The University of Utah

Sports Medicine and Science Initiative

in conjunction with the

US Olympic Committee

presents a one-day conference on

"Identifying and Developing High-Performance Athletes"

Tuesday, June 19, 2018

Utah Olympic Park
3419 Olympic Pkwy
Park City, Utah 84098

SPEAKER BIOS

Joe Baker, PhD
Professor
School of Kinesiology and Health Science
York University
Toronto, Ontario, Canada

Dr. Joe Baker is Professor and head of the Lifespan Health and Performance Laboratory in the School of Kinesiology and Health Science, at York University, Canada. He has also held visiting researcher/professor positions in the United Kingdom, Australia and Germany. His research considers the varying influences on optimal human development, ranging from issues affecting athlete development and skill acquisition to barriers and facilitators of optimal aging. Joe is author/editor of 8 books and more than 200 peer reviewed articles and book chapters.

Mark Williams, PhD
Chair and Professor
Department of Health, Kinesiology, and Recreation
College of Health
University of Utah
Salt Lake City, UT, USA

Mark Williams is a Professor and Chair of the Department of Health, Kinesiology, and Recreation and an Adjunct Professor in the Department of Psychology at The University of Utah. His research and teaching interests focus on the psychology of expertise and the development of skill. He has published over 200 articles in peer-reviewed outlets in numerous fields including exercise and sports science, experimental psychology, neuroscience and medicine. He has written 16 books, 80 book chapters, 60 professional articles, almost 100 journal abstracts, and he has delivered almost 200 keynote and invited lectures in over 30 countries.

He is a Fellow of several prestigious societies including the British Psychological Society (BPS), the National Academy of Kinesiology, the British Association of Sport and Exercise Science (BASES), and the European College of Sports Sciences. He is a Chartered Psychologist with the BPS and is accredited by BASES to work as a skill acquisition specialist in high-performance sport.

Professor Williams has worked extensively in in high-performance sport as an applied sports scientist and as a coach educator. He has delivered courses for numerous Football Associations across the globe, including the Swedish, Irish, English, US and Welsh associations, and he has worked for several Olympic and professional sports in the UK and the US, including UEFA, FIFA, several English Premiers League clubs as well as clubs in the NBA, NFL, and MLB.

Rob Gray, PhD
Associate Professor and Program Chair, Human Systems Engineering
Fulton Schools of Engineering - The Polytechnic School
Arizona State University
Mesa, AZ, USA

Originally from Toronto, Canada, Rob completed his BA in Psychology at Queen's University and his MS and PhD in Experimental Psychology at York University. After receiving his PhD in 1998, he worked as a Research Scientist for Nissan Motor Corporation. In 2001, he joined the newly formed Applied Psychology Program (now Human Systems Engineering) at Arizona State University. Since 2005 he has also worked part-time as a Research Psychologist for the United States Air Force. His research focuses on perceptual-motor control and skill acquisition with a particular emphasis on the demanding actions involved in driving, aviation, and sports. In 2007 he was awarded the Distinguished Scientific Award for Early Career Contribution to Psychology from the American Psychological Association and the Earl Alluisi Award for Career Achievement in the Field of Applied Experimental & Engineering Psychology. Rob is also host and producer of the popular Perception & Action Podcast (http://perceptionaction.com/).

Les Podlog, PhD
Associate Professor, Kinesiology
Department of Health, Kinesiology and Recreation
College of Health
University of Utah
Salt Lake City, UT, USA

Les Podlog's research focusses on health psychology issues, primarily the psychological aspects of injury rehabilitation and athlete burnout. His interests in the psychology of injury recovery stem from his personal injury experiences as a former amateur wrestler at Simon Fraser University in Burnaby, British Columbia, Canada. Following completion of his doctoral studies (2006) at the University of Western Australia, Les held faculty positions at Charles Sturt University (Bathurst, Australia), the German Sport University (Cologne, Germany), and Texas Tech University (Lubbock, Texas). He has been a faculty member at the University of Utah since 2011 where teaches classes in sport psychology and the psychology of sport injury. Outside of work Les enjoys hiking, skiing, and spending time with his family.

Nicola Hodges, PhD
Professor
Faculty of Education – School of Kinesiology
University of British Columbia
Vancouver, Canada

Nicola Hodges studies Motor Behaviour in the School of Kinesiology at the University of British Columbia where she runs the Motor Skills Lab. Here she studies the mechanisms of motor skill acquisition. She is currently studying how people learn in pairs, the role of the motor system in action observation, prediction/anticipation and observational practice, and developmental activities underpinning success in men and women's soccer. She studies both novices and more skilled individuals, predominantly using sports' based tasks and athletes. She has been involved in consultancy with the Canadian National Women's Soccer team on such topics. Her work also extends beyond sports to special populations (e.g., people with Down syndrome) and to more basic motor control questions. Her research has been funded by the three tri-council agencies in Canada (SSHRC; Social Science, NSERC; Natural Sciences and CIHR; Institute for Health Research). For details please visit http://msl.kin.educ.ubc.ca/

Keith R. Lohse, PhD
Assistant Professor, Kinesiology
Department of Health, Kinesiology, and Recreation
College of Health
University of Utah, USA

Dr. Keith Lohse's research focuses on how the nervous system learns to perform motor actions, especially in the presence of neurological disease or injury. Long-term, he wants to improve our understanding of the mechanisms underlying therapeutic interventions, to ultimately create more efficient, individualized rehabilitation approaches and improve the quality of life for individuals with disabilities.

Keith specializes in longitudinal data analysis in neurorehabilitation. These data might be neural time-series data in EEG or clinical longitudinal data from electronic medical records. I conduct basic and applied experiments to explore the neural changes that accompany motor learning and rehabilitation. I regularly collaborate with other researchers to conduct advanced statistical analyses, establish the validity/reliability of neural and behavioral measures, and conduct meta-scientific research.

Jeff Fairbrother, PhD
Professor and Associate Dean
Director, Motor Behavior Laboratory
Department of Kinesiology, Recreation, and Sport Studies
College of Education, Health, and Human Sciences
University of Tennessee, Knoxville
Knoxville, TN, USA

Jeff Fairbrother is a Kinesiology professor of and associate dean at the University of Tennessee, Knoxville. His research focuses on optimizing learning and performance of movement skills. His recent work investigates how attentional cues enhance performance. He also examines the use of learner choice in training. His work includes research articles, a textbook, book chapter, and over 70 national and international presentations. He is a Fellow of the Southeastern Conference Academic Leadership Program. He serves on the American Kinesiology Association Board of Directors and the *Journal of Motor Learning and Development* Editorial Board. He previously served as Specialty Chief Editor for *Frontiers in Movement Science and Sport Psychology* and Associate Editor for *Research Quarterly for Exercise and Sport*.

Dr. Fairbrother has worked with the Military Performance Division of the US Army Research Institute of Environmental Medicine, the Korea Foundation for the Next Generation Sports Talent, and the Korea Sports Promotion Foundation. His laboratory has attracted high-level athletes and performers seeking to investigate the factors that contribute to optimal performance, including a national-level Swedish rower, two-time NCAA Division II Hammer champion, professional baseball player, five-time World Jump Rope Champion, national-level Brazilian swimmer, and US Army Special Forces officer.

David Mann, PhD
Assistant Professor
Motor Learning & Performance
Department of Human Movement Sciences
Vrije Universiteit Amsterdam, Netherlands

David is an Optometrist and specializes in visual-motor skill acquisition in sport. He did his PhD as a Skill Acquisition Specialist at the Australian Institute of Sport and he is currently a lecturer in Talent Identification and Development at Vrije Universiteit Amsterdam. His research examines the visual-motor behavior of expert athletes in a range of different sports including baseball, cricket, golf, tennis, swimming and soccer, with the findings being used to enhance the quality of talent identification and development in sport. His research is supported by organizations including the International Paralympic Committee, the Netherlands Olympic Committee, and the Royal Netherlands Football Association.

Robin Jackson, PhD
Senior Lecturer in Sport Psychology
School of Sport, Exercise and Health Sciences
Loughborough University, UK

Robin Jackson is a Senior Lecturer in Sport Psychology in the School of Sport, Exercise and Health Sciences at Loughborough University, UK. His research is focused on understanding how performers anticipate the actions of their opponents, with a particular focus on deceptive actions and how prior knowledge may help or hinder anticipation skill. Robin is also an accredited sport psychologist who worked extensively with Great Britain Wheelchair Rugby for six years including two Paralympic Games, three European Championships and two World Championships. He is a founder member of the British Psychological Society's Division of Sport and Exercise Psychology, and the Expertise and Skill Acquisition Network.