

Short Report

The EASM 2022 Conference and PhD Seminar provided a unique experience for my development as a sport professional and academic. Thanks to the Alberto Mandella scholarship, I had the opportunity to learn new concepts, methods, approaches, and strategies regarding sport management research and practices.

In particular, the PhD Seminar not only allowed me to present part of my research obtaining detailed feedback from my colleagues, but also it offered a chance to observe how other PhD research has been conducted in Europe and North America. This interaction with other students led to new insights for future research in sport management and potential partnerships with other universities. The model of Seminar implemented by profs. Chris Horbel and Josef Fahlen (mixing lectures, presentations, and critical analyses of short papers) resulted in constant interactions between the students, leading to an innovative learning experience. Certainly, I will suggest this model to my colleagues at SMAANZ and ABRAGESP (the sport management association in Brazil).

As expected, the Conference was also a success. The work of the organising committee and the quality facilities provided by Innsbruck University were crucial aspects to the success of the event. Overall, the Conference helped me to further improve my study, mainly in terms of new concepts and approaches regarding the literature review and method. Moreover, the opportunity to introduce myself and my research to more experienced researchers at the Conference resulted in new insights for my study and possible research partnership in the near future.

The Conference not only showed new research trends worldwide but also created a perfect moment to broaden my network and finally meet researchers that I have followed for decades. As the first Conference after the beginning of the Covid-19 pandemic, the EASM 2022 Conference became a highly expected event to meet new people and resume personal interactions somehow lost in the last 2 years. Compared to the last Conference (online), the 2022 event being held in person maximized moments to exchange knowledge and feedback.

However, there is room for improvement, for instance, there was an over-concentration of presentations on one or two topics. This concentration led to a certain level of repetitiveness among the presentations. Moreover, very few presentations explored parasports/Paralympics. It is also important to highlight that the Networking Speed Dating scheme did not work well, becoming almost non-existent. Furthermore, more measures to avoid the spread of Covid-19 could have been taken at the Conference. Last but not least, the value of the registration fee for students became a

barrier for students outside Europe, a point that needs future reflection if the intention of the Association involves embracing more students for the next Conferences.

All things considered, the PhD Seminar and Conference were a success. As the first event after the pandemic, the Conference in Innsbruck will serve as a good example for future sport management conferences worldwide.

Best regards,

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