

Call for abstracts - UK Sport Development Network (UKSDN) 2017 Conference

The University of St Mark and St John is delighted to announce that it will be hosting the UK Sport Development Network (UKSDN) 2017 conference in conjunction with Active Devon. The conference will take place on Friday 17th November 2017 on the University of St Mark and St John Campus in Plymouth.

We anticipate a large number of delegates from academia and the sports industry from across the UK, with senior figures participating as keynote speakers and presenters. The conference comes at an important time for sport development in the UK; following a major sport policy shift by government and at a time when key stakeholders are considering their responses to new priorities.

Conference title: *Creating a Sustainable Sporting Future: Issues, Pathways and Opportunities*

Themes: The physical activity debate:

- response of the public health community
- sustaining community sport
- promotion of a volunteering culture
- challenges in the rural environment
- implications for a sustainable funding strategy
- promoting inclusion
- innovations from practice

We are now inviting individuals or groups interested in presenting at the conference to submit an abstract. We encourage submissions from academics and practitioners. Particularly welcome are submissions based on collaboration between academics and practitioners (given the commitment of the UKSDN to encourage the development of this relationship).

Abstracts should be no more than 300 words. It should clearly identify the focus – directly related to one of the above themes. You may adopt an orthodox academic approach to presenting your research, including reference to research methods. Alternatively, and reflecting our commitment to engaging with practitioners, your approach may focus directly on a case study or exemplar from practice. The abstract should outline the structure and content of the proposed presentation.

Please clearly indicate whether you are proposing a verbal presentation or a poster presentation*

*verbal presentations will take place in themed parallel sessions. These should be concise and last between 10 and 15 minutes - leaving 5 to 10 minutes for discussion. Poster presentations involve the production of an A1 poster outlining key aspects of your presentation with no more than 1000 words. Presenters should be available to discuss their findings as part of the poster presentation session.

Conference proceedings will be allocated an ISBN number and there may be an opportunity to publish your paper following the conference.

Abstracts should be sent to:

Dr. Aaron Beacom: abeacom@marjon.ac.uk

and

Dr Vassilios Ziakas: vziakas@marjon.ac.uk

You are welcome to contact Aaron or Vassilios informally to discuss your submission

Closing date for abstracts: 30 May 2017