

## **AWF Seminar Series 2013 – 2016**

The AWF hosted Seminar Series in 2013 and 2016 with a panel discussion in 2016. Each of these events has welcomed esteemed scholars, athletes and practitioners to the University of Chichester to speak to students, staff and guests. Each event and presentation is explained below.

### **2013 Series**

In 2013, the AWF announced a Seminar Series that would encompass research relating to topics and issues that affect women in sport. Visiting AWF Scholar Lombe Mwambwa and Dr Martin Polley presented in the first two seminars in March 2013. Visiting AWF Scholar Bárbara Schausteck de Almeida and Professor Jay Coakley presented in April 2013.

#### **Lombe Mwambwa (AWF Scholar; General Secretary of NOWSPAR, Zambia)**

“The Challenges and Opportunities for Women and Sport in Africa, and the Work of NOWSPAR”

Lombe is the General Secretary for the National Organisation for Women in Sport, Physical Activity and Recreation (NOWSPAR) in Zambia, with a keen interest in research, policy reforms, media, monitoring and advocacy programmes in sport.

#### **Dr Martin Polley (Sports Historian, University of Southampton, UK)**

“Women in the 1908 Olympics”

Dr Martin Polley is a sports historian, public speaker, broadcaster, and author of numerous articles and books including *The British Olympics: Britain’s Olympic Heritage 1612-2012* and *Sports History: a practical guide*.

#### **Bárbara Schausteck de Almeida (AWF Scholar; Brazil) and Professor Jay Coakley (Honorary Fellow, University of Chichester; USA)**

“Building Brazil through Sports: Is It Worth the Cost?”

Bárbara Schausteck de Almeida is a doctoral student at the Universidade Federal do Paraná, Brasil and an AWF Scholar at the University of Chichester. She is an expert on the political economy of the Brazilian bid to host the 2016 Olympic and Paralympic Games in Rio de Janeiro, and is on the Board of the Latin American Association for the Sociology of Sport (ALESDE).

#### **Professor Jay Coakley (Honorary Fellow, University of Chichester; USA)**

“Pushing Limits: Sport, Spectacle & Performance Enhancement”

Jay Coakley is Professor Emeritus of Sociology at the University of Colorado in Colorado Springs, Honorary Fellow of the University of Chichester, and currently works as a writer and public speaker. He is the author of numerous papers and books including the globally renowned *Sports in Society: Issues and Controversies*.

## The Challenges and Opportunities for Women in Sport in Africa

### Lombe Mwambwa (General Secretary of the Zambian National Organisation for Women in Sport, Physical Activity and Recreation (NOWSPAR)).

*The AWF 2013 Seminar Series opened with AWF Scholar, Lombe Mwambwa, giving a fascinating look into the challenges and opportunities for women in sport in Africa. Fifty undergraduate and doctoral students, staff, guests and the Vice-Chancellor of the University of Chichester listened to Lombe describe her personal sporting history, give an outline of NOWSPAR, and explain the different barriers women who participate at all levels of sport in Africa face.*



*(l-r) Elizabeth Pike, Bárbara Schausteck de Almeida, Lombe Mwambwa, Anita White*

Lombe began her presentation by amusingly reflecting on her own sporting youth and how her ability in traditional sports like volleyball did not match her ability in more leisurely pursuits such as chess. This initial interest in sport did not leave her and was instrumental for her involvement in NOWSPAR. NOWSPAR is a women's rights non-governmental organisation (NGO) that promotes women's rights to and through sport. Lombe explained how NOWSPAR was established in 2006 and with its seven staff and over one hundred volunteers supports programmes in five of the ten provinces in Zambia. According to NOWSPAR's focus, women should have rights to choice, opportunity, and capacity in every section of sport.

The presentation soon moved to the (dis)organised position of sport in Africa. Lombe described how sport in Zambia is only seen as recreation and leisure, not a route for upward social mobility or part of a health and physical activity agenda. Men's football is the largest area of growth in sport in the country – a topic which was returned to in the question and answer session.

Lombe then explored the economic, political, cultural, and social challenges of sport, highlighting a range of influential women ranging from Olympic athletes to local sport development workers. All have had to directly challenge the dominant sports structure in order to advance women in sport. A brief overview of the issue of women's leadership in sport was facilitated by recent NOWSPAR research into national sport board representation. All data showed a trend of decreasing percentages relating to women in sports leadership roles apart from the numbers of women as General Secretaries, which had increased. Lombe warned that there were women who wanted to be elected into these roles, but greater skills, training and awareness was needed to break down conservative barriers.

The future work of NOWSPAR concluded Lombe's presentation. The NGO aims to:

- Capacitate sport based NGOs and associations to address gender issues
- Raise public awareness and consciousness on women's right to sport
- Advocate for government and related stakeholders' commitment to fulfil their obligations on sport and women's rights

Lombe brought her presentation to a close with an insightful reminder: "I'm sure the issues in Zambia are not too different to the issues in the UK today, the context is maybe different but the issues are the same".

A brief question and answer session followed Lombe's presentation:

Ian Hamilton (Co-ordinator for Sport & Fitness Management within the Sport Development and Management department (SDM) at the University of Chichester) asked what needed to change about women's leadership in relation to the NOWSPAR figures Lombe had presented. Lombe highlighted a bottom-up approach that targeted women at the grassroots level as a potential avenue to enhance leadership numbers. Dr Elizabeth Pike (Chair of the AWF) added that this issue had been given recent spotlight by the UK Women's Sport and Fitness Foundation who had recently published figures regarding the UK situation on women in sports leadership positions.

Dr Anita White commented that abuse and gender-based violence in sport was an issue in the UK and asked how Zambia was addressing it. Lombe outlined how lobbying and pressure was grounded in evidence-based research conducted by NOWSPAR. Surprisingly from questionnaires collected asking about women and sport, these issues were as prominent as more recognisable issues such as access to facilities and greater participation levels. Despite this, dominant sports organisations dismissed the concerns about violence against women as domestic-based rather than sport-based. However, further cases have been brought to the attention of NOWSPAR and policy and legislation is starting to be constructed via working groups, in which NOWSPAR is playing a central role.

Chris Peckett (3rd Year SDM student) asked what impact the recent Zambian men's football team triumph in the African Cup of Nations was having on the women's team, if any. Lombe responded by drawing attention to the relative lack of investment in women's sports compared with men's sport: "Women are not invested in because they don't win, but men's teams get invested in because they win". Lombe claimed that greater investment would lead to women's teams potentially matching men's team's successes.

Jordan Matthews (AWF Clerk) asked about the relationship between NOWSPAR as an NGO and any potential National Olympic Committee (NOC) Women and Sport Commission in Zambia. Lombe revealed that the NOC was slow in forming a Commission but that NOWSPAR were constantly reminding them of their obligation. Indeed, training, networks and information have been shared between the two groups, but there continues to be a lack of focus at the lower levels of sport – an area the NOC argues it has less focus on and responsibility toward. Despite this, a reciprocal relationship is growing.

## **“Women in the 1908 Olympics”**

**Dr Martin Polley (Sports Historian, University of Southampton, UK)**

*The second event in the AWF 2013 Seminar Series was an introduction to a new area of research being conducted by Dr Martin Polley (University of Southampton) on women in the 1908 London Olympic Games. An audience of undergraduate and doctoral students, former and current staff and guests heard Martin’s historical overlook of the major societal and sporting issues that affected sportswomen in London’s first hosting of the Olympics.*



Martin’s presentation was based on visual images to complement his narrative and he opened with experiences of gender equality that were witnessed at last year’s London 2012 Olympic Games. This was soon sharply contrasted with Pierre de Coubertin’s (founder of the modern Olympic movement) thoughts on female competitors in the early 1900s. De Coubertin is quoted as maintaining his ‘wariness of feminism’ and how women should ‘crown the victors’, not participate in sporting activity. Interestingly this quotation is from 1912 and thus post-dated the 1908 Olympics, leading Martin to introduce the juxtaposition between London 2012 and London 1908 approaches to women and sport.

Martin focused on societal trends and patterns that were emerging around 1908, including; women’s shifting social position and the influence of the suffragette movement, the ‘New Woman’ ethic that was beloved by the media of the time, and also shifts around homosexuality. Martin explained this was “a really interesting period for gender and sexuality”.

Previous Olympic Games were touched upon, including the fact that no women participated in the first modern Olympics in 1896 and how there are still disagreements as to the true number of sportswomen at the 1900 Games. London won the right to host the Games in 1906 and through document analysis, Martin has discovered that there is no evidence of a debate by the organising committee about women’s inclusion. Indeed, many women simply “turned up” to some Olympic events and sometimes could not be barred from participation because there was no rule inhibiting them to do so! Of the 24 events men competed in, women participated in archery (the only event where women competed inside the 1908 Olympic stadium but to nominal spectators), figure skating, motorboating, tennis and yachting. The sheer costs of travelling and also beliefs regarding women’s involvement in sport impacted upon numbers meaning only three countries were represented by women; the majority from the UK.

However, the media coverage of women's success can be identified as relatively equal with male medallists. There were even examples of women being distinguished for their sporting endeavours, including the female motorboater, Sophia Gorham. Media reports were often located next to major news stories about women, especially suffragette struggles, further highlighting the aforementioned juxtaposition.

Martin concluded his presentation by introducing his explorations of census records from the period. He is using this to inform understanding about some of the sportswomen who competed in London in 1908 as there is very little readily-available information. Initial conclusions reveal certain demographics such as being predominantly middle-to-upper class and without an occupation, that is, their parents and/or husbands were wealthy enough to support them. Martin's preliminary work seems to point to this demographic potentially changing from 1912 onwards. Martin's research continues and his presentation finished by stating that the 1908 Games were a "pivotal moment" for women in the Olympics, and that future research will look to locate how the Olympics fits into other wider societal issues such as health, gender, sexuality, and suffrage.

If you would like to know more about Martin's research, please visit <http://martinpolley.co.uk/> or follow him on twitter @HistoryMartin where he uses the hashtag '#1908women' for his work.

## **“Building Brazil through Sports: Is It Worth the Cost?”**

**Bárbara Schausteck de Almeida (AWF Scholar; Brazil) and Professor Jay Coakley (Honorary Fellow, University of Chichester; USA)**

*The third event in the AWF 2013 Seminar Series looked toward Brazil as the location for the next two mega sport events (MSE's) that are to occur in 2014 (FIFA World Cup) and 2016 (Olympic and Paralympic Games). Bárbara Schausteck de Almeida (AWF Scholar) and Prof. Jay Coakley (Honorary Fellow, University of Chichester) gave a critique of the bidding and legacies associated with these MSE's. The presentation also highlighted the role the AWF aims to provide in allowing for the development of female scholars in sport and was the culmination of research Bárbara was conducting during her eight-month visit to the University of Chichester.*



Bárbara opened the presentation by giving a brief insight into her PhD research regarding bidding for MSE's, in particular how and why Brazil has secured the 2014 FIFA World Cup and the 2016 Olympic and Paralympic Games. This information has been facilitated using references at the University of Chichester during her eight month study visit. Jay added how MSE's had been predominantly based in Northern and Western countries over time. The emergence of the 'global South' as economic and cultural forces has meant a greater recognition of MSE's as symbolic images of strength and power. However, this has also meant catering to the needs and demands of the IOC and FIFA. Jay was particularly interested in how Brazil would be broadcast by Western media, and whether the 'real' Brazil would be shown to the world.

The costs for both Brazilian MSE's were referenced via official documents such as government bid reports. In total, nearly £18 billion has been set aside for the period 2007-2016. Brazil's annual budget is £690 billion, so this figure does not seem much of a cost. Public investment totals £8.5 billion for urban improvements, stadiums, airports and security for example, but these are all areas that would be soon privatised, highlighting the powerful economic politics involved. Using football stadiums to be built for the 2014 FIFA World Cup as an example, Bárbara firstly outlined the equivalent cost of hundreds of schools, prisons, hospitals and transport infrastructure such as subways that could be built; and secondly the size of the stadiums in relation to the areas of Brazil they would be located. 50,000-seater stadiums are to be built in areas whereby no local team is in the top two Brazilian

football divisions. These examples question not only any claims for a potential legacy, but also critiques the priorities of a growing economic superpower.

Regarding the 2016 Olympics and Paralympics, just 5% of investment is private and the areas of Rio de Janeiro where the majority of the events will take place are in areas of highest human development. Unlike London 2012 that seeks to rejuvenate an area of London, Rio has not used re-generation as a legacy focal point. It will be interesting to see the impact of private company's post-2016 and how much impact they will have for their 5% investment.

In Jay's part of the presentation, he added to discussions regarding the neoliberal culture and flow of capital that looks to characterise the forthcoming Brazilian MSE's. By favouring investment in giant sports stadia that may only be used up to twenty times a year (if presided in by a sports team) by relatively richer people, local community centres and facilities for general use by all sections of the neighbourhood are overlooked, despite the fact that hundreds could be built with the money sidelined for one sports stadium. Jay stated: "The capital expenditures for this infrastructure are some of the largest expenditures Brazil has ever done, yet most of the people will not get to use them".

The fundamental argument to critique is who are the powerful people and groups making the bids for these investments, and why. Examples of favelas being torn down for real-estate purposes and public facilities such as swimming pools being turned into car-parks for the major stadiums were presented as neoliberal agendas through sport. This is often because those who reside in the favelas or poorer communities do not have a voice on the bidding and government committees and thus struggle to oppose the measures.

Furthermore, it is common when researching MSE's to find that the groups who may formulate a bid are not democratically elected, are often not held accountable, and in some cases do not even exist in contemporary times. Thus it is often the governments – who themselves may not have been in power when MSE's are won – who have to deal with the consequences. One consequence may be the pressures to complete infrastructure on time. The negative stereotypes associated with not finishing building work were seen with the 2010 Commonwealth Games in Delhi, India. Research has shown that neo-colonialist tendencies may emerge whereby Northern and Western companies are contracted to aid or finish this work. Of course, links, networks and power are resulting determinants of this.

Bárbara and Jay both stated how there is limited analysis of the planning, structure and monitoring of MSE's: "How is the public being served by this expenditure apart from a few good days? Sport is assumed as good. The overall costs and benefits are gradually being examined critically".

Jay concluded with reflections on MSE research and monitoring and evaluation by stating "there is not one study to show an increase in participation post the MSE". Indeed, early research has seen the initial impact of London 2012 has already started to plateau to figures seen before 2012. Bárbara's future research will help to understand whether discourse expectations are being repeated in Brazil, and also raise political and academic awareness based on past MSE's.

Dr Elizabeth Pike (AWF Chair) thanked Bárbara and Jay and invited the audience of sixty students, doctoral students, and current and former staff to ask questions.

Ian Hamilton (Co-ordinator for Sport & Fitness Management, University of Chichester) questioned the domestic Paralympic investment in Brazil and whether the perceived success of the London 2012 Paralympics was to continue in Rio in 2016. Bárbara responded that disability is not a cultural issue in Brazil, in similarity to gender. Jay queried the impact of London 2012 itself, and whether structural

changes were occurring (such as greater access to venues and participation) or just an emotional change. Obviously, both are needed, but the latter may not necessarily lead to greater advances for disabled athletes.

Jordan Matthews (AWF Clerk) asked why the 5% of private investment was so low for Rio 2016. Both Bárbara and Jay responded that many companies will have small stakes in different ventures. Thus when the growth of the private ventures inevitably occurs, the income generated also expands. Jordan commented that the same may be seen to be occurring post-London 2012 with the awarding of the Olympic stadium to West Ham United Football Club, despite large amounts of public investment.

## **“Pushing Limits: Sport, Spectacle & Performance Enhancement”**

**Professor Jay Coakley (Honorary Fellow, University of Chichester; USA)**

*The fourth and final event in the AWF 2013 Seminar Series was a first look at new research by Professor Jay Coakley (Honorary Fellow, University of Chichester) on the role of Performance Enhancing Substances (PESs) in the careers of elite athletes. Jay used a model currently being developed in collaboration with a French sociologist of sport to analytically frame the use of PESs as a career choice made by elite athletes as they deal with the demands and expectations of today’s high performance sports. His assumption was that we must understand the culture and context of high performance sports to understand the choices made by athletes.*

Jay introduced his presentation to fifty undergraduate and doctoral students, former and current staff and guests with a brief historical overview of sport training regimes used in the USA and German Democratic Republic from the 1970s through the 1990s. These programmes were constantly affected by greater investments in, and media impact on, sport which was becoming more commercialised and professionalised during this period. Athletes were subject to more frequent and intense training schedules in order to compete at the elite level. This intensity impacted athletes’ bodies causing the athletes to seek support from medical and training personnel who were experts in the “science of performance”.



*Prof. Jay Coakley (Honorary Fellow, University of Chichester)*

The majority of Jay’s presentation was based on a model developed by French sociologist of sport Christophe Brissonneau. The model outlines the career of elite cyclists and other top athletes (interviewed by Christophe over the past 15 years) and focuses specifically on how the use of PESs fit into in high performance sport career. The model is based on three distinct phases of involvement (ranging from initial interest and participation to the post-sport career): Common World – Extra-Ordinary World – Common World

The model indicates that when athletes enter the extra-ordinary world of high performance sport, their whole frame of reference changes: sport participation becomes a job and success becomes essential for keeping the job, and training and competitive performance must meet the expectations of coaches, teammates and sponsors.

Jay outlined how athletes may move between each career phase, with those who learn to use PESs in the third or fourth stage sometimes returning to non-elite competitions while still using the highly rationalized, scientific training regimes they used as professional. This creates a complex relationship with athletes who have not come across PES use before, and may be influenced to take them should

their desire be to advance through the stages. This is further facilitated by the fact that drug-testing and prevention programmes are too expensive to implement at the lower levels of sport.

Elite athletes who train for 20+ hours a week are forced to lead a medically-oriented life because of the damage being done to their bodies and the need to recover rapidly. This leads athletes to depend on sports medicine doctors rather than general practitioners because they want to work with a professional who has specific knowledge of their needs.

This is not a new issue by any means, and Jay described how different forms of PESs have been used since the 1870s. But PESs have been defined as a problem since they were banned and retrospective judgements of performances are made. Before being banned, using PESs was the norm for many elite athletes. This is fundamentally linked into the sport ethic, and how elite athletes push these ethics and norms to the extreme (such as intense monitoring of food intake, sleep patterns, and training measurements) in order to be the best.



*Prof. Coakley was the fourth and final presenter in the AWF Seminar Series.*

Coakley noted that it is difficult for researchers to gain access to information about the choices made by elite athletes. The athletes realize that they must use a discourse to explain their lives in terms that will be understood and accepted by people in the everyday world. Therefore, they emphasize sport as a force for good, when in reality there are many issues to be highlighted. This example was seen very recently with professional cyclist Lance Armstrong.

The final phase of the model is the post-career. This can be very difficult for athletes to negotiate because they have lived for so long in the extra-ordinary world of high performance sports where frames of reference, normative standards, and medical/pharmacological practices are unique. Sometimes, alcohol and recreational drug intake can be one way to deal with this.

The stakes for young athletes entering elite sport are higher than ever before: more pressure, more influence, and more money. Taking PESs allow athletes to be part of a collective and receive key forms of acceptance from their peers. Jay questioned how interventions for elite athletes (phases three and four) may not work because the norms and practices used in high performance sports are difficult to change. Instead, socialising younger athletes may be more beneficial to stop the culture. Doing this is very difficult as sport as an institution grows ever-powerful and the barriers to the media and researchers become stronger.

## 2015 Series

For the 2015 AWF Seminar Series in March and April, we welcomed three women to the University to share with students and external guests their experiences of employment in sport and transitioning into careers after sport.

### Alex Danson and Claire Bennett

“Female elite-level athletes and the transition into a post-sport career”

Alex is a London 2012 Olympics Hockey bronze medallist and University of Chichester honorary graduate and Claire is a 2002 fencing Commonwealth gold medallist and Athlete Development Lead, Dame Kelly Holmes Trust. She is also a graduate of the Women’s Sport Leadership Academy (WSLA) at the University.

### Lauren O’Sullivan

“From coach to senior football development leader”

Lauren is the National Football Development Manager of AoC Sport and a graduate of the Women’s Sport Leadership Academy (WSLA) at the University.

### “Female elite-level athletes and the transition into a post-sport career”

#### Alex Danson and Claire Bennett

Alex (London 2012 Olympics Hockey bronze medallist; University of Chichester honorary graduate) and Claire (2002 fencing Commonwealth gold medallist; Athlete Development Lead, Dame Kelly Holmes Trust; WSLA 2014 graduate) presented about their careers as elite-level sportswomen and the challenges and opportunities both have encountered with regard to their careers after competing.

Athlete transition into a ‘post-sport’ career is under-researched but a recommendation on greater support for retiring female-elite level athletes was included in the global women and sport progress report conducted last year by Elizabeth and Jordan.

Alex reflected on the path to producing excellence which led the Great Britain Hockey team to a bronze medal at the London 2012 Olympic Games.

This included being involved in the construction of a vision for women’s international elite-level hockey but also the difficulty faced when she was the only person chosen for the Games from the group of players she was living with.

Claire focused on the importance of having a key support team during periods of injury, constraints for women in fencing, and the development of her sport away from the stereotype of being elitist and inaccessible.

The support resulted in success at international level and she, like Alex, commented on the relentless determination to succeed.

Unfortunately, Claire was not chosen to compete at the London 2012 Games and admitted the difficulties she had in dealing with the feelings and emotions which resulted: “It burnt my ambition and I felt it hard to accept”.

She also reflected on the challenge she had that her CV was filled with academic qualifications and sports awards, but no experience, due to her dedication to fencing since the age of ten.

The Dame Kelly Holmes Trust gave her life coaching, structure, and employment after seeing her confidence rise.

She worked with retired athletes on transferring the skills they had in sport, such as teamwork and leadership, into work with disadvantaged youths, for example.

She now works with over three hundred recently-retired athletes and has helped to produce a framework for identifying different stages of a ‘journey’ after retirement from sport.

Alex and Claire also answered a range of questions from second-year undergraduate sport development and management students.

These included experiences of stereotyping, coaching behaviours, the impact of their dedication to their sport, and when they both began to think about retirement from sport.



*Claire and Alex*

## **“From coach to senior football development leader”**

### **Lauren O’Sullivan**

Lauren is the National Football Development Manager of AoC Sport – the lead representative organisation for further education and sixth form college sport and physical activity.

She is a WSLA 2014 graduate and has held a number of important positions related to coaching and in particular, football.

Lauren was keen to convey to the first-year undergraduate students that they should think about how they are different to their peers and utilise volunteering opportunities where possible.

Volunteering was a platform she had used, via coaching local teams since she was fourteen, to gain experience and qualifications.

She reflected on her participation in the Football Futures programme – a week comprised of a variety of sports science, coaching, refereeing, and development workshops – and how it changed her intention from being a physical education teacher to working in football.

Her volunteering and networks facilitated her successful application to a vacancy at the Somerset FA; facilitating her career progression from coach to a senior football development leader.

Lauren ended her presentation with her current responsibilities.

She leads the development of football for AoC Sport and her aim is to get more 16-19 year olds to play football more often.

This includes thinking of different opportunities so more people participate. Moreover, she influences FA Youth and is noticing how county councils are changing the way that youth is thought about and included in FA thinking and planning.



*Lauren, Jordan and Danny Potter*

## 2016 Panel Discussion

### A Roundtable Discussion on Women and Sport in Africa

The Anita White Foundation (AWF) hosted an afternoon roundtable discussion on women and sport in Africa on Tuesday 25th October 2016.

An audience made up of academics, students and AWF supporters gathered to hear **Professor Kari Fasting** (Professor Emeritus at the Department of Social and Cultural Studies of the Norwegian School of Sport Sciences in Oslo, Norway) and University of Chichester colleagues **Dr Jordan Matthews** (Senior Lecturer; coordinator of the Anita White Foundation) and **Lombe Mwambwa** (PhD student, Department of Sport Development and Management) discuss the context and challenges for African women in sport. Each scholar drew upon their personal experiences of research and organisational activism within Africa.

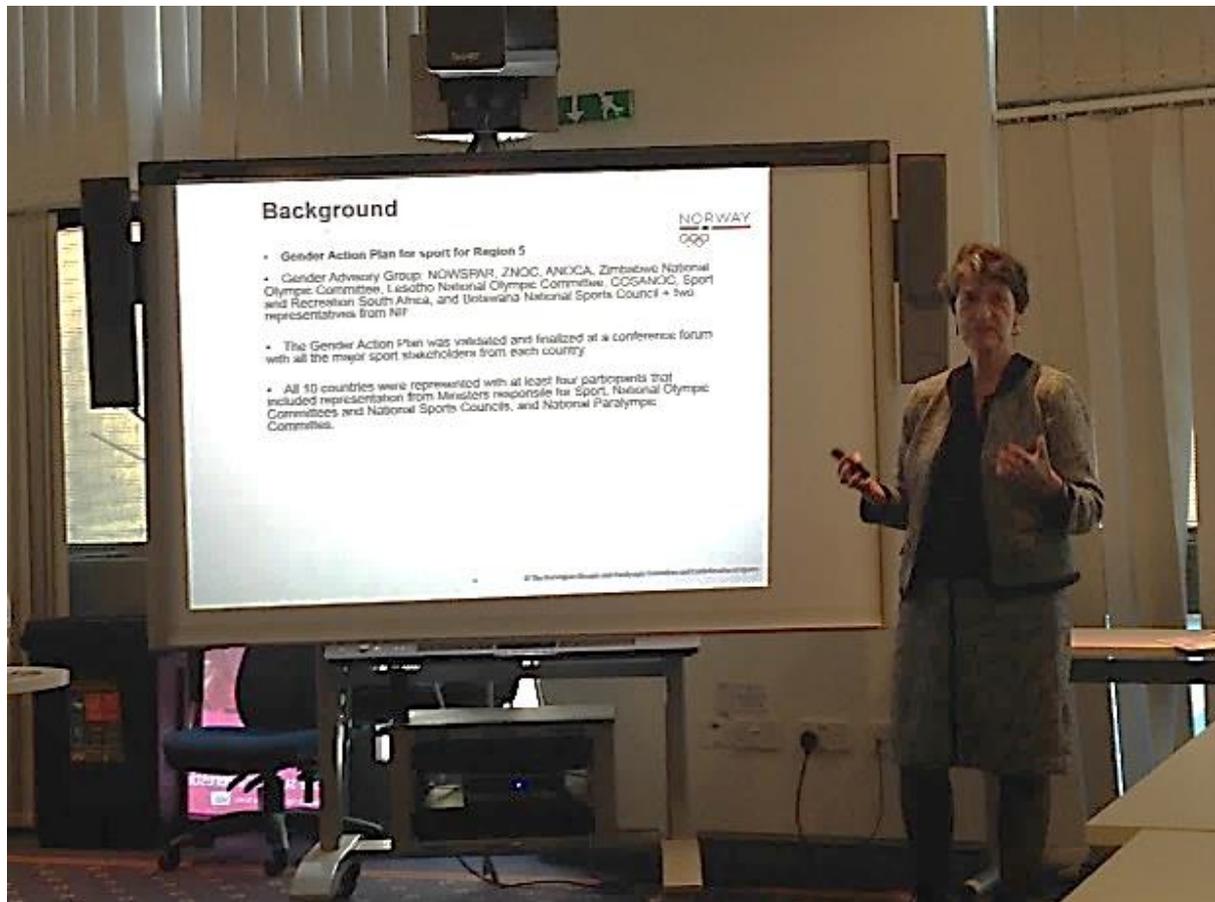
Lombe Mwambwa began the discussion, giving an overview on the current state of sport for women in Africa. Lombe is General Secretary of the National Organisation for Women, Sport and Recreation in Zambia, and joined the University of Chichester in 2015 as a doctoral student studying women and sport leadership in Africa.



Her presentation discussed issues affecting African women in sport, such as politics, policies, laws and excluded populations, as well as opportunities for the future and key questions that need to be asked going forward to continue to develop sport in the region. For example, Lombe discussed the need to

answer the thought-provoking question 'what is 'good' sport?' within the context of Africa to enable a more effective development of women's sport and the issues surrounding it.

Following Lombe's presentation, Professor Kari Fasting discussed two research projects she has conducted on women and sport in southern Africa on behalf of the Norwegian Olympic Committee. The first of these projects was a baseline study on gender, participation and leadership in five countries in southern Africa.



Professor Fasting discussed the underrepresentation of women in both the participation and leadership of sport, due to factors such as violence and abuse, social stigma and social expectations for married women.

Based on her findings, Professor Fasting offered a number of recommendations to improve the situation in the region, including educational courses in sport, the development of preventative tools against violence, and the recruitment of more female coaches and administrators.

The second of Professor Fasting's studies focused on sexual harassment and abuse in Zambian sport.

Findings included a high prevalence of harassment and abuse within Zambian sport, and a surprisingly even distribution across the sexes of both victims and perpetrators of abuse. Again, Professor Fasting offered a number of recommendations based on these findings, including mandatory procedures to handle cases, educational workshops and programmes, and media awareness campaigns.

Dr Jordan Matthews was the final presenter of the afternoon, and he gave an insight into his various visits to Africa in the last two years.



He first spoke about the work he has carried out in Tanzania which had two purposes; to support University of Chichester students on their UK Sport International Development through Excellence and Leadership in Sport (IDEALS) programme, and carry out research on women leaders in sport from local level to national level.

The UK IDEALS programme allows University of Chichester students to spend a number of weeks coaching sport in Tanzania, and promotes the sharing of ideas and practices across the two cultures.

Dr Matthews, who is part of an international research team conducting a commissioned global report on women and sport, concluded his discussion by reporting on his recent trip to Botswana where he was an invited speaker at the Africa Women and Sport Conference.

Dr Matthews received a researcher development award from the University of Chichester which allowed him to present his work on the history of the documentation of the women's sport movement. He spoke of some of the challenges of the conference, including gaining the respect of the audience as a white, male researcher presenting at a conference focusing on the development of women's sport in a predominantly black country.

The afternoon ended with the panel responding to questions and comments from those in attendance. This including questions on language barriers for researchers and the issues with research in Africa being conducted through a Western lens.

Following the formal discussions, informal discussions continued around some of the issues presented, a clear sign that the event had informed and challenged the perceptions of those in attendance on a typically under-discussed area of sport.