching journey back in 2005 whilst playing for Warrington Town Ladies FC in Northwest England. She moved to Australia in 2008 and started coaching junior teams in Bendigo. Louise started her involvement with coach education in 2014 by presenting grassroots courses and then progressed to advanced course coach presenting after attending a FIFA Facilitators course in 2016. She was Rebel Sport Female Community Coach of the Year in 2019. She has been one of the head coaches at the Melbourne Victory Elite Girls Programme and was Coach Education Manager for the Bendigo Amateur Soccer League. She is also head of soccer at the Bendigo South East School Athlete Development Program.





Bonita Mersiades is the founder of Fair Play Publishing and curator and founder of the Football Writers' Festival. She is a former senior executive with the Australian Government in the areas of finance, health and education, and in the non-profit health sector. She is a lifelong football volunteer, a previous team manager of the Socceroos and Head of Corporate and Public Affairs for Football Australia (the only woman to hold either of those roles). She is also known internationally as a FIFA whistleblower, being one of the few

people in the world to publicly call-out FIFA for its corrupt business practices and decision-making, and to call for governance reform, years prior to the 2015 Zurich arrests. She has twice addressed the European Parliament on the need for sports governance reform. Bonita is the author of three books, including the only insider account of the corrupt 2018/2022 World Cup bidding process, 'Whatever It Takes - the Inside Story of the FIFA Way'.

Ros Moriarty is the Co-Founder, Co-Chair & Hon. Managing Director of the Moriarty Foundation. Tasmanian-born Ros Moriarty is a business owner, social investor and author. She is Co-Founder, Co-Chair and Honorary Managing Director of Moriarty Foundation, and Co-Founder, Creative Executive and Managing Director of Balarinji. Moriarty Foundation is a not-for-profit initiative established in 2012 that enables Aboriginal families and communities in NT, Queensland and NSW to unlock the potential of their children. Its two interrelated initiatives are John Moriarty Football (soccer) for 2–18-year-olds, and Indi Kindi early learning for babies to 5-year-olds. Balarinji is Australia's foremost Indigenous design and strategy studio and is best known for the Balarinji-Qantas collection of art aircraft featuring Aboriginal designs. Established in 1983, Balarinji's work for public and private sectors spans public art and curatorial, cultural design principles for major infrastructure, stakeholder engagement, branding campaigns and digital. The studio's clients include Qantas, Microsoft, Macquarie Group, Mirvac, GPT, Frasers Property, Aurecon, WSP, Transport for NSW, Downer EDI, Lendlease, Woods Bagot, Hassell and the Australian Paralympic Committee. Ros was formerly a Commissioner for the Future of Sydney CBD (2021), Inaugural Chair of the Football Australia Women's Football Council (2019-21), and Board member of Menzies School of Health Research Darwin (2019-21), National Gallery of Australia, Australian Major Events SA and the Australian Academy of Design. In 2018 she was named a Companion of the University by Charles Darwin University. Ros was named Winner Business Enterprise in the 2015 Financial Review/Westpac Australian 100 Women of Influence Awards. She is an inductee of the halls of fame of the Australian institute of Design (DIA), the Australian Graphic Design Association (AGDA), and the Australian Businesswomen's Hall of Fame. In 2023, she was named a Good Design Ambassador. An alumnus of the Australian National University, Ros' honours include the St Peters Citizenship Award, the Advance Australia Award for Service to Industry and Commerce, a UNESCO Achievement Award, the Good Design Australian Design Prize and the Design Institute of Australia President's Award. Ros is the author of the memoir Listening to Country (Allen & Unwin 2010), shortlisted for both The Age 2010 Book of the Year, and the Australian Human Rights Commission Literary Award. She has also written eight picture books for children (Allen & Unwin 2012-18), variously listed for The Speech Pathology Australia Book of the Year Award (2012 & 2015), and the 2013 Australian Environment Award for Children's Literature, with text in both English and Yanyuwa, one of the languages spoken by Aboriginal families in Borroloola. Ros hopes the Moriarty Foundation's work will lead to a more equitable Australia that respects and values a rich and unique Aboriginal worldview. She is proud of the Foundation's commitment to enabling families to unlock their children's potential through the power of football and innovative culturally cognisant walking classrooms.





Professor John Nauright is Convenor of the Sport, Movement and Sport & Human Development Research Group (SMASHD) and a member of the SPARTAN Research Network at The University of Sydney. He is the programme coordinator for The Business and Development of Women's Football Conference and directed the programming of the 2022 Women's Rugby World Cup Conference in Auckland, Aotearoa (New Zealand). He is Adjunct Professor of Sport Management and Development at The University of Ghana and Visiting Professor at the University of the West Indies, Cave Hill, Barbados and Borys Grinchenko University in Ukraine. He is a Board

Member for Soccer Universities. He also founded and directs the Global Rugby Leadership Institute and is a member of the advisory board of Sport Business China, the International Network for Doping Research, and Sacred Sport Foundation in St. Lucia. At the University of Brighton, he led his team to be awarded the European Higher Education Sport Tourism Institution of the Year, at the Inaugural Shannon Group European Sport Tourism Awards in 2015. He has also been a Program Consultant for the BBC and the ABC (Australia). John also conducted training programs on football, culture and society for the United States Department of State for diplomats prior to them taking up European postings. He led programming for the Shanghai Soccer Business Forum bringing international football brands together including FC Barcelona, Liverpool, Real Madrid, Aston Villa, Manchester City, and the Dutch Football Federation. He has conducted multiple funded research projects with the Football Foundation in England, the Economic and Social Research Council (ESRC) in England, and the Australian Research Council. He has produced 26 books on global sports including *Soccer Around the World*. Four of his books have won awards for academic excellence including the 4 volume work *Sports Around the World* (2012, with Charles Parrish). His recent works include *SportsWorld: Global Markets and Global Impact of Sports* (2018, with Sarah Zipp); *Sport Business in Leading Economies* (2018); *Sport in the African World* (2019) and *Routledge Handbook of Global Sport* (2020, with Sarah Zipp). His research interests focus on the incredible rise of women's professional football, rugby and basketball, particularly post-COVID, and on indigenous movement cultures and wellbeing. His current book to be released in 2024 is entitled *The World at Her Feet: A Global Cultural Biography of Sam Kerr*. He is a lifelong supporter of Aston Villa and his favourite international level football players are Sam Kerr and Lucy Bronze.

Professor Donna O'Connor is Professor of Coach Education and PDHPE School Postgraduate Coursework Coordinator, Coordinator, BEd (HMHE) Honours, and MEd (Coach Education) at The University of Sydney. As a trainer and consultant, Donna has worked with the Australian women's basketball team, Canadian Olympic athletics team, the Wallabies coaching staff, Australian touch football teams, North Queensland Cowboys and national league teams in basketball and netball. Donna's doctoral thesis was titled 'An investigation of aetiological factors contributing to groin injuries in professional rugby league players'. Her research and conference presentations cover athletic profiling, science and football, optimising performance, injury prevention and coach education.





A/Professor Catherine Ordway is Associate Professor and Sport Integrity Research Lead at the University of Canberra and Senior Fellow at The University of Melbourne Law School. She is a sports lawyer with degrees from the University of Adelaide and a Graduate Diploma in Investigations Management from Charles Sturt University. Catherine is a member of Asian Racing Federation Council on Anti-Illegal Betting & Related Financial Crime, the International Cricket Council (ICC) Independent Review Board, Chair of the Badminton World Federation Vetting Panel, Head of the World Curling Federation

Anti-Doping Hearing Panel and a member of the Australian National Sports Tribunal. Catherine actively promotes women in the sports industry and is a co-founder of the Australian organisation, Women on Boards (WOB), the international network, and Women in Sports Law (WiSL). Catherine has played community level football, and has been a board member, disciplinary tribunal member, consultant, and mentor to Capital (ACT) Football. Catherine has documented her role with Women Onside in achieving gender equality within Football Australia's governance structures: Ordway, C. (2023). *Gender Equality Achieved Through Crisis: Football Federation of Australia (now FA)*, International Journal of Sport Policy and Politics; and Ordway, C. (2023). *What can we learn from sport governance challenges? BroadAgenda, 50/50 by 2030* Foundation, University of Canberra. Catherine also chronicled the role of Moya Dodd in amending the FIFA statutes to include gender equality in two forthcoming book chapters: Ordway, C., & Symons, K. (2023). *It doesn't happen by magic: creatively exploring the process of changemaking in sport through Moya Dodd and FIFA*, in *Intersections of Sport and Society in Creative Writing*, Springer; Ordway, C. and Dodd, M. (2023). *Ch1: Gender equality provisions in FIFA's 2016 governance reforms*, in Beissel, A., Postlethwaite, V., Grainger, A. & Brice, J. (eds.). (2023). *The 2023 FIFA Women's World Cup: Politics, Representation, and Management* [in press]. Catherine fenced at intervarsity level, represented the ACT in rugby union and was in the national squad for European handball. Having also lived in Norway and Qatar, Catherine has specialised in anti-doping policy since acting for the Australian Olympic Committee in the lead up to Sydney 2000. Catherine was awarded her PhD in 2019, her thesis was "Protecting Sports Integrity: Sport corruption risk management strategies" in 2019. Catherine's edited book *Restoring Trust in Sport: Corruption Cases and Solutions* was published in 2021. The 6th edition of *Sport Management: Principles and Applications* which she co-edited was published in 2022.

Dr. Vandy Pacetti-Donelson currently serves as the Dean of Undergraduate Studies at the United States Sports Academy in Daphne, Alabama. Her work has focused on the efficiencies of cognitive heuristics in conceptual modelling, network analysis of knowledge domains and social actors in bodies of knowledge, which affect our ability to develop professional knowledge and provide quality learning design. She is most interested in instructional practices that confront educational cultural hegemonies through the development of critical competencies that expose the ways of knowing and thinking in curriculum that exercise power and hinder social justice development systemically and institutionally. Dr. Pacetti-Donelson serves as the Executive Editor for *The Sport Journal*, an electronic, peer-reviewed scientific journal addressing current issues in sport and as the Co-Chair of the Organization and Bylaws Committee of AECT.





Kylee Parsons is the Women and Girl's Strategy Lead for Right to Dream (RTD) where she works across their academies and professional clubs in Ghana, Egypt and Denmark. Her work focuses on integrating the women's and girls' programs into RTD's academies and professional clubs by developing the best practices, environments and development pathways for their female students, athletes and staff to flourish. She has been with the organisation for six years, spending three years in Ghana as International Academy Coordinator before moving to Denmark to be based at RTD's professional club, FC Nordsjælland. She was a member of the rowing team at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill where she also earned bachelor's degrees in Sport Administration and Public Relations.

The Hon. Tanya Plibersek, MP is Federal Minister for the Environment and Water in the Australian Government. Between 2013 and 2019, Tanya was Deputy Leader of the Opposition and Deputy Leader of the Federal Parliamentary Labor Party. From 2013 to 2016, Tanya was also the Shadow Minister for Foreign Affairs and International Development. From 2017 to 2022 Tanya was the Shadow Minister for Education and the Shadow Minister for Women. Tanya served as a cabinet minister in the Gillard and Rudd Governments. Tanya was Minister for Health, Minister for Medical Research, Minister for Housing, Minister for Human Services, Minister for Social Inclusion, and Minister for the Status of Women. Tanya grew up in the Sutherland Shire of Sydney and is the daughter of migrants from Slovenia. Like many newly arrived migrants, Tanya's parents helped build the country in which they made their new home. Her father worked on the Snowy River hydroelectric scheme in the 1950s. Tanya holds a BA Communications (Hons) from the University of Technology Sydney (UTS) and a Master of Politics and Public Policy from Macquarie University. Before entering Parliament, Tanya worked in the Domestic Violence Unit at the NSW Ministry for the Status and Advancement of Women. Elected to Federal Parliament as the Member for Sydney in 1998, she spoke of her conviction that ordinary people working together can achieve positive change.



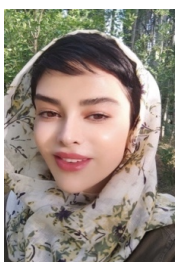
Professor Stacy Pope is Professor in the Department of Sport and Exercise Sciences at Durham University, UK. She is an expert in women, sport and inequalities. She is a leading figure in the area of women sports fans. She is author of *The Feminization of Sports Fandom* (Routledge, 2017) and co-editor of *Female Football Players and Fans* (Palgrave, 2018) and she has also published extensively in a range of international journals. Her most recent research, funded by the Arts and Humanities Research Council (AHRC), examines women fans of men's and women's football. It also explores male football fans responses to the increased visibility of women in sport and issues of sexism and misogyny. She has received invitations to discuss her research from UK Government, including as an invited expert for the DCMS Committee and Women and Equalities Committee. Stacey is committed to the public dissemination of her research and her work regularly features in the national and international media (e.g. Euronews, L'Equipe, BBC, Sky Sports News, the i).



Professor Jioji Ravulo is Professor and Chair of Social Work and Policy Studies in the Sydney School of Education and Social Work at The University of Sydney. His research, writing and areas of interest include mental health and wellbeing, alcohol and other drugs, youth development, marginality and decoloniality. He has been involved and invited to author over 70 publications, including peer reviewed journal articles, scholarly book chapters, research reports, and opinion pieces. He is passionate about creating and implementing social work educational and research approaches that are engaging and

engaged. Nuanced with a genuine commitment to the dynamic inclusion of cultural diversity and its differences, Jioji is super keen to create collaborative spaces for students, community groups and services. He is involved in various community-based research and co-design initiatives, including projects that support health literacies across equity groups, enhancing service delivery models for young people and their families, promoting the involvement of diversity in educational settings and supporting the meaningful inclusion of indigenous perspectives and practices. Jioji is also an Adjunct Professor in the School of Law and Social Sciences, The University of the South Pacific, supporting social work education, policy development and research across the region.

Brianne Reed is a defender on the Dominican Republic national football team and currently plays club football with South Melbourne FC. Prior to that she played at FC Nordsjaelland in Denmark while also working as the fan shop manager and a character coach to the u13, u14 and u16 girl academy teams, in Sweden for Vasteras BK; Eskilstuna United and Kvarnsveden IK; and in the USA for FC Kansas City, where she was a first-round draft pick in 2016. She played NCAA soccer at Rutgers University where she was named to the first team All Big-10 Conference for her outstanding play. Brianne is also a co-founder of The Players Network (TPN) which is a community/network/platform that helps to give players the resources, tools, knowledge, connections, and confidence they need to make informed decisions as they pursue a career abroad.



Dr. Khadijah Rezatab Azgomi holds a PhD in geography and urban planning from the Department of Geography of the University of Tabriz in Iran. Since 2011 Dr. Rezatab has been lecturer and researcher in urban planning, urbanism and the tourism sector (focusing on Strategy of Development City (CDS), Green trips (GT), Halal Tourism, Ethics Tourism, Digital Branding, Health Cruise Tourism, Landscape and Branding, event management and Travel Planning). She is currently based at the University of Tabriz and Tabriz Islamic Art University in Iran. Her main teaching and research interests are related to urban planning and tourism as well as the impact of sports events such as the 2023 Women's World Cup.

Dr. Martha Saavedra is the Associate Director of the Center for African Studies at the University of California, Berkeley where she manages the Mastercard Foundation Scholars Program, other Center fellowships and public programs. She received a PhD in Political Science at Berkeley and has taught at St. Mary's College of California, Ohio University, Escuela de Estudios Universitarios Real Madrid in Spain and at UC Berkeley. In addition to her work on gender, development, and sport, she has also researched agrarian



politics and ethnic conflict in Sudan, representations of Africa in Chinese popular culture and mental health support services at African universities. She is a board member of Sports Africa and Soccer Without Borders. She is the author of many influential publications including “Football feminine – development of the African game: Senegal, Nigeria and South Africa” which appeared in Soccer & Society and La politique du football en Afrique: mobilisations et trajectoires which was published in Politique africaine.



Professor Nico Schulenkorf is Professor of Sport Management at the University of Technology Sydney. He is passionate about using sport as a vehicle for community development and his research focuses on the social, cultural and health-related outcomes of sport and event projects. For more than two decades, Nico has been leading sport-for-development and health promotion programs in countries such as Sri Lanka, Israel and the Pacific Islands. His latest books are *Managing and Leveraging Events: Business and Social Dimensions* (Routledge, 2022) and *Handbook of Sport and International Development* (Edward Elgar, 2023).

Professor Mark Scott, AO is Vice Chancellor and President of The University of Sydney. Professor Mark Scott was appointed as the University’s 27th Vice-Chancellor in 2021. He is a highly respected and successful senior leader of large and complex institutions, across public service, education and the media. Under his leadership as Secretary of the NSW Department of Education (2016 to 2021), the Department: secured a record 10-year funding agreement for public schools; created School Infrastructure NSW to deliver an additional 160,000 classroom places; established the School Leadership Institute to train and develop aspiring school principals across the state; and established policies around the protection and expansion of Aboriginal languages in NSW schools. Professor Scott is an accomplished communicator, and his distinguished record of strategic leadership includes a decade as Managing Director of the ABC (2006 to 2016), where he led the organisation’s transformation to be a public broadcaster in the digital era. Over that time, the ABC created new services like iview, News 24, ABC3 and digital radio; and expanded online and mobile services, such as podcasting and ABC News online. Professor Scott has also held numerous senior editorial roles at Fairfax, including Education Editor of *The Sydney Morning Herald* and Editor-in-Chief of metropolitan, regional and community newspapers. His contribution to education reaches back to the start of his career, as a teacher in Sydney. He built on his interest in education with senior policy and leadership positions with two NSW education ministers – Terry Metherell and Virginia Chadwick – and in 2011 he was named an Officer of the Order of Australia. He is also a proud alumnus of The University of Sydney and holds a Bachelor of Arts, a Diploma of Education, a Master of Arts (Political Science and Government), an Honorary Doctorate (Letters) and a Professor of Practice (Education and Media) from The University of Sydney, as well as a Master of Public Administration from the John F. Kennedy School of Government at Harvard University. He has also been awarded honorary doctorates from the University of New South Wales and University of Technology Sydney.





Dr. Tarunna Sebastian is Lecturer in Indigenous Studies and Aboriginal Education in the School of Education and Social Work at The University of Sydney. She is a Pitjantjatjara and Anmatyerre woman from Central Australia. Her research interests include food, environment, coloniality and decoloniality in education, Indigenous governance and leadership in schools, Indigenous and health pedagogies and Indigenous movement cultures. She is the author of *Everyday Food Practices: Commercialisation and Consumption in the Periphery of the Global North* (2021). Her current work includes a collaborative project on the incorporation of indigenous

movement cultures into the physical education curriculum.

Amy Shepherd is the Operations/Football Development Officer and Women's Technical Director at Sydney University Soccer Football Club. Her coaching journey started from a young age in England, whilst still playing. During her study at University of Brighton, a placement at Cambridge United FC, as a Football Development Officer, provided insight into full-time involvement within the game. Upon graduating with a Sport Management degree, and becoming a Sport Development Officer, Amy was still heavily involved in coaching football both locally in the community, but also at professional level with Watford FC. It wasn't until a full-time coaching opportunity presented itself in New Jersey, USA, in 2013, that Amy started working in football full-time, where she has been fortunate to hold such roles ever since. After three years coaching in the USA, she came to Australia in 2016 holding various roles at Sydney University SFC. In 2018 Amy returned to England for a couple of years, to work as a Boys Football Development Officer for Norwich City FC, as well as an assistant coach at Watford FC Women, before returning to Australia and Sydney University SFC in 2020.



Ed Smith is the CEO of Sydney University Sport and Fitness. Graduating with first class honours in Law from the Australian National University, Ed spent his first seven years as a property, development and finance lawyer in Sydney and London. Leaving the practice of law in 2004, Ed turned his hand to university infrastructure at UNSW where he became that university's Planning and Property manager and Project Director for many projects including the David Philips Sports Field Redevelopment in 2010. Ed moved across to the University of Sydney in 2011 and soon found himself working for Sydney University Sport and Fitness, initially as its Infrastructure and Operations Manager and, upon SUSF's incorporation in January 2020, its first CEO. During his time at SUSF, Ed has overseen the development of over \$42 million worth of sports capital infrastructure including the development of the Sydney Uni Football Ground and Tag Family Foundation Grandstand in which this conference is being held. Ed currently oversees SUSF, the parent organisation to 40 extraordinary sporting clubs, with responsibility for a wide array of sporting facilities and sports program from the beginner participation level right up to the esteemed elite athlete program.

A/Professor Popi Sotiriadou is former coach and elite athlete, with a remarkable career spanning over three decades. Her passion for sports was ignited at the age of five when she began her journey as a gymnast. Then, as an elite athlete in sailing, Popi represented Greece and Australia in regattas and University Games. During the Sydney 2000 Olympic Games, she completed a PhD degree on "Sport development pathways and the role of elite success as a legacy for grassroots sport participation". Her research spans from safe and inclusive sport practices to gender-inclusive



leadership, female athlete protection and duty of care, and the nuances and challenges in female sexual harassment and bullying in sport, as well as eating disorders and trends in the use of performance-enhancing substances by elite female athletes. Dr. Sotiriadou was invited by the International Olympic Committee (IOC) to address issues of women's leadership, resulting in a multilevel framework to deconstruct the role board members play in advancing gender equity policies in leadership positions. Popi is a strong advocate of "Harnessing the Power of Women in Sports," a concept that explores how the achievements of female athletes can be a diplomatic tool to enhance legacies. In her talent identification work, she stresses the need for girls-specific pathways to optimise women's potential in high-performance sport. Popi played a pivotal role in designing and driving the implementation of the "Game on for Women" strategy at the Logan City Council. Supported by the Department of Tourism, Innovation, and Sport, as well as the Brisbane Lions, this strategy promotes a comprehensive approach to women's sport development. Dr. Sotiriadou is a highly sought-after speaker and consultant, bringing a wealth of experience and knowledge to the table. Her expertise spans high-performance coaching of female athletes, the role of culture in using social media in sport, and gender participation in decision-making positions of sport federations. Widely published and globally recognised, her research has had a profound impact on the development of sports policies and practices. Dr. Sotiriadou inspires and empowers athletes, coaches, and sports organisations to create a safer, more inclusive, and equitable sports environment.



Rebecca Sowden is a former New Zealand Football Fern and US college player currently based in Auckland. As a Women of Influence Finalist, she has had a 20-year career in sport and entertainment with leading global properties including the likes of Hong Kong Sevens, Volvo Ocean Race, FIFA U-17 Women's World Cup and MasterChef. At the conclusion of the last FIFA Women's World Cup, she founded women's sport sponsorship & marketing agency, Team Heroine as she felt brands and rights holders were missing an opportunity to unlock the value of women's sport. Since then, she has worked alongside the Xero and Visa Europe helping them with their women's football strategy, the Women's Sport Collective, Hackney Women's FC, Spark Sport and is a co-founder of global social cause campaign, Correct The Internet which looks to tackle the gender bias that occurs against sportswomen on the internet and has attracted global interest and attention.

Emma Starr is Center Midfielder for Eastern Suburbs FC in Brisbane, Queensland. Prior to that she was with Shelbourne FC in Dublin, Ireland where she won the 2022 FAI WNL championship and the Irish Cup also played in the the Champions' League. She has also played professionally for Galway United in Ireland, where she was 'Player of the Year.'; FFC Vorderland in Vorarlberg, Austria; FK Dukla Praha, Prague, Czech Republic; and Ballerup Skovlunde Fodbold (BSF) in Copenhagen, Denmark. She was signed



previously by Tottenham Ladies, Charlton Ladies, and Crystal Palace in England, but visa issues precluded those opportunities. She played university NCAA soccer in the USA and was also Captain for George Mason University in Virginia. She is passionate about the environment and is currently working with Gone West, an organisation that plants trees to offset the carbon damage that travelling can produce. Emma has also worked in Portland, Oregon, where she was the Studio Coordinator for RidePDX Studios and a Strength and Conditioning Coach at StrengthFarm LLC. She has written a blog on Word Press about her international experiences entitled “She Shoots, She Scores.”



Kirsty Stevens is the Events & Branding Manager for Sydney Uni Sport & Fitness. Kirsty has over a decade of experience in event management, starting her career in England working in the leisure industry before a move to National Health Service to organise and run leadership courses, workshops and conferences for medical leaders. In 2017, Kirsty moved to Australia to take up the role of Events, Marketing and Operations Manager with Sydney University Football Club, where she had 7 successful years with the Rugby Club, including managing over 30 events a year from game days, networking events, awards dinners and the annual fundraising lunch attended by over 800 guests. Kirsty moved into her current role with SUSF in September 2022 to bring a new level of professionalism to the organisation’s events and program offerings. Kirsty has a strong passion for sport and has volunteered at several large-scale events such as the 2012 Olympics, The Rugby World Cup, Sydney 7s, The British & Irish Lions tour and the Varsity Match. She also has a wealth of knowledge from the marketing industry with a Bachelor of Arts Degree in Graphic Design and previous employment with a PR company in the UK.

Dr. Sasha Sutherland is Director for the Barbados Olympic Association and Executive Director of the Caribbean Regional Anti-Doping Organisation (RADO). In her role she manages teams in the 18 Caribbean RADO member countries by ensuring that the rules, regulations, education and testing are maintained at international standards, which she anticipates will benefit all athletes competing in sport. With a desire to increase awareness around issues of gender inequality, governance and doping in sport, Sasha is a part-time lecturer in The University of the West Indies, Cave Hill Campus’ Sport Science and Tourism Programmes. She also serves on the National Compliance Platform for Anti-Doping in Barbados. She is a former lecturer in The Hague University of Applied Sciences’ International Sport Management Programme and was an Visiting Professor in Sport Management at George Mason University in Virginia. Dr. Sutherland holds a BSc Psychology with Literatures in English, an Advanced Diploma in Sport Management, and a PhD in Cultural Studies. Her research interests are gender and sport, race and sport, and Anti-Doping in sport. She also holds certificates in coaching (football) and was a football manager and referee. Sasha is a former triple-discipline athlete of Lawn Tennis, Football and Hockey and brings her knowledge of being athlete, administrator and academic together to inform the world across all sports.





John Tsatsimas is CEO Football NSW, the governing body for football in the state of New South Wales. Prior to assuming this role, he was CEO of the Western Sydney Wanderers (WSW) A-Leagues Football Club from 2014-2022. He also spent four years as CEO of the Newcastle Jets Football Club. Tsatsimas' passion for football started at an early age with Parramatta City Football Club, before undertaking a range of playing, coaching and administration roles with various Associations and NPL NSW clubs. In addition to ten years at the WSW, including time as the Foundation General Manager, Chief Operating Officer and CEO, Tsatsimas has also spent time in a consultant role with the Asian Football Confederation (AFC), adding to his all-encompassing knowledge of the game.

Neil Tunnah is the CEO and founder of The Performance Chain and Director of Coaching for Rugby Union South Australia in Adelaide. He has extensive global experience in successfully leading professional sports teams & organisations in the commercial construction industry. Neil's focus is on building relationships, leadership capacity, and work environments that support and challenge people to be at their best consistently. Neil has a reputation for delivering results based on his ability to design and implement the high-performance processes that lead to sustained success.



Neil is an accredited University of Queensland & Rugby Australia L4 High Performance Coach, also a World Rugby Accredited High Performance trainer & educator with over 20 years experience leading elite teams in sport and business. He was from 2017-2020 assistant coach of the Jersey Reds in the English Rugby Championship. He was a former player at professional level in Scotland with Melrose.

A/Professor Selvaraj Velayutham is Associate Professor in the Discipline of Sociology in the Macquarie School of Social Sciences at Macquarie University. He teaches sociology of everyday life, qualitative research methods and society, culture and sports. He currently leads an ARC Discovery Project on Social Resilience, Migrant Integration, and Informal Sport in Public Space.



Professor Katrina Wahlstrom is Head of Exercise Science at the United States Sports Academy in Daphne, Alabama and Adjunct Professor at the University of Houston – Victoria in Texas. Dr. Wahlstrom has a Doctor of Management in Organizational Development and Change, M.B.A., and M.S.S. in Exercise Science. Her work focuses on empowering women to become leaders in health, wellness, and sport. She is most interested in providing women with the training and support to help them develop the skills and confidence needed to lead in this field. She is a vocal advocate

for women's health and wellness aimed at raising awareness of the unique challenges faced by women and the need for women's leadership in this space.

Professor Jean Williams is a leading international writer on the history of sport, particularly gender relations, governance and the professionalisation of women's sport. Jean first published *A Game for Rough Girls* in 2003, and subsequently has nine books, and a range of journalism articles looking at these issues, most recently *The History of Women's Football* (2022). Jean is in Australia on a funded research trip looking at the clothing strategies of female fans, and the way that the fashion industry is waking up to sport as an opportunity to sell aspirational and branded items. This she contextualises through an historical lens. Governing bodies of sport are actually holding back the financial development of women's sport, and so myths around 'progress' are analysed as part of Jean's work. Her company jjheritage.com has worked with FIFA, UEFA, and the FA as well as numerous other sporting organisations to story tell history to a wide public, and she has since moved into documentaries and feature films. She is also Visiting Professor at the University of Reading in England.



A/Professor Sarah Zipp is Associate Professor and Program Director for Sport Management in the Bolte School of Business at Mount St. Mary's University (USA) and the founder of the Power to Play, Period international program. She has taught in the USA, UK, Netherlands, Singapore, and Japan. Sarah's research examines aspects of gender and sport - including gender equality, international sport, diversity and inclusion, sport for development, menstrual health, and leadership. She has published numerous journal articles, book chapters, and news articles. She co-edited the *Routledge Handbook of Global Sport* (2020) and *Global Markets and Global Impact of Sports* (2019) and was named the international Early Career Researcher of the Year (2020) by the *Journal of Sport for Development*. She earned her PhD in Development Studies at Erasmus University (Netherlands) and an MSc. In Sport Management from Virginia Commonwealth University. She is also affiliated with the SMASHD Research Group at The University of Sydney.

In Memoriam:

Eli A. Wolff, PLY (1977-2023) was an instructor in sport management at the University of Connecticut. He also co-directed the Power of Sport Lab, a platform to fuel and magnify innovation, inclusion and social change through sport. Eli's work was at the intersection of research, education and advocacy in and through sport. He has co-founded Disability in Sport International, Athletes for Human Rights and the Olympism Project. In 2000, Eli helped to establish the ESPY Award for Best Male and Female Athlete with a Disability, and he organised the national disability sport organisations to support professional golfer Casey Martin in his successful case against the PGA before the U.S. Supreme Court. From 2003 to 2008, Eli led a global effort to include provisions addressing sport and recreation within the United Nations Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities. Eli worked with colleagues from 2007 – 2013 to establish the International Day of Sport for Development and Peace (IDSDP) on April 6 of each year as recognised by the United Nations and an official day on the international calendar, and he has been a co-coordinator of the global organizing team for the IDSDP. Eli has been the co-organiser of the annual Athletes and Social Change Forum with the Muhammad Ali Center from 2013 to the present. Eli was a member of the United States Paralympic Soccer Team in the 1996 and 2004 Paralympic Games. Eli is a graduate of Brown University and has an MA Olympic Studies from the German Sport University.

The Sport, Movement and Social & Human Development (SMASHD) Group

At SMASHD at The University of Sydney we bring together leading research and action learning in physical education and sport (coaching, youth development, movement, and management) to generate inclusive models of physical cultures, sporting organisations and youth development to increase wellbeing, performance and practice. Our work focuses on six main interrelated themes:

1. Indigeneity, place and space as shapers of inclusivity and wellbeing
2. Physical education, sport and youth development
3. Coloniality and decoloniality in the realm of sports education
4. Sporting cultures and operations for social and personal wellbeing
5. Transformation of organisational operations and practices in sport
6. Skill-based learning for building human capability
7. Safe spaces for all in sport and exercise

Key Projects

1. Expanding opportunities for girls and women in sport
2. Reclaiming links between physical education and sport development
3. Sport, physical activity, and the wellbeing economy
4. Indigenous knowledge, integral ecology, sport and wellbeing

SMASHD Members

University of Sydney

Professor John Nauright, Coordinator

Professor Jioji Ravulo

Professor Richard Light

Assoc. Professor Kieron Rooney

Dr Steve Georgakis

Dr Tarunna Sebastian

Dr James Barkell

Australian Affiliated Researchers

Professor John Evans, Swinburne University of Technology & Uni of Sydney

Assoc. Professor Jorge Knijnik, Western Sydney University

Assoc. Professor Guiseppe Carabetta, University of Technology, Sydney

Dr Lee McGowan, University of the Sunshine Coast

International Affiliated Researchers

Dr Luke Harris, University of Birmingham, England

Assoc. Professor Sarah Zipp, Mount St. Mary's Uni; & Power to Play, Period, USA

About our Sponsors

The University of Sydney was founded in 1850 as Australia's first public institution of higher education. The University has a vast history covering many aspects of intellectual, scientific and socio-political life in Australia. Driven by pioneers, philanthropists and free thinkers, our history is punctuated by firsts and triumphs, from admitting women to Olympic Games medals. Since our inception, we have believed in education for all and leadership that improves lives in all the communities that we serve. The University acknowledges the tradition of custodianship and law of the Country on which the University of Sydney campuses stand. We pay our respects to those who have cared and continue to care for Country. Consistently ranked in the top fifty universities in the world, currently 19th in the QS Global Rankings, and top 3 in Australia, The University of Sydney is a premier global university. The University is also ranked 1st in Australia and 4th in the world for graduate employability. The University of Sydney, education for all, leadership for good.



Sydney University Sport and Fitness has a mission to be the leading provider for university-based sport, fitness and recreation services in the Asia-Pacific region.



The University of Sydney has a long and prestigious history of sport, witnessing many changes in the athletic world. On January 1, 2003, the Sydney University Sports Union (1890) and the Sydney

University Women's Sports Association (1910) amalgamated and created this country's premier tertiary sporting body. In 2008, the organisation was renamed, and Sydney Uni Sport & Fitness was launched. Today, SUSF manages and administers more than 40 sport and recreation clubs, organises sporting and recreation events and offers a comprehensive range of sporting facilities to students and the wider Sydney community. SUSF has produced more Australian representatives and won more major competitions than any other club in the country. Consequently it continues to be an influential body in the national and international sporting domain. Today, Sydney Uni Sport & Fitness boasts 15,000 members. We have over 400 sporting scholarship holders within our Elite Athlete Program and host a range of social competitions including College sport, Interfaculty Sport, Intramural Sport and Lunchtime Social Sport to accommodate thousands of active University students on campus each year.

Sydney University Soccer Football Club established in 1946, is leading the pathway for Student Athletes providing the foundations to support, promote and strive toward success in both football and academia. Our Football NSW competitions cater for players across junior development pathways through our Skill Acquisition Phase programs (Mixed SAP & Girls SAP), as well as our Youth Leagues; with our Girls competing in FNSW



Girls Youth League One and our Boys competing in FNSW Boys Youth League Three. Our senior teams provide a student-based model, with our Women competing in NPL NSW Women's, and our Men competing in FNSW League Two, both of which are made of numerous Elite Athlete Scholarship holders. Former players Clare Hunt and Clare Wheeler are in the 2023 Matildas World Cup squad.

Conference Session Supporters

The Performance Chain is an international partnership of award-winning performance coaches, who each have a rich history of performance optimisation in business and sport. Our tailored programs provide premium ideas, tools, models and interventions that develop organisational, leadership and human potential. The Performance Chain brings together the principles of performance in business and sport to create a **High Performance Operating Model (HPOM)** that develops people and impacts performance at every level of your organisation. For more on how The Performance Chain can help you and/or your organisation, see: <https://www.theperformancechain.com/>



Psynergy Mental Health empowers organisations to better understand their mental health and wellbeing culture according to their people. Through measuring and understanding they can then take action to implement improvements to inspire positive, long term, sustained behaviour change to enhance the entire workplace culture and increase success. Psynergy have developed a digital platform utilising their own "MAC-Approach" towards organisational wellbeing. Psynergy is partnered with the National Health Service (NHS) in the UK to deliver best practice interventions and assessments. For more on how Psynergy Mental Health can help your organisation, go to <https://www.psynergymentalhealth.com/>

Why Measure?

1. To fully understand the workplace
2. To give your people a voice
3. By measuring key elements of mental health and wellbeing within the workplace you become better equipped to lead and manage the situation and take action.

Why Act?

1. Taking action will lead to improvements
2. It shows your people you care,
3. It makes them feel that you listen to them
4. Inspires and creates organisational change.



Why Change?

1. Positive changes will increase employee engagement and productivity
 2. It will improve staff retention
 - 3 It increases team morale,
 4. It eases operations in general as well as eases pressures on management.
- This approach inspires togetherness, creates a positive work environment and ultimately will increase bottom line profits and organisational success overall.

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