

Institution: University of Bedfordshire

Unit of Assessment: 26 - Sport and Exercise Sciences, Leisure and Tourism

a. Overview

Contributors to UoA26 conduct research that develops novel programmes, interventions and strategies to solve real-world problems with societal and economic impact at local, national and international levels. In addition, the contributors employ innovative methodologies to facilitate translational research from bench to clinical practice, to facilitate collaboration and partnerships, and to empower practitioners in the fields of sport and exercise science, physical education, and tourism.

Two research institutes contribute to this UoA, the Institute for Sport and Physical Activity Research (ISPAR) and the Institute for Tourism Research (InTOUR). Both institutes were created during the assessment period, ISPAR in 2008 and InTOUR in 2010. They are two of the University of Bedfordshire's (UoB) ten research institutes, supporting UoB's Research Strategy (2008-14) to move from a teaching to a teaching and research led institution. UoB provides infrastructure and strategic growth funding to ISPAR and InTOUR. External research funding comes from a variety of sources locally (eg. The Bedford Charity; the Alexander Trust), nationally (eg. The British Academy; the Esmee Fairbairn Foundation) and internationally (the US Air Force; the Natural Science and Engineering Council of Canada). Strategic boards oversee the work of each Institute, representing senior staff and student researchers and other stakeholders.

Considerable investment by the UoB since RAE 2008 has resulted in this UoA prospering both in terms of critical mass and quality. Postgraduate research registrations have more than trebled during the assessment period and the number of staff returned has doubled. Staff and students have gained recognition for their work both within the university in terms of successful bids for investment funding and externally through publications, prizes and awards. The two Institutes represent a complete refocusing of this UoA.

Each institute is led by a Director, in the case of InTOUR Professor Andrew Holden and of ISPAR Professor David Kirk. Four broad research concentrations contribute to this UOA, tourism with its own institute InTOUR, and within ISPAR sport and exercise sciences (S&ES), social studies of sport (SSS) and physical education and sport pedagogy (PESP). Research at UoB covers the broad range of fields typical of this UoA, including biological and social sciences, and humanities disciplines.

b. Research strategy

Period since RAE2008

In 2008 10.5 FTE staff in sport and tourism were submitted in the Research Assessment Exercise. As a result of the strategic investment mentioned above, research in this UoA has been considerably strengthened through five main pillars:

- **1) Consolidation:** Tourism represented the largest strand of the RAE2008 return. Work in this area has been strengthened by the appointment of new staff and consolidated by the creation of InTOUR.
- **2) New developments:** Developments since 2008 include the establishment of new programmes of research in PESP, epigenetics, muscle, endocrine and vascular physiology, functional biomechanics, nutrition, food tourism, and tourism and climate change.

3) Continued improvements in

- quality of outputs: moving in general from presenting abstracts at national to major International
 conferences; and from published abstracts to papers in peer reviewed national and
 international journals;
- attracting high quality research active academics: and providing a supportive environment for their career development
- timely research student thesis submission: through improved central and institute research



programme monitoring and management.

- **4)** Research funding: with stream diversification at institutional, local, national and international levels.
- **5) Collaboration:** a major feature of work in this UoA, with significant collaborations developing nationally and internationally and benefitting end-users, research teams and students.

Vision

Our vision for sport and exercise science, physical education and tourism is to further develop our collaborative, translational research so as to consolidate the University's position as a significant and widely recognised centre of excellence where research results impact beneficially on local economies, education, health and quality of life across diverse communities. Strategic initiatives to implement this vision are to:

- Further increase the links with stakeholders and sectors (education, health, sport, and tourism) with regard to developing responsive, cohesive and relevant research agendas.
- Enhance the impact, exploitation and reach of the research, through the provision of client-led innovation, research and development to private, government, and third sector agencies.
- Building on distinctive and unique aspects of our work, generate multi- and inter-disciplinary lines of research that address practice and policy-referenced issues and problems for our various stakeholders as a response to the global challenges of social and demographic change, economic competition and sustainable development.
- Increase the number and effectiveness of staff that are research-active.
- Target financial investment to support and enable an increase in the number and effectiveness
 of research students, a wider strategic reach of InTOUR and ISPAR including an increase of
 each Institute's visibility and impact, nationally and internationally.

c. People, including:

i. Staffing strategy and staff development

The University adheres to an Equality and Diversity Policy covering all areas of recruitment, and has an Equality and Diversity advisor. All research staff are recruited, employed and promoted on the basis of their research expertise and professional experience. HR processes ensure that this is strictly followed in all situations. For research staff recruitment and skill development, UoB has a university-wide policy that follows national principles: QAA Code of Practice and UK HR Excellence in Research. In May 2013, UoB's institution-wide Concordat implementation plan was awarded the European Commission's HR Excellence in Research Award, which will be rolled out in the coming period.

Recruit, Retain & Nurture: UoB has a successful policy of recruiting, retaining and nurturing staff as the cornerstone of our sustainable staffing strategy. Our approach is to:

- (1) **Recruit**: The Departments of Sport Science and Physical Activity and Tourism actively recruit excellent researchers who successfully contribute to the research agenda. New professors have been recruited to lead the development of new areas of research.
- (2) **Retain**: To retain research staff, UoB operates an annual promotion scheme that recognises and rewards excellence.
- (3) Nurture: The University provides centralised support for individuals to access, bid for, and secure funding leading to the delivery of excellent research results. Talented individuals nurtured at UoB develop research careers here and are able to pursue their careers elsewhere, for example, Professor Mark Lewis is now Dean at Loughborough University, three post-doctoral researchers (Sharples, Savoury and Slocum) have secured academic appointments in other universities, while one sport scientist (Castle) has made a successful transition to research in industry while retaining a link to UoB.

Research Staff Recruitment and Skills Development for Researchers

Specific programmes for research skills development are:

• Quality Research: ISPAR and InTOUR have received annual QR funding since 2009 for



researcher development.

- **Seed Funding:** UoB provides seed funding to initiate research activities across the university through a competitive bidding process. This helps staff establish collaborative partnerships and also build on their initial research to successfully bid for further external funding.
- Rising Stars Funding: Several staff of ISPAR and InTOUR staff have benefited from UoB's Rising Stars programme (since 2011) that identifies early career researchers who show promise of excellence in research and supports them with a long term view of demonstrating international excellence.
- **Conference funding:** ISPAR and InTOUR, through QR funding, support staff members to participate in top-tier national and international conferences, to enable effective dissemination of findings, ensure targeted impact, form new collaborations and develop existing ones. This funding is in addition to support within externally funded projects.
- **UoB Conference:** ISPAR and InTOUR researchers of all levels present posters and research presentations.
- **InTOUR Away Day:** is held annually to inspire and build researcher capacity, to communicate results to colleagues, and provide a platform for innovative research thinking.
- Visiting Professor Programme: ISPAR and InTOUR have an annual rolling programme of
 distinguished visiting professors. These senior researchers develop staff and student capacity
 through close interaction. The collaborations that have resulted have also led to joint research
 projects and publications. ISPAR and InTOUR faculty members also visit leading research
 institutes nationally and internationally, assisting staff development and bringing new
 knowledge back to UoB.
- Coaches/Mentors/Buddies: As part of the work of rebadging and refocusing research in this
 UoA during the assessment period, we have recruited strategically in order to create a balance
 between senior researchers and early career researchers. UoB systematically ensures all
 senior researchers are engaged in mentoring and developing early career researchers, and are
 themselves mentored.
- Annual planning interviews: Staff in ISPAR have, since 2011, participated in professional
 development interviews which focus specifically on Research and Other Scholarly Activity
 (ROSA). This process provides support for the identification of long, medium and short term
 goals and targets and forms of professional development and other support to reach these
 targets. In InTOUR annual performance reviews include appraisals to encourage research
 skills development and outputs.
- Research student supervision capacity building: Early career research staff without supervision experience are included in teams to upskill them. In ISPAR a research supervisory mentor programme was initiated in 2011 as a pilot, funded through the UoB Research Investment Programme, with support from Goodway and MacPhail. This programme has continued to develop through 2012 and 2013.
- Student to staff progression: Four UoB doctoral students who have graduated during the assessment period now work in the Department of Sport Science and Physical Activity (Bailey, Goodyear, Ives, Richards) and two in the Department of Tourism (Ali, Tie).
- **Study Leave:** Staff in ISPAR have benefitted from time-limited periods of leave to complete the PhD writing up process.

Much of the research undertaken at University of Bedfordshire in this UoA involves exchanges with the economic sectors and professions we serve. To develop direct links with industry and public sector stakeholders InTOUR established a junior tourism research institute, funded through the 'Enhancing Student Employability through Research' fund awarded in 2011. It formulates applied research questions and knowledge exchange in collaboration with regional and local industry, public and third sectors. This initiative is supported by postgraduate final year undergraduate student dissertation/research. Consultancy work on a commissioned but non-funded (external) basis has been conducted for a range of local employers, including a marketing strategy for Wrest Park; and a tourism development strategy for the Bedford-Milton Keynes area. Commissioned consultancy was also undertaken for: Luton Culture; the Esmée Fairbairn Foundation; the University of the Highlands and Islands; the European Union; and United Nations Development Programme; and a consortium of Bedford Borough Council, Luton Borough Council, and Central



Bedfordshire Council into an assessment of the functions of the Destination Management Office, fuller details of which are provided under sub-title 'Income, infrastructure and facilities'. InTOUR also hosted a Knowledge Network event on *Food Related Tourism* (23/09/10), which brought together over 60 delegates from local businesses to focus on food tourism.

In ISPAR, a significant programme of research involves interaction with the education sector, particularly in schools, focused around the Physical Education Practitioner Research Network (PEPRN) website. Two PESP doctoral students were recruited from schools, and all of the PESP doctoral projects have been located in schools, sports clubs and university Physical Education Teacher Education courses. Another line of this research programme engages the sport industry, in particular the profession of sports performance coaching, evidenced by the impact case study of technology and sports coaching (Harvey). In addition, ISPAR has been successful in establishing links with the nutrition and sports performance industries (Union of European Football Associations, Volac Ltd, Maxinutrition Ltd, Coachwise Ltd).

ii. Research students

Over the assessment period, 55 full-time (FT) and 19 part-time (PT) doctoral students were registered. This represents an increase compared to the previous RAE period 2001-2008 when there were 14FT and 3PT registered students. Numbers of students registered year-on-year shows double the numbers of (Full Time Equivalent) students registered at the end of the period compared to the beginning.

UoA26 PhD student registrations FTE year-on-year

| | 2008-9 | 2009-10 | 2010-11 | 2011-12 | 2012-13 |
|-----------|--------|---------|---------|---------|---------|
| FT | 18 | 26 | 29 | 33 | 36 |
| PT | 3.5 | 3 | 5 | 6 | 6.5 |
| Total FTE | 21.5 | 29 | 34 | 39 | 42.5 |

There have been several sources of funding in addition to private funding by some students, including funding by student employers, the University of Bedfordshire, the Alexander Trust, the government of the Republic of Korea, Khon Kaen University (Thailand), the government of Vietnam, the Bedford Charity, Luton and Dunstable Hospital (NHS), and a match-funded bursary from the Forté Foundation. Research seminar programmes run regularly in all concentrations represented in this UoA and provide students with opportunities to interact with external speakers as well as the university's own researchers. Students also have opportunities to present their work in these fora, particularly as rehearsals for viva presentations and conferences. Moreover, in order to include part-time, off-campus students, since 2011 the PESP group have employed at various times video recording, live web-streaming and Skype participation in seminars and workshops. In PESP, students have been fully involved as participants and also as assistants in running several national and international events at UoB, such as two British Educational Research Association PESP Special Interest Group events in 2010 and 2013, and two International Physical Literacy conferences in 2011 and 2013. A seminar culture is also embedded in INTOUR where a programme for PGR students runs throughout the academic year, integrating theory and practice, international academics and practitioners. This series is supported by specialist Public Culture and Tourism seminars during the summer months. Sport and Exercise Sciences groups also run regular seminars for research students with support from external speakers.

In addition to these on-campus activities, students in ISPAR have had opportunities to attend student-focused professional development sessions approximately twice per year since 2010 with doctoral students from the Universities of Ghent and Birmingham. All PGR students in this UoA have also been supported to attend national and international conferences, and some have participated each year since 2009 in the University of Tsukuba Summer Institute in Japan which is co-directed by Goodway, Kirk and Dr Louise McCuaig (University of Queensland).

Students in ISPAR participate in a programme of <u>skill development</u> workshops offered on an approximately fortnightly basis in terms 1 and 2 of the academic year. Workshops have focused on a range of work-related as well as research-related skills development, such as data analysis



techniques, preparing a cv, applying for academic posts, making conference presentations, and writing for publication. In addition, students are provided with counselling and advice on career development on an individual basis by Directors of Studies and senior research staff. In InTOUR, all research students enrol on postgraduate taught specialist research units (Research Philosophies and Practice; Research Practice in Tourism) and on specialist taught PG tourism units relevant to their research (e.g. International Tourism Development). Research training is also provided by the Research Graduate School alongside English language support for overseas students when necessary. Students are also supported to attend external training to boost their research skills, for example, in the use of NVIVO. All research students are expected to present their research to one international conference and one national conference during the period of their registration.

Recognition of the high quality research produced by PGR students is evidenced by awards to students at the Association for Tourism in Higher Education (ATHE) conference 2011, First International Conference on Emerging Research Paradigms in Business and Social Sciences 2011, the Association for Physical Education conference 2012; the Association International des Ecoles Superieur en Education Physique conference 2013, and the Teaching Games for Understanding conference 2012.

d. Income, infrastructure and facilities

In ISPAR, research income has been generated for a study investigating the anatomical correlates of performance funded by the Natural Sciences and Engineering Research Council of Canada (NSERC, £82,000). Investigation into 3D imaging and motion-capturing of morphology and behaviour has been funded by the British Academy (£7,600) and the US Air Force Office for Scientific Research in collaboration with the University of St Andrews (£35,000). The group investigating molecular and cellular underpinnings of health and disease across the lifespan, and the interaction with exercise, physical activity, nutritional, pharmacological and genetic technologies as therapeutic strategies, received significant funding from the Medical Research Council (£249,000). Additional funding for research into human ageing at Long Island University was provided by NIA/NIH (£26,536). The physical activity, nutrition and health group acquired external funding to support projects including: the promotion of physical activity levels during physical education lessons (Alexander Trust, £46,000); a two year investigation into the prevalence of risk factors for poor metabolic health in youth and effectiveness of interventions to promote physical activity - HAPPY (Health and Physical Activity Promotion in Youth) Study (Bedford Charity, £84,000); research in collaboration with clinicians and dieticians at the Centre for Obesity Research (COR), Luton and Dunstable Hospital (NHS, £15,448) focusing on i) an intervention study in overweight 14-19 year olds identified at greater risk of developing metabolic syndrome and type 2 diabetes (SIRENS Study of Insulin Resistance factors using Exercise and Nutritional Strategies) and ii) the relationships between nutrition, physical activity and metabolic health (CROSS sectional study: Risk Of Adolescent disease, CROSSROADS). This metabolic health in youth research was also supported by the Alexander Trust (£37,425).

Successful funding has also occurred within the exercise performance group, with funding obtained from UEFA (£10,000) to address the effects of extreme environmental conditions on referees and goal line officials' decision making, Coachwise Ltd to develop an indoor fitness test for rowing (£15000), and Maxinutrition (£30,000) to investigate the efficacy of various sports nutrition supplements on human performance and metabolism. The Alexander Trust funded 4 doctoral research projects (£198,000), the PEPRN web site development (£5,000), a study of occupational socialisation into PETE (£5,000) and the development of pedagogical materials on women's sport at the Olympic Games (£4,000). Consultancies were completed for UNESCO Bangkok *Empowering Girls and Women in Physical Education and Sport* Advocacy Brief (2011) and the Australian Sports Commission's Junior Sport Framework (2012).

InTOUR income generation includes funding from: the Esmée Fairbairn Foundation to evaluate how food-related tourism can deliver sustainable development in rural regions and communities, (£34,567; 2009); Experience Bedfordshire to undertake consultancy research to reassess the governance and functions of the Destination Management Office (£4,185; 2010); Luton Culture and



the East of England Development Agency (EEDA) for £3,000 to investigate the operations of best practice for its Tourist Information Centre (£3,000; 2011); the University of the Highlands and Islands for a feasibility study and a business plan for an Adventure Tourism Research Centre for the Western Highlands (£12,108; 2011).

The Bedford Physical Education Archive provides a unique form of scholarly infrastructure supporting research. A donation of £20,000 from the Bedford Old Students Association which was 50% match-funded by Hefce provided a resource to employ staff to put the Archive on a professional footing. The Archive contains documents, photographs, interviews and artefacts dating from the foundation of Bedford College of Physical Training in 1903. The university has now invested further funding in 2013-15 to continue work in the Archive that includes digitisation of a unique collection of photographs, documentary records and oral interviews. Funding was secured in collaboration with the University of British Columbia (Vertinsky, UBC) of £7,900 from the British Academy/ Leverhulme to collaborate on the development of a research programme centred on the Archive. Another collaborative proposal with UBC was submitted in October 2013 to the Social Science and Humanities Research Council of Canada (SSHRCC) for a 5 year programme of research that takes the Archive as its centre-piece. UG and PG students began project and dissertation work in the Archive in October 2013. We will open the Archive to professional historians of physical education nationally and internationally from April 2014 following its launch at a specialist International Conference Women First Revisited, and to the general public, schools and other community agencies.

The Research Graduate School provides the <u>organisational infrastructure</u> support for the Research Institutes both in terms of research students and staff activities such as conference travel, purchase of consumables, research bidding (in conjunction with the university's Knowledge Hub), and special events such as workshops and conferences.

In terms of the <u>operational infrastructure</u> supporting research, both Research Institutes have parttime administrators provided by the RGS supporting the Directors. In addition, RGS provides administrative support for research students, in terms of applications, progress, and ethics. Access to books, journals and data bases is provided by librarians allocated to specific subject fields. Laboratory work in S&ES is support by specialist lab technicians.

e. Collaboration or contribution to the discipline or research base

Collaboration has taken various forms. In Tourism members of InTOUR have various disciplinary backgrounds that inform tourism research. Inter-disciplinary and collaborative research is encouraged by clustering according to key research themes. Collaborative research has been informed by the awards of personal research fellowships during the assessment period, e.g. Professor Holden's James Whyte Fellowship University of Queensland (UoQ) to support research collaboration and the mentoring of junior research staff, one outcome being a joint ESRC bid; and Professor Holden jointly co-edited the 'Environment and Tourism Handbook' (2012, Routledge) with Professor Fennell (Brock University, Canada), a volume of 40 contributions from the leading experts in the field. As part of its visiting scholars scheme Tourism has hosted visits by Professor Milne (Auckland University of Technology), Dr. Breakey (UoQ), Dr. Lee (Griffith) and Dr. Jacobsen (Southern Cross). Professor Holden is currently a Principal Investigator with UoQ staff on an ESRC grant proposal.

In S&ES, collaboration has been facilitated by <u>interdisciplinary research</u>, for example in a doctoral study of body image in physical education. A further example is a study of the role of pedagogical strategies in increasing physical activity levels during physical education lessons, which included an external collaborator (Professor S Fairclough, Liverpool John Moores University). Both projects were funded by the Alexander Trust and blended pedagogy, psychology, and physiology. Projects in the area of metabolic health and physical activity and nutrition in youth have involved collaborations with clinicians (diabetologists, paediatricians, dieticians) and schools in Bedfordshire and been funded by the NHS and the Bedford Charity, respectively. The area of biology and human behaviour has received support from the Natural Sciences and Engineering Research



Council of Canada (NSERC) and the National Science Foundation and involved collaborations with Rutgers University and the University of Washington, whilst the molecular and cellular group have developed much of their research following support from the Medical Research Council and supports a collaborative network of researchers across Loughborough and Liverpool John Moores Universities.

In PESP the Alexander Trust has provided funds for the development of a Physical Education Practitioner Research Network (PEPRN) website (www.peprn.com) which has facilitated school-based interventions and collaboration with school-communities in areas such as Cooperative Learning and Health-Based Physical Education. Also in PESP, members of the group have built strong collaborations internationally with researchers at the University of Auckland (Dyson), Memorial University Newfoundland and Brock University (Fletcher), University of Valladolid (Martinez), Auburn University (Hastie), University of Lleida (Lorente), University of Ghent (Haerens), New Mexico State University (Oliver), the University of Limerick (MacPhail), Orebro University (Quennerstedt), the Ohio State University (Goodway, Sutherland), and the University of British Columbia (Vertinsky). Professor Kirk holds an Honorary Chair in Human Movement Studies at the University of Queensland. He is currently a co-Principal Investigator with UoQ staff and researchers from Brazil, Hong Kong, and the USA on an Australian Research Council funded project due to commence in January 2014, and collaborator on an SSHRCC grant proposal with Vertinsky currently under review.

Indicators of wider contributions to the research base and relevant esteem indicators (such as fellowships and awards, involvement on panels and journal editorships)

Contributors to this UoA have presented 23 Keynote Lectures during the assessment period in the UK and Australia, Belgium, Brazil, France, Israel, Mauritius, Japan, Spain, Switzerland and Turkey (Burns, Casey, Fletcher, Holden, Hollinshead, Kirk). External examinations have included doctorates and higher doctorates in the UK and France, the Netherlands and New Zealand (Burns, Holden, Kerr, Kirk, O'Donovan) while Burns, Holden and Kirk have served as reviewers and adjudicators for research councils in the UK, Canada and Hong Kong. Contributors to this UoA edit three peer reviewed journals (Brewer, Burns, Ives/Kirk, MacPhail/ O'Donovan) and are members of the editorial boards of a further 16 journals (Brewer, Burns, Casey, Harvey, Holden, Hollinshead, Kirk). Brewer and Harvey serve a number of learned societies and professional associations in leading roles. Nine awards external to the university were received during the assessment period that recognise the quality of the research undertaken within sport and exercise science, physical education, and tourism at the UoB (Burns, Casey, Harvey, Hill, Holden, Kirk).

Membership of Research Council or similar national and international committees

ESRC Peer Review College 2009-present (Burns; Holden; Kirk); Hong Kong Research Council 2009, 2013(Burns); SSHRC Canada Adjudication Panel 2008-10 (Kirk).

Kevnote Lectures

New developments in teaching physical education conference, Ankara, Turkey, 2013 (Casey); 22nd Friz Duras Memorial Lecture, University of Melbourne, 2013 (Kirk); International Conference of Science and Medicine Education in Sport, Glasgow, 2012 (Brewer); Scholar Lecture, British Educational Research Association, Manchester, 2012 (Kirk); International Sweetener's Association Conference, Brussels, 2011 (Brewer); International Tourism Sustainability Conference, Embracing Social and Environmental Change, Mauritius, 2011 (Burns); ATHE Annual Conference, St. Anne's College, Oxford University, 2011 (Holden); Advancing the Social Science of Tourism Conference, University of Surrey, 2011 (Holden); New developments in teaching physical education conference, Ankara, Turkey, 2011 (Casey); 6th International Conference of Formative Assessment in University Teaching, University of Zaragoza, Spain, 2011 (Kirk); IV International Congress of Sport Sciences, Federal University of Rio Grande do Sul at Porto Alegre, Brazil, 2011 (Kirk); 5th International Congress and XXVI National Conference of the INEFC, University of Barcelona, Spain, 2010 (Kirk); Royal Geographical Society, London, 2009 (Holden); International Conference on Promoting and Developing Sport for Youth. The Ministry of Education, Culture, Sport, Science and Technology, Tokyo, Japan, 2009 (Kirk); World Tourism Forum Inaugural Conference Lucerne, Switzerland, 2009 (Burns); Pedagogic Research Conference, University of Brighton, 2009 (Burns);



AIESEP International Seminar, Besancon, France, 2009 (Kirk); The England Athletics Coaching Conference, 2008 (Fletcher); Institute of Ideas, London, 2008 (Holden); ESRC Seminar Series, University of the West of England, 2008 (Holden); United Nations World Tourism Organisation, Madrid, 2008 (Holden); 5th Annual Congreso of the Asociación Española de Ciencias de Deporte, University of Leon, Spain, 2008 (Kirk); International Conference in Physical Education Teacher Education, Wingate Institute, Israel, 2008 (Kirk).

PhD Examination (external)

University of Glasgow, 2012 (Burns); Oxford Brookes, 2011, 2009 (Burns); University of Central Lancashire, 2011 (Holden); University of Bournemouth, 2011 and 2008 (Holden); University of Sunderland, 2010 (Holden); Sheffield Hallam University, 2010 (Holden); University of Reading, 2009 (Holden); Auckland University of Technology, New Zealand, 2009 (Holden); University of Lincoln, 2009 (Holden); University of Wales, Bangor, 2008 (Holden); Université de Franche-Comté Besançon, 2009 (Kirk); University of East Anglia, 2009 (Kerr); Maastricht University Netherlands, 2009 (Burns); University of Limerick, 2009 (Burns).

Higher Doctorate (Habilitation à Diriger des Recherches) Examination (external)

European University of Brittany at Brest, 2012 (Kirk); Université de Franche-Comté, Besançon, 2011 (Kirk); Université Blaise Pascal, Clermont-Ferrand 2 2011 (Kirk); University of Nantes 2013 (O'Donovan).

Journal Editorship

Journal of Athletic Enhancement (Brewer); Physical Education and Sport Pedagogy (Kirk, O'Donovan, Ives); Tourism Planning and Development (Burns).

Editorial Boards of Journals

Journal of Sports Medicine and Doping Studies (Fletcher); Physical Education and Sport Pedagogy (Casey, Harvey); Tourism Recreation Research (Holden); Annals of Tourism Research (Holden); Tourism, Hospitality, Planning and Development (Holden); Journal of Sports and Tourism (Holden); European Physical Education Review (Kirk); Sport, Education and Society (Kirk); Journal of Teaching in Physical Education, 2008 only (Kirk); Current Issues in Tourism (Hollinshead); Tourism Management (Hollinshead); Journal of Tourism and Cultural Change (Hollinshead); Tourism Analysis (Hollinshead); Journal of Travel and Tourism Marketing (Hollinshead); Journal of Environmental Communication (Hollinshead); Mobilities (Burns).

Book Series Editorship

Routledge Studies in Physical Education and Youth Sport, 2010-present (Kirk).

Awards (External to the University)

Fellow of the Royal Geographical Society (Holden; Burns); Academician of the Academy of Social Sciences, (Burns; Kirk); Honoured Member Association for Physical Education (Kirk); International Fellow of the National Academy of Kinesiology, USA (Kirk); Fellow of the Higher Education Academy (Casey; Harvey; Hill).

Leading positions in professional subject associations and learned societies

Teaching Games for Understanding SIG Executive, 2009 to present (Harvey); Government appointed Non-Executive Director of UK Anti-Doping (Brewer); Member, British Olympic Association National Olympic Committee (Brewer); Chair, UK Anti-Doping Athletes' Committee (Brewer); Former Chair British Handball Association, 2008-2012 (Brewer); Chair, British Ski and Snowboard (Brewer); Board Member, British Universities and Colleges Sport (Brewer); Vice Chair, Association of Tourism in Higher Education, 2007-2010 (Burns).