

Dr Anita White OBE

Anita White has had a long association with the University of Chichester, first as a member of staff from 1971-1990, and subsequently serving on the Board of Governors from 2001-2010. She has wide ranging experience of sport: as an international player and coach; of working in the public sector in higher education and sports administration; researching, writing and speaking on sport; and as an advocate for equality in sport in national and international circles.

Anita qualified as a PE teacher in the late 60s and taught in schools and teacher education institutions for 12 years. She then went on to gain Masters and Doctoral degrees before helping set up the first Sports Studies degree course at West Sussex Institute of Higher Education (now the University of Chichester) in 1982. In 1990, she joined the Sports Council as Head of Development and went on to become one of three Senior Directors of Sport England in 1995. During her time at Sport England she was responsible for the development and delivery of national policies and programmes for the development of sport at all levels.

A former international sportswoman, Anita captained the England Hockey team to victory in the World Cup in 1975 and has also coached at all levels. From 2002-2004 she was the President of the Great Britain Olympic Hockey Board.

Anita is also an acknowledged leader in the women and sport movement. A founder member and former Chair of the Women's Sports Foundation (UK) she was responsible in her Sports Council role for the staging of the first international conference on Women and Sport in 1994. This resulted in the Brighton Declaration on Women and Sport that now has world-wide currency. She co-chaired the International Working Group on Women and Sport from 1994 to 1998 and has advised many countries, organisations and individuals on women's sports development. She was awarded an OBE in 2005 for services to women and sport.

Since 2000, Anita has worked as an independent consultant in the field of national and international sport policy and sports development. Consultancy work has included evaluation of the gender equality policy for the IOC, evaluation of the Dreams and Teams programme for the British Council, evaluation of pilot international development programmes for UK Sport, and the compilation of a worldwide progress report on Women and Sport for Sport Canada. She was a visiting Professor at Loughborough University from 2001-2008, and senior international advisor to Japanese Women and Sport from 2000-2006, assisting in the establishment of the Asian network for women and sport. Voluntary work has included serving on the Boards of the University of Chichester, the Golf Foundation, International Development through Sport (UK), International Council for Sports Science and Physical Education, International Inspiration, and the International Working Group on Women and Sport.