New Website, Officer Nominations and Application Deadlines Announced

By Gabriele Wulf, NASPSPA President

In my column in the fall newsletter, I announced an overhaul of the NASPSPA website. I am happy to report that we now have a new website: naspspa.com. I hope you will enjoy it. Our goal was to not only modernize the look and enhance its appeal but also to make it easier for users to find and post information. Communication director Catherine Sabiston was largely responsible for helping shape the new design. Thank you, Cathi! We hired a web designer to create the website for us, and fortunately we were able to do this without an increase in membership fees. Please note that there will still be some growing pains as we transition to the new site and organize all the functionality for membership and conference registrations and employment postings. We are working with Human Kinetics to ensure the best experience. Please feel free to send any feedback you may have regarding the website to Cathi (catherine.sabiston@utoronto.ca) or me (gabriele.wulf@unlv.edu). This is your site, and we would love to hear any suggestions or
At the risk of raising the blood pressure of our communication director, I waited until our abstract deadline to write my column. This would allow a report of what kind of turnout we can expect in Portland for our 2015 Annual Conference. I received positive feedback this past fall about our slate of keynote speakers and senior lecturers, and I hoped this would translate into strong interest in participating in the meeting. These hopes were realized: I am pleased to report that more than 435 abstracts were submitted to our program committee! To place this value in context, our meeting is projected to be among the most well attended in recent years. Our submission number represents a jump of 34% over last year’s very successful meeting in Minneapolis, meaning that we can expect a vibrant, engaging, and (optimally) crowded meeting. The credit for this goes to our area program committees, chaired by Bill Berg, Leah Robinson, and Sarah Ullrich-French, for their aggressive efforts in securing our headliners and soliciting submissions. I greatly appreciate the hard work of these committees, which continues with the review of our abstract submissions and the construction of our final program.

In my previous column I shared the lineup of keynote speakers, senior lecturers, and early career scholars. You will find their lecture titles and vitals elsewhere in this newsletter. In this column I wish to highlight our Human Kinetics Lecturer and our preconference workshops. Jesús Ilundain-Agurruza, associate professor and chair of the philosophy faculty at Linfield College in Oregon, will be our Human Kinetics Lecturer. Dr. Ilundain-Agurruza is president of the International Association for the Philosophy of Sport and holds wide-ranging interests, with special interest in philosophy of sport, aesthetics, and embodied cognition. He was born and raised in Pamplona, Spain (yes, he has run with the bulls), is an avid cyclist, and is quite enthusiastic to interact with our group. His talk, Sport Smarts and Empty Minds: Spontaneity, Enactivism and Highly Skilled Performance, promises to offer an intellectually stimulating and high-energy start to our conference.

In light of many of you traveling to Portland on Wednesday, June 3, we will offer two workshops that begin in the middle of that afternoon. The cost to participate in a workshop is modest ($15). Please register when you submit your conference registration at www.naspspa.org/register-for-the-conference. The first workshop is targeted to our student members and others interested in learning about important contemporary data analytic techniques. Dr. Brian French of Washington State University and Dr. Holmes Finch of Ball State University will present A Didactic Introduction to Latent Variable Modeling in two sections. The first two-hour section will introduce basic models in measurement such as confirmatory factor analysis, multiple indicators–multiple causes models, latent mean comparisons, and full structural equation models. The second two-hour section will introduce more complex models, including measurement invariance models, multigroup models for analysis of data from experiments, item response theory, and latent class analysis. Participants with prerequisite knowledge of multiple regression techniques are welcome to attend one or both of the sections and will receive access to sample software code, data sets, output with interpretation, and readings to facilitate the learning process.

The topic of the second workshop is informed by our conversations with midcareer NASPSPA members. A common theme in these exchanges is the importance of securing grant monies to pursue larger-scale projects and to successfully advance careers. Many of these members did not complete postdoctoral fellowships or receive extensive training in grant writing and management as graduate students. For them, breaking into the grant game can require a degree of retooling that is both intimidating and exhausting. How’d They Do That? Transitioning to Externally Funded Work at Mid- and Late Career will overview the career trajectories of...
NASPSPA 2015 CONFERENCE

Conference Hotel Information

Why Stay at the Conference Hotel?
Here are some reasons it is important to stay at the conference hotel:

- NASPSPA books the hotel years in advance of the conference and guarantees a certain number of sleeping rooms. Based on that, NASPSPA rarely pays any fees for the meeting rooms (smaller, less expensive hotels cannot offer space in meeting rooms).
- AV and food and beverage costs are based on the number of sleeping rooms we contract.
- If we do not fill the sleeping rooms we contract, NASPSPA will have to pay for empty rooms and pay for meeting rooms.
- Some organizations charge higher registration rates or they do not provide tickets for receptions and banquets or other events for those who do not stay at the conference hotel (NASPSPA executive discussed this but decided against these policies).
- NASPSPA works very hard to keep the conference cost low for students. In fact, the fee paid by students does not actually cover per-person costs.

The bottom line is that, if we do not fill our block of rooms, registration fees in the future will need to be increased. Plus, it is a really nice hotel! The NASPSPA executive committee encourages you to stay at the conference hotel in Portland.

Reserve online here: https://aws.passkey.com/event/11725564/owner/4173/home

Students looking for other students to share a room with, please contact your student representative, Nicole Westlund (nwestlun@uwo.ca).

For more information about the conference, visit http://naspspa.com/?page_id=646 and refer to the fall 2014 newsletter for information pertaining to Portland, Oregon (http://naspspa.com/?page_id=639).

Please note that the Rose Festival is in Portland while we are there. It would be a good idea to secure your hotel room now. If you need to cancel later and you do so in advance - there is no penalty.
NASPSPA 2015 CONFERENCE

Lecturers and Keynotes

Human Kinetics Lecturer

Dr. Jesús Ilundáin-Agurruza is an associate professor and chair of the philosophy faculty at Linfield College in Oregon (http://linfield.academia.edu/JesusIlundainAgurruza). Dr. Ilundáin-Agurruza is president of the International Association for the Philosophy of Sport and holds wide-ranging interests, with special interest in philosophy of sport, aesthetics, and embodied cognition. Dr. Ilundáin-Agurruza will deliver the Human Kinetics Lecture titled Sport Smarts and Empty Minds: Spontaneity, Enactivism and Highly Skilled Performance.

Early Career Distinguished Scholars

The Early Career Distinguished Scholar award recognizes outstanding achievement of scholars who are still in the early stages of their scientific careers. For more details on the award, see http://naspspa.com/wp/?page_id=710.

The 2014 recipients of the Early Career Distinguished Scholar awards will be giving their talks at the 2015 conference in Portland. Dr. Leah Robinson, who has recently moved to the University of Michigan, will be giving her talk titled Reflecting Upon the Past...While Shaping the Future: Early Movement Experiences That Support Child Development.

Dr. Yu-Kai Chang from the National Taiwan Sport University will be giving his talk Acute Exercise Makes You Smarter: What, How, and Why? Refer to the fall 2014 newsletter for their academic bios.

Keynote Speakers

Dr. Karen Adolph, New York University, USA (http://www.psych.nyu.edu/adolph/), will give the Developmental Perspectives keynote lecture titled Learning to Move.

The Motor Learning and Control keynote lecture will be given by Dr. William Warren, Brown University, USA (http://www.cog.brown.edu/people_warren_personal.htm), titled Behavioral Dynamics of Locomotion: From Stepping to Swarming. Dr. Roy Baumeister, Florida State University, USA, (http://psy.fsu.edu/faculty/baumeister.dp.html), will give the Sport and Exercise Psychology keynote lecture titled Self-Regulation and Sports: Perseverance, Peak Performance, Problems, and Choking Under Pressure.
NASPSPA 2015 CONFERENCE

Lecturers and Keynotes

Senior Lecturers

Our Senior Lecturer series gives us the opportunity to hear about the research efforts of some of our distinguished members who have presented at NASPSPA over the years. Regardless of program area, these talks will appeal to all NASPSPA members. Following are the 2015 senior lecturers:

Developmental Perspectives: **Dr. Cole Galloway**, University of Delaware (www.udel.edu/PT/About%20Us/People/galloway.html), whose presentation is titled *I Want It All and I Want It Now! How the First Generation of Pediatric Mobility Technology Could Change Rehab Across the Lifespan.*

Motor Learning and Control: **Dr. Joan Vickers**, University of Calgary, Canada (www.ucalgary.ca/knes/vickers), will give a presentation titled *The Quiet Eye: Origins and Future Directions.*

Sport and Exercise Psychology: **Dr. Peter Crocker**, University of British Columbia, Canada (http://kin.educ.ubc.ca/person/peter-crocker), will give a presentation titled *Stress and Adaptation in Sport and Exercise: Does Coping Matter?*

Pre-conference Workshops

When? Afternoon of Wednesday, June 3, 2015
How much? 15$

**Description:**

*A Didactic Introduction to Latent Variable Modeling* will be presented by Dr. Brian French of Washington State University and Dr. Holmes Finch of Ball State University. The first two-hour section will introduce basic models in measurement such as confirmatory factor analysis, multiple indicators-multiple causes models, latent mean comparisons, and full structural equation models. The second two-hour section will introduce more complex models, including measurement invariance models, multi-group models for analysis of data from experiments, item response theory, and latent class analysis. Participants with prerequisite knowledge of multiple regression techniques are welcome to attend one or both of the sections, and will receive access to sample software code, datasets, output with interpretation, and readings.

*How’d They Do That? Transitioning to Externally Funded Work at Mid and Late Career* will be presented by senior NASPSPA members who will share their career trajectories, tips for success, and recommendations to ease the transition to managing a funded research program. Extensive time will be allotted for group exchange of questions and ideas. This workshop is ideal for mid-career NASPSPA members and is aimed at discussions pertaining to securing grant money and developing large-scale research programs.
Welcome to 2015! I hope you had a great holiday and are refreshed and ready to start the winter semester! The NASPSPA abstract deadline is fast approaching, and I encourage you to submit your research for presentation at the annual conference being held in Portland, Oregon, June 4 to 6, 2015. I recommend that you sign up early for the student events that will be held this year. We have updated the registration process to enable you to register online for both the student social and the student–faculty lunch (only $10 per event).

**Student social:** Details for the student social are still being finalized. We will likely be meeting at one of the many local pubs located in Portland’s Pearl District, within walking distance of the hotel. After the student meeting at the end of the day on Friday, you can walk to the pub with the group or meet us there separately. Your $10 registration will provide you with one drink ticket and finger foods. This is an amazing opportunity to meet other student attendees from all over the world and experience some of the fantastic Portland culture.

**Student–faculty lunch:** This is your chance to meet faculty and professionals at an informal luncheon. We have kept the same structure as last year’s speed dating. We will have mix-and-mingle sessions to allow small groups to ask the experts anything such as research interests, work–life balance, and securing grant funding. Your $10 registration provides a snack lunch and the opportunity to interact with faculty and professionals you might otherwise never have. A *limited number of spots are available* for this function, so register early to guarantee that you are not disappointed. The list of faculty and professionals attending is still being finalized. If you have any specific requests, contact me directly at nwestlund@uwo.ca and we will look into it.

**Student awards:** The following awards are exclusive to NASPSPA student members (visit the NASPSPA website for more details on each award):

Up to three **Outstanding Student Paper Awards** are available, one for each NASPSPA research area (i.e., developmental perspectives, motor learning and control, and sport and exercise psychology). After you submit your short abstract by January 15, applications for this award are due January 29 (which includes submission of a 5-page abstract and a letter of recommendation from your advisor).

The NASPSPA **Graduate Student Award for International Conference Travel** is a $700 award that can be used toward presenting at a conference outside of North America. The application package includes a short abstract, a 5-page abstract, a letter of information regarding the conference location and research significant, and a letter of recommendation from your advisor. Applications for this award are due February 15, May 31, and September 30.

The **Graduate Student Research Grants** provide up to $2,000 that can be used toward research costs (e.g., travel for data collection, equipment). To apply for this award, the following are due to the NASPSPA president (Gabriele Wulf) before April 1: a 5-page outline of the proposed study, verification of ethics approval, an estimated budget, a two-page CV, and a letter of support and approval of the budget from your advisor.

**Facebook:** To keep up to date with NASPSPA events, consider joining the NASPSPA Facebook group. This group provides a forum for discussion surrounding NASPSPA events and can help you find other students looking to share hotel accommodations. You can also use Facebook to share suggestions or comments with me.

**Student representative:** I would like to remind all students about the call for nominees for the NASPSPA student representative for the 2014-2015 term beginning August 2015 for one year. The student rep is an active member of the NASPSPA executive committee and acts as a liaison for the student members. If you would like more information about responsibilities and
requests you have!

Preparations for the upcoming conferences are in full swing. Conference coordinator Penny McCullogh and president-elect Jennifer Etnier are already working on a special program for our 50th anniversary conference in 2017, so stay tuned. You will find out more at the business meeting of our 2015 conference in Portland, Oregon. Please read past president Al Smith’s message in this newsletter with an update on the program for the Portland conference that he and the three area program committees are putting together. The line-up of invited speakers alone promises an exciting program. I hope you have all submitted your abstracts by now and are looking forward to presenting your work and finding out what your colleagues have been up to.

I want to remind the students of some important deadlines. The dates for the International Conference Travel Award are February 15, May 31, and September 30. Applications for the Graduate Student Research Grant should be sent to me by April 1, 2015. Applications for the Outstanding Student Paper Award need to be sent by January 29 to the respective area program chairs: motor learning and control: William Berg (bergwp@miamioh.edu); sport and exercise psychology: Sarah Ullrich-French (sullrich@wsu.edu); and developmental perspectives: Leah Robinson (lerobin@umich.edu). For more details about the awards, go to http://naspspa.com/?page_id=852.

Finally, I would like to announce the exceptional candidates who are volunteering to fill the upcoming vacancies on the executive committee this year. Candidates for president-elect are Daniela Corbetta of the University of Knoxville in Tennessee and David Anderson of San Francisco State University. Candidates for communication director are William Berg of the University of Miami in Ohio and Quincy Almeida of Wilfrid Laurier University. Thanks to all of them for their willingness to serve the NASPSPA membership. There is still time for students to throw their names in the hat for the student representative position. Please let our current student representative, Nicole Westlund (nwestlun@uwo.ca), know by February 15 if you are interested. The spring newsletter will include bios of all candidates and information about the online voting procedure.

We are looking forward to seeing the fantastic turnout expected for the 2015 NASPSPA conference in Portland.