The Sport and Culture Group is a collaborative group of scholars based in the School of Sport and Exercise Science at Victoria University (VU).

The unifying aim of the Group is to advance critical understanding of sport through individual and collaborative research and writing projects that explore the role of sport in local and global communities.

The work of Group members is multi- and cross-disciplinary, and is based on core disciplines of economics, history, philosophy, management, and sociology. These disciplines not only drive the operation of many of the School’s research projects but they underpin areas of postgraduate supervision.

All members of the Sport and Culture Group are associates of the Institute for Sport, Exercise and Active Living.

RECENT PUBLICATIONS BY MEMBERS OF THE SPORT AND CULTURE GROUP


FURTHER DETAILS
about the Victoria University Sport and Culture Group, including information on publications, postgraduate supervision, and specialist research units are located at www.staff.vu.edu.au/RobHess/
Dr Richard Baka has been employed at VU since 1979. He teaches subjects including ‘Olympic Studies’ and the ‘Australian Sport and Fitness Delivery System’ and supervises postgraduate students. His main area of sport history research is related to the Olympic movement, especially Australia at the Winter Olympic Games as well as comparative sport research with an historical bent. He is currently on the Executive Board of the International Society for Comparative Sport and Physical Education and is an Associate of the Australian Centre for Olympic Studies.

Since 1996 he has also been the director of the very popular VU Sports Camps program which has seen thousands of primary and secondary students attend VU during school holiday periods. Throughout his academic career he has been very active in the fitness area, and in 1995 he was named Australian Fitness Leader of the Year by the Australian Fitness Network.

Richard can be contacted at richard.Baka@vu.edu.au

Dr Michael Burke is a Senior Lecturer in the School of Sport and Exercise Science at VU. He is currently the course co-ordinator of the Human Movement and Physical Education suite of courses at Victoria University, and his academic interests lie in the area of sport ethics and sport philosophy, where he is concerned with improving opportunities for participation in sport for marginalised groups in society. He has also published widely on the topic of drugs and sport.

Michael can be contacted at Michael.Burke@vu.edu.au

Mr Matthew Cox is a Lecturer in the School of Sport and Exercise Science at VU. He coordinates the Outdoor Recreation stream in the popular Bachelor of Sport and Recreation Management degree, where he teaches units such as the ‘Theory and Practice of Adventure Programming’, ‘Theories of Outdoor Education’ and ‘Outdoor and Environmental Philosophy’.

Matthew can be contacted at Matthew.Cox@vu.edu.au

Mr Greg Dingle is a Lecturer in Sport and Recreation Management in the School of Sport and Exercise Science at VU. Greg’s primary research interest is the management of sport and recreation organisations in an environmentally sustainable manner. He is currently coordinating an undergraduate subject at VU titled ‘Sport, Recreation and Sustainability’ which examines environmental sustainability for sport and recreation organisations, and related management strategies. Greg is also a PhD candidate and his research deals with the environmental sustainability of sport organisations in an era of climate change. His thesis explores how and why organisations managing major Australian sport stadia are responding to climate change.

Greg also teaches career management for sport and recreation students in the Career and Professional Development program. He is an active member of the Sport Management Association of Australia and New Zealand, and has also enjoyed a career in the sport and recreation industry, including administrative positions in water polo, a national netball league club, and a management consultancy. He has coached in both cricket and Australian Rules football.

Greg can be contacted at Greg.Dingle@vu.edu.au

Ms Angela Dressler is a Lecturer in the School of Sport and Exercise Science at VU, where she has built and manages a leading holistic career and professional development program (CPD).

As a part-time staff member, she transformed a field experience program into a highly successful embedded career development program for the Bachelor of Sport and Recreation Management degree. She manages over 200 industry placements and sources several paid sport and recreation internships each year. Angela has collaborated with Parks and Leisure Australia to establish a mentoring program connecting industry professionals with new graduates. Her initiative, drive and leadership has been acknowledged with a 2009 Faculty of Arts, Education and Human Development Teaching Excellence Award, a Vice Chancellor’s Teaching Excellence Citation and the Peak Vice Chancellor’s Award for Teaching Excellence in Higher Education at Victoria University.

Her program is recognised by the Career Development Association of Australia and was a finalist in the 2009 Sport and Recreation Awards education category.

Angela can be contacted at Angela.Dressler@vu.edu.au

The unifying aim of the Group is to advance critical understanding of sport through individual and collaborative that explore the role of sport in local...
Dr Clare Hanlon is a Senior Lecturer in the School of Sport and Exercise Science at VU. Clare’s expertise includes managing personnel at major sport events, the effect of a major sport event on the community, recruiting and retaining people in physical activity, and developing community partnerships to sustain physical activity.

She has been a team Principal Investigator in Federal and State projects funded by organisations such as the Department of Veterans’ Affairs and the Department of Planning and Community Development.

She has also acted as a consultant for the University of Hong Kong, the Department of Planning and Community Development, VicHealth, NIKE, Ballarat University, state sporting organisations and Local Government Councils.

Clare has been a guest reviewer for a number of international journals and was the secretary and representative board member of the Sport Management Association of Australia and New Zealand.

Clare can be contacted at Clare.Hanlon@vu.edu.au

Dr Dennis Hemphill is an Associate Professor in Sport Ethics and Head of the School of Sport and Exercise Science at VU.

His current research interests include professional ethics, drug use and control in sport, technology and sport, as well as human rights and athlete protection.

Dennis has written ethics case studies for the forthcoming anthology on Clinical Exercise Practice (edited by L. Cameron, S. Seilig and D. Hemphill) and has authored a chapter on Ethics and Youth Sport for a forthcoming anthology on Coaching Ethics.

Dennis is also involved with a Commonwealth of Australia Anti-Doping Research Program funded project on ‘Understanding the Anti-Doping Knowledge, Beliefs and Attitudes of Support Personnel in Sport’, and he works closely with colleague Caroline Symons on diversity and inclusive curriculum initiatives.

Dennis can be contacted at Dennis.Hemphill@vu.edu.au

Dr Rob Hess is a Senior Lecturer in the School of Sport and Exercise Science at VU.

He is the co-author of the award winning A National Game: The History of Australian Rules Football (Penguin/Viking, 2008), and he has also written extensively about the ‘secret’ history of female players and the ‘hidden’ ethnic dimensions of the code, especially the longstanding involvement of the Chinese community.

He convenes the Football Research Collective, and coordinates a football history essay competition for the Victorian Amateur Football Association. Other interests include nineteenth-century cycling, the relationship between sport and spirituality and the history of sport in India and Pakistan.

Rob is the former Publications Officer of the Australian Society for Sports History, an Associate Academic Editor of the International Journal of the History of Sport, Executive Editor of the Bulletin of Sport and Culture, and an Editorial Board member of the Football Studies journal.

He also serves as honorary historian for the St Bede’s/ Mentone Tigers Amateur Football Club.

Rob can be contacted at Robert.Hess@vu.edu.au

Dr Matthew Klugman is a Lecturer in the School of Sport and Exercise Science at VU.

He has written widely on the passions of Aussie Rules fans, including Passion Play: Love, Hope and Heartbreak at the Footy (Hunter Publishers, 2009). Matthew has also co-authored a paper with Gary Osmond tracing the history of the transformational photograph of indigenous Australian Football League (AFL) player Nicky Winmar pointing to his skin.

He is currently working collaboratively on projects including the history of Australian images of race and sport, straight-identifying footy fans who eroticise footy players, and a comparison of AFL fans in Melbourne and soccer fans in Rome. Matthew previously worked in the history of medicine, where he published Blood Matters: A Social History of the Victorian Red Cross Blood Transfusion Service (Australian Scholarly Publishing, 2004).

Other research interests include sport and religion, the visceral nature of sporting passions and suffering, psychoanalytic understandings of sporting excess, anti-football sentiments, and the cultural history of blood exchange and gift relationships.

Matthew can be contacted at Matthew.Klugman@vu.edu.au

The unifying aim of the Group is to advance critical understanding of research and writing projects and global communities.
**Dr Brent McDonald** is a Lecturer in the School of Sport and Exercise Science at VU.

Playing rugby union in Japan developed Brent’s interest in the cross-cultural influences on sport. His PhD utilised sociological perspectives (in particular of Pierre Bourdieu) to examine the position of sport in Japanese education. His research has been published in international journals and has focused on Japanese masculinities, embodied learning and spiritual capital, the ‘secondary’ curriculum, and the effects of globalisation on Japanese sporting practice.

Brent is regional editor for the International Journal of Eastern Sport and Physical Education, and is involved in the National Asian Languages and Studies in Schools Program and ways of learning language through embodied practice. Brent is also researching Polynesian youth and identity with the Victorian Rugby Union and the Victoria Police. Other interests include pedagogical processes in coaching, youth sports, diversity and masculinities.

Brent can be contacted at Brent.McDonald@vu.edu.au

**Dr Bob Stewart** is an Associate Professor in Sport Studies in the School of Sport and Exercise Science at VU.

Bob has a special interest in the corporatisation and regulation of sport, and in the ways sport leagues and clubs structure their operations and manage player behaviour.

Bob is currently researching drug use in sport and ways in which commercialisation, culture and identity influences attitudes to drug use in sport, and drug-use practices. This project is funded through an Australian Research Council Linkage Grant, with the linkage partners being the Australian Drug Foundation and the Turning Point Drug Treatment Centre.

Bob can be contacted at Bob.Stewart@vu.edu.au

**Dr Caroline Symons** is a Senior Lecturer in the School of Sport and Exercise Science at VU.

She is an authority on the Gay Games and the international Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Transgender (LGBT) sport movement. Her multi-award winning PhD, ‘Gay Games: The Play of Sexuality, Sport and Community’, has recently been updated and turned into a book. Caroline is a principal investigator in several funded research projects. These include a collaboration with the University of Ballarat and Deakin University, where she is examining transitional developmental stages of adolescent girls in Victoria in relation to the barriers and facilitators of their sport and physical activity participation.

In another project funded by the Department of Planning and Community Development, she is investigating the context and success factors of women in leadership positions within Australian sport administration, coaching and officiating. Caroline won two VU teaching awards in 2007 and is well recognised for her work on sexuality diversity and inclusive curriculum development. She established the Challenging Homophobia in Sport Initiative in 2008 to promote programs, policies and education in this area within Australian sport, and in the same year convened the Asia Pacific LGBT Human Rights conference that coincided with the Melbourne Outgames.

Caroline can be contacted at Caroline.Symons@vu.edu.au

**Dr John Tower** is a Senior Lecturer in the School of Sport and Exercise Science at VU.

His main research expertise is the management of community sport partnerships and relationships. He is also researching the analysis of recreation and sport participation in Australia using the ERASS data, and the application of learning in the workplace and community experiences in sport and recreation courses, as well as market research for community, recreation and sporting organisations. John has received research funding from VicHealth, Sport and Recreation Victoria, other government organisations, and community sport and welfare organisations.

John is supervising a PhD student investigating the nature of social capital in local sport and recreation clubs, and is exploring opportunities to recruit students to conduct research in the area of recreation planning. He coordinates the teaching of ‘Introduction to Sport and Recreation’, ‘Research and Evaluation’, ‘Sport and Recreation Services Marketing’ and ‘Recreation Planning and Policy’ units in the Bachelor of Sport and Recreation Management courses. John also manages the School’s portfolio of Communication, Marketing and Engagement, and is a Board member for the Australian and New Zealand Association of Leisure Studies.

John can be contacted at John.Tower@vu.edu.au

**Dr Zhu Zhang** is a Lecturer in the School of Sport and Exercise Science at VU.

Zhu’s primary research interests lie in the areas of sport fan behaviour and social responsibility of sport organisations, specifically how professional sports can be utilised to address social issues and concerns through their influence on sport fans. His recent research project to investigate community participation in socially responsible programs of professional sports was funded by VU.

Zhu’s research work has been published in international sport management journals such as the International Journal of Sport Management and the International Journal of Sport Management and Marketing.

He teaches mainly in the area of sport and recreation facility management and sport industry development projects in sport and recreation management courses at VU.

Zhu can be contacted at Zhu.Zhang@vu.edu.au