



**VICTORIA
UNIVERSITY**

**A NEW
SCHOOL OF
THOUGHT**

INTERNATIONAL SPORTS STUDIES CONFERENCE

Sport and the Pacific Region: Cross-Cultural Currents II

University of the South Pacific, Cook Islands Campus

16-18 September 2009

SUBMITTING AN ABSTRACT

Papers from the fields of sport tourism, sport history, sport education, sport management, sport philosophy, sport law, sport business and comparative sports studies are invited. Postgraduate student presentations are especially encouraged. The broad theme of the conference is 'Sport and the Pacific Region: Cross-Cultural Currents', although papers dealing with more specific themes and or non-Pacific topics are welcome. Papers delivered at the conference should be about 15-20 minutes in length (followed by 5-10 minutes of discussion). It is anticipated that papers (approximately 5,000-6,000 words) will be published in an edited anthology to be released in 2010.

All abstracts should be submitted to Robert.Hess@vu.edu.au as Word documents in the format specified below. Presenters will usually receive notification that their abstract has been received within 24 hours of submission. All abstracts will be peer-reviewed and presenters will usually be notified of the acceptance of their abstract within 72 hours. Abstracts for panel sessions are also welcome.

1. Title of Paper
2. First name and last name of presenter(s)
3. Institutional affiliation of the presenter(s)
4. Content of abstract (approximately 150-250 words) in a single paragraph and without notes or references. Abstracts should be in Times New Roman font, single spaced, and written in the third person (without personal pronouns). [See sample abstracts below]

Note: All abstracts will be published in the conference booklet.

Queries from local (Pacific Island and Samoan) delegates should be directed to Andrew Minogue at pacificgamescouncil@nc2011.nc. Queries from international (outside the Pacific region) delegates should be directed to Rob Hess at Robert.Hess@vu.edu.au. The extended deadline for abstracts is **04 September 2009**.



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Dawn Rasmussen
National University of Samoa

The Development of Sport in Samoa: The Role of Women and Education

The development of sport in Samoa began in the mid-nineteenth century when British and New Zealand immigrants settled in Samoa. Organized sport was played mainly by the European and part-European residents. Sport was largely an elitist affair, but change occurred when amateur sport became more organized and professionalized for international competition. This paper looks at the development of sport in Samoa with a particular focus on the role of women and education. Information was collated from three sources, namely data collected from a questionnaire circulated to administrators of the major sports played in Samoa, interviews conducted with prominent sports people and senior citizens of Samoa, and the author's own personal knowledge gained through many years of involvement in various sports dating back to the early 1950s.

Clark Tuagalu
Bay of Plenty Polytechnic, Tauranga, New Zealand

Fight or Flight? Confronting Obesity the Samoan Way!

The World Health Organization recently identified the Pacific Island nations as having the most overweight people in the world. In fact, Samoa was ranked sixth in the world as the most overweight and obese nation. The immediate cause of obesity was attributed to the imbalance between the intake of energy contained within food, and its expenditure in activity. Chronic diseases related to obesity such as Type 2 diabetes, affects over 52% of the population in Samoa today. This study takes a snapshot of the current situation in Samoa and the rate of physical activity of its population. Further, this paper explores the attitudes and opinions, nature and extent of the physical activity habits of primarily young Samoans in urban settings. It will also examine the responsibility of the Ministry of Health, Ministry of Education and Samoan Association of Sport National Olympic Committee in strengthening their management initiatives in preventing obesity, and will also consider opportunities to promote physical activity in places where people gather regularly such as schools, workplace, hospitals, prisons, churches and villages. Although physical activity itself accounts for only a small contribution in achieving energy balance, it does promote many other benefits. This justifies efforts to promote physical activity at all ages and is consistent with the findings from this report.