

**Sport & Religion theme at 2012 International Convention on Science, Education and Medicine in Sport, Glasgow 19th-24<sup>th</sup> July**

***Sport ... inspiring a learning legacy***

**Invitation to submit abstracts**



**Introduction**

This multidisciplinary congress is held just before every summer Games, and its main promoters are the IOC, the IPC, the International Federation of Sports Medicine, and the International Council of Sports Science and Physical Education. It is the intellectual pinnacle of sports congresses, and is likely to attract some 5,000 delegates from over 150 countries. It will be held in the purpose-built Scottish Exhibition and Conference Centre. It is being supported by a consortium of 5 UK universities led by Brunel. Disciplines include medicine, physiology, kinesiology/biomechanics, psychology, sociology, Physical Education and adapted PE, sports development, sports management including events management. "This time, however, the Scientific Committee of the Congress has accepted the case made by Professor Mike Collins, at the Centre for Sport, Spirituality and Religion at the University of Gloucester, for the inclusion of a sub-theme dealing with Religion and Spirituality - on the understanding that he will be its Convenor. He is therefore now inviting Abstracts, or at least expressions of interest, relating to this theme: instructions for this (and for Registration) are available at [www.icemis2012.com](http://www.icemis2012.com)

**Content of Religion and Spirituality sub-theme**

Sessions might focus around Sport(s) and the various (explicit) Religions (historically and currently), or the various forms and levels of Sports Chaplaincies. They might also focus around Sport and spirituality, well-being, health, ethics, rituals, *communitas* and so on: the many aspects of sports that some have seen as functioning (implicitly) in ways that are reminiscent of or parallel to organised Religions.

Meanwhile, one keynote address has already been arranged: Professor Andrew Parker (University of Gloucestershire), the co-editor of the *International Journal of Sport and Religion*, will speak on "Sport and Religion in the 21st Century; aspects of evolving global relationships", which will be Responded to by Graham Daniels (of Christians in Sport, U.K.)

## Potential outcomes of this new sub-theme

1. Special Issue(s) of *International Journal for Religion and Sport* (IJRS)
2. Volume(s) of Papers relating to particular aspect(s) of the sub-theme.
3. Formation of Association to facilitate cross-fertilisation of research (and dissemination of results) on sport, religion and spirituality.
4. Enhanced public awareness of the religious and spiritual dimensions of sport (at all levels).

## Timescale

1. The Congress organisers have kindly accepted this individual, last-minute initiative. So, whereas the major existing disciplinary organisations had a deadline of May 16 for their Abstracts for parallel sessions, we have been allowed until **next Friday May 27th** to show that we have simple **expressions of interest**. So if you are able to support this initiative, please let Mike Collins know a.s.a.p., (with or without an Abstract): [mcollins@glos.ac.uk](mailto:mcollins@glos.ac.uk) or +44 (0)1509 650171. You are of course very welcome to forward this appeal and explanation to others. (Notification that you have done so would be helpful.)
2. A further Call for **Abstracts** will be made **this July**, when online submission will be available, and finally repeated in **September**.
3. Notice of **Acceptance** will follow (after Refereeing) in **January 2012**.