



ISAPA 2025

KERRY



PROCEEDINGS OF THE 25TH INTERNATIONAL SYMPOSIUM OF ADAPTED PHYSICAL ACTIVITY

SHIFTING THE DIAL FROM AWARENESS TO TRANSFORMATION
UNDER THE PATRONAGE OF UNESCO

Hosted by Munster Technological University, Ireland

Authors: Catherine Carty, Gerard Masdeu Yelamos





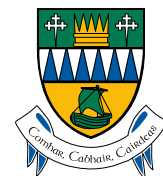
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About this Publication

This volume presents the Proceedings of the 25th International Symposium of Adapted Physical Activity (ISAPA 2025), hosted by Munster Technological University under the Patronage of UNESCO. It is intended as a permanent scholarly record of the symposium, its themes, and its contributions across research, practice, policy, culture, and inclusion in line with CoARA principles.

This document is available in limited edition print version and a digital version.

How to Use This Document

This publication is designed to be used as:

A reference resource summarising the keynote addresses, plenary discussions, symposia, workshops, and cultural programme.

A companion volume to the ISAPA 2025 Abstracts on the South West Open Research Deposit, where full abstracts, author affiliations, and related research outputs can be accessed.

A citation source for researchers, practitioners, and students referencing the symposium's proceedings, programmes, and legacy initiatives

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Notes

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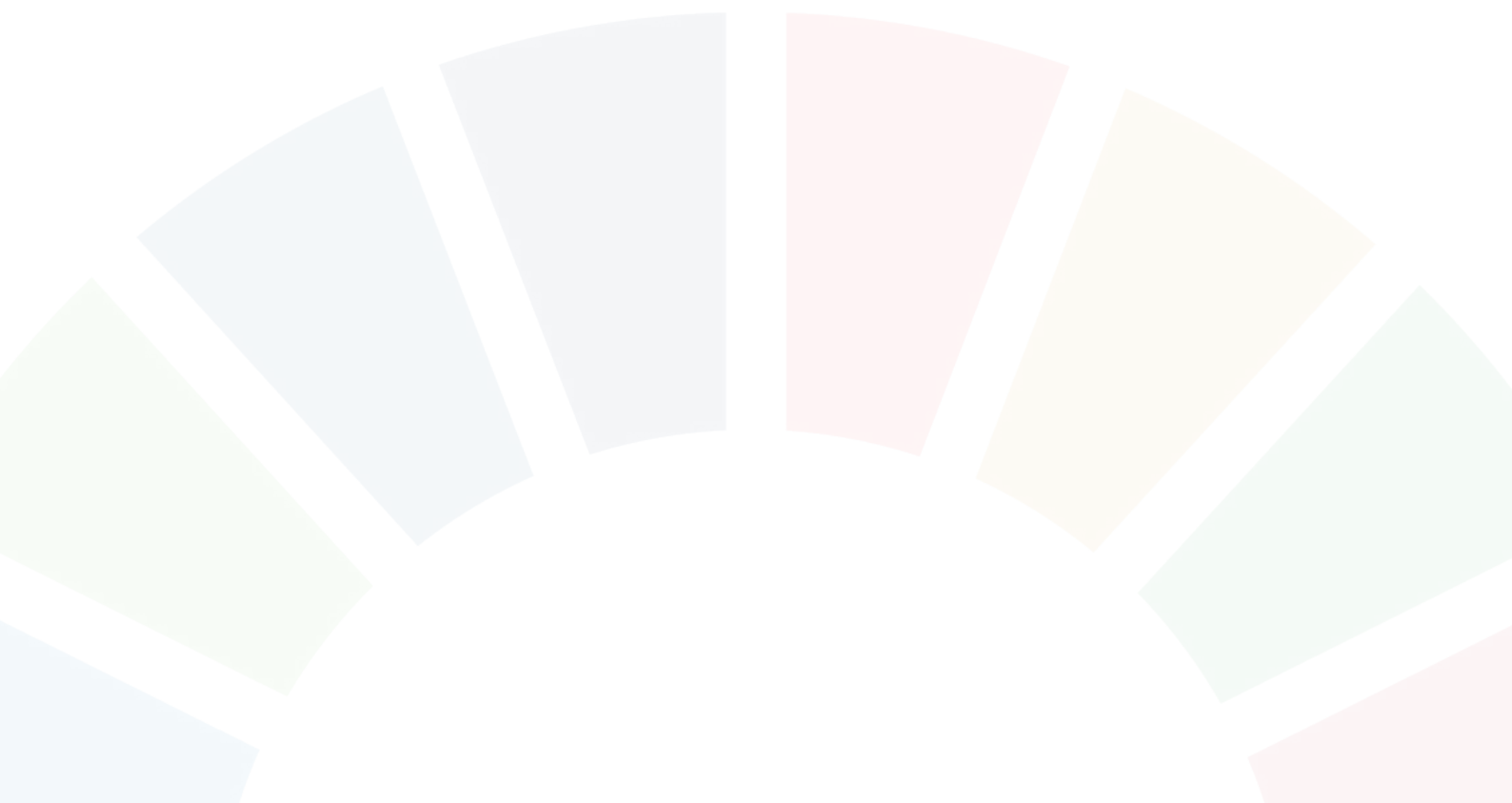
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Preface

Munster Technological University | Host Institution under the Patronage of UNESCO

Professor Maggie Cusack, President | Mr Jimmy Deenihan, Chair of the MTU Governing Body | Professor Hugh McGlynn, Vice President for Research & Innovation

The 25th International Symposium of Adapted Physical Activity (ISAPA 2025) marked a milestone in every sense, the 25th anniversary of this global gathering and the first time it was hosted in Ireland. Munster Technological University (MTU) was deeply honoured to welcome more than 700 delegates from five continents to Kerry under the Patronage of UNESCO, a county where research, culture, and community meet naturally.

Held under the stewardship of the International Federation of Adapted Physical Activity (IFAPA) and the Institute of Movement Studies for Visual Impairment and Deafblindness (IMSVI), the 25th ISAPA was entrusted to Munster Technological University to organise and host on their behalf, a reflection of the confidence placed in MTU's expertise and its longstanding contribution to global inclusion.

The Symposium's theme, Shifting the Dial – From Awareness to Transformation, reflected MTU's mission: connecting research and innovation with human and societal progress. ISAPA 2025 demonstrated that inclusion is not an abstract concept but a lived practice achieved through collaboration among academia, government, civil society, and industry. The Opening Ceremony embodied that spirit. Catherine Carty, UNESCO Chair at MTU and Director of ISAPA 2025, welcomed delegates with a vision that set the tone for a week where inclusion moved from principle to practice. Mr Jimmy Deenihan, Chair of the MTU Governing Body, linked ISAPA's aims to the defining responsibilities of Ireland's Technological Universities, combining excellence in teaching, research, and innovation with equitable access. Professor Hugh McGlynn, Vice President for Research & Innovation, celebrated the breadth and impact of the program, a confluence of science, policy, and lived experience that embodied MTU's research-for-impact agenda.

We were honoured to be joined by Kerry County Council Leas Cathaoirleach Councillor Fionnán Fitzgerald, whose welcome reflected the county's pride in hosting this global event and whose leadership, alongside Kerry County Council, helped illuminate Tralee's municipal buildings in pink, the official colour of SDG 10: Reduced Inequalities. This striking civic gesture served as a nightly beacon of inclusion, visibly linking ISAPA's goals with the Sustainable Development Agenda.

The ceremony also featured the Skills for Life young adults with intellectual disabilities, whose video presentation and volunteer roles throughout the week powerfully demonstrated how Adapted Physical Activity transforms lives. Their presence, as storytellers, co-creators, and volunteers, embodied the essence of education and community inclusion in action.

Across the week, Comhaltas Ceoltóirí Éireann provided a joyful and enduring cultural partnership. Traditional Irish music became a living thread through sessions, lunches, and evening events, reminding delegates that culture itself is a form of inclusion, a way to belong and to connect.

The stature and diversity of local dignitaries in attendance reflected the event's national and international importance. Across the week, MTU was honoured to welcome Minister

for Children, Disability and Equality Norma Foley TD, the Dr Niall Muldoon, Ombudsman for Children, the Chief Executives of Sport Ireland and the Mental Health Commission, the Ambassador of Ukraine to Ireland, and Ambassador David Donoghue, among other distinguished guests. Their participation symbolised Ireland's leadership in embedding human rights, inclusion, and equality across education, sport, and health, and reaffirmed the global significance of the conversations taking place on the MTU Kerry Campus.

International collaboration was another defining hallmark. Professor Cindy Sit, President of IFAPA, and Professor Lauren Lieberman, representing the Institute of Movement Studies for Visual Impairment and Deafblindness, reflected on five decades of progress in Adapted Physical Activity. Their remarks, alongside Juan Pablo Salazar, Director of Inclusion of People with Disabilities at CAF – the Development Bank of Latin America and the Caribbean, highlighted the power of partnership in driving global inclusion.

That partnership was further cemented by the signing of a Memorandum of Understanding between IFAPA and Special Olympics International, affirming shared objectives and long-term collaboration to advance inclusion through evidence-based practice, research, and advocacy.

The global expertise gathered at ISAPA 2025 also made possible a landmark moment for international policy. During the week, MTU hosted the first-ever UNESCO Consultation on Global Policy Standards on Inclusive, Equitable and Safe Sport. Convened under UNESCO's official mandate and facilitated by the UNESCO Chair at MTU, this consultation brought together delegates from all world regions, governments, researchers, athletes, and civil-society leaders, to review and refine the emerging Global Policy Standards. Hosting such a high-level process on the Kerry Campus was a profound honour for MTU and for Ireland, underscoring the University's role as a trusted partner in shaping the future of inclusion in sport and physical education worldwide.

In keeping with ISAPA's values, MTU and IFAPA implemented a dedicated Bursary Program to ensure that participation was global, equitable, and inclusive. Bursaries prioritised women with disabilities and delegates from low- and middle-income countries, ensuring that no voice was left behind, a living demonstration of SDG 5 and SDG 10 in action. MTU's commitment to the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals was further underlined later in 2025 when the University conferred an Honorary Doctorate of Arts on His Excellency Ambassador David Donoghue, co-chair of the UN negotiations that produced the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. His leadership in diplomacy and partnership mirrors the mission of ISAPA 2025, to connect research, policy, and community in service of a more inclusive and sustainable world.

The legacy of ISAPA 2025 also reflects the strong academic foundations on which it was built locally. The Department of Health and Leisure Studies at MTU has been at the forefront of Adapted Physical Activity education and research in Ireland since the mid-1990s, establishing national leadership in inclusive curriculum design and community engagement. Under the guidance of Dr Mary Galvin, Dean of the Faculty of Health and Social Science, and Ms Eimear Foley, Head of Department of Health and Leisure Studies, MTU continues to advance inclusive education, health, and well-being as pillars of its mission. Their shared commitment ensures that the learning and partnerships forged through ISAPA 2025 will continue to grow within the University and across the wider international network.

Hosting ISAPA 2025 was both a privilege and a responsibility to show how a university can embody access, excellence, and collaboration in every facet of its work. From the extensive

research, practical and panel program to the UNESCO Consultation and the Mental Health Summit to hands-on workshops, cultural exchanges, and community legacy projects, ISAPA 2025 proved that the values of inclusion and human rights are most powerful when practised collectively.

This volume, ISAPA 2025 Proceedings, serves as both a scholarly record and a legacy statement, capturing how research, policy, culture, and community together shifted the dial from awareness to transformation.

Signed

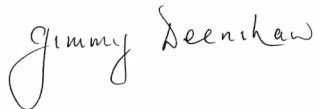
Professor Maggie Cusack

President, MTU

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'M. Cusack'.

Mr Jimmy Deenihan

Chair, MTU Governing Body

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Jimmy Deenihan'.

Professor Hugh McGlynn

Vice President for Research & Innovation, MTU

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Hugh McGlynn'.



Academic Leadership Supporting The ISAPA 2025 Legacy

The success and long-term impact of ISAPA 2025 are strengthened by the academic leadership within MTU. While not directly involved in the operational delivery of the Symposium, Professor Mary Galvin, Dean of the Faculty of Health & Social Science, and Ms Eimear Foley, Head of the Department of Health & Leisure Studies, provide essential guidance in advancing Adapted Physical Activity through MTU's faculty, departments, and the UNESCO Chair. Their ongoing commitment ensures that the momentum and legacy of ISAPA 2025 continue to shape MTU's teaching, research, and community engagement into the future.





Foreword

Shifting the Dial for Inclusion and Action

ISAPA 2025 was conceived as more than an academic gathering. It was a purposeful meeting ground for people who believe that inclusive physical activity, sport, and education can reshape communities and lives. Under the Patronage of UNESCO and hosted by Munster Technological University in Kerry, Ireland, the Symposium united researchers, practitioners, policymakers, and advocates from every region of the world in a shared commitment to turn knowledge into action. From the outset, ISAPA 2025 sought to demonstrate how genuine collaboration across sectors can accelerate social impact. The week-long program wove together five major events, including the UNESCO International Consultation on Global Policy Standards for Inclusive, Equitable, and Safe Sport and PE, the first ISAPA Mental Health Summit, and a dynamic trade exhibition, creating dialogue between science, policy, education, and community practice. The integration of IMSVI and the signing of a Memorandum of Understanding between the International Federation of Adapted Physical Activity (IFAPA) and Special Olympics International symbolised this spirit of partnership and our shared determination to advance participation and equity worldwide.

The atmosphere throughout the Symposium reflected Ireland's rich cultural heritage and the hospitality of Kerry. Traditional music and dance infused the academic schedule, reminding delegates that culture is a powerful connector and that inclusion is expressed not only in policy but in shared experience.

Equally important was the ISAPA 2025 Bursary Program, which ensured that delegates who required financial assistance could attend and contribute fully. This initiative embodied the ISAPA 2025's values: participation as a right, not a privilege, and diversity of voice as a source of strength and innovation.

Together, these elements, scientific exchange, policy advancement, practical participation and learning, cultural expression, and equitable access, made ISAPA 2025 a living example of "Shifting the Dial from Awareness to Transformation." Each presentation, performance, and conversation added a turn to that dial, moving our collective efforts closer to real change in communities everywhere.

We thank the boards of IFAPA and IMSVI and the authors, reviewers, moderators, partners, volunteers and support staff whose dedication made this milestone event possible. We acknowledge the unavoidable travel and visa difficulties faced by some delegates and appreciate your efforts in trying to join us. May the research and reflections captured in this Digital Proceedings continue to inspire collaboration and action long after the final notes of music have faded.

Catherine Carty

Director, ISAPA 2025 | UNESCO Chair, Munster Technological University, Ireland



Professor Cindy Sit

President, International Federation of Adapted Physical Activity (IFAPA)
The Chinese University of Hong Kong



Foreword from the Co Directors of IMSVI

The Institute of Movement Studies for Individuals with Visual Impairment and Deafblindness (IMSVI) was honored to co sponsor their Third International Symposium on Physical Activity and Individuals with Visual Impairments and Deafblindness (ISPAVID) as part of ISAPA 2025. With the theme “Shifting the Dial for Inclusion and Action,” this collaboration reflected IMSVI’s mission to advance research, practice, and advocacy that expand opportunities for individuals with visual impairments and deafblindness to participate fully in physical activity and movement.

Bringing ISPAVID into the larger ISAPA program created a powerful platform for dialogue across disciplines and cultures. Researchers, practitioners, and advocates from around the world shared evidence, strategies, and lived experiences that underscored both the challenges and the possibilities of inclusion. The success of this joint symposium demonstrated how collective effort can accelerate progress toward equity, accessibility, and meaningful participation.

We extend our gratitude to all contributors whose work enriched ISPAVID and ISAPA 2025. May the ideas and partnerships forged here continue to inspire innovation and action, ensuring that individuals with visual impairments and deafblindness are not only included but empowered in movement, sport, and community life worldwide.

Professor Lauren Lieberman

Co-Founder & Co-Director, Institute of Movement Studies for Visual Impairment and Deafblindness (IMSVI), SUNY Brockport, New York

Professor & Associate Dean Pamela Beach

Co-Founder & Co-Director, Institute of Movement Studies for Visual Impairment and Deafblindness (IMSVI), Rochester Institute of Technology, New York

Professor Melanie Perreault

Co-Director, Institute of Movement Studies for Visual Impairment and Deafblindness (IMSVI)
SUNY Brockport, New York



Speaker Perspectives



At ISAPA 2025, I felt seen and respected as both a researcher and a leader. I was proud to share the mental health resources we co-produced with Mental Health Ireland and to take part in the Special Olympics IFAPA MOU signing. It showed how inclusion and teamwork can make real change.

Margaret Turley, Special Olympics Athlete and Sargent Shriver Global Messenger

ISAPA 2025 reinforced for me how powerful sport can be when policy, research and lived experience work together. Sport makes its biggest impact when those worlds are aligned. This community is shifting the dial with intent.

Jason Smyth World's Fastest Paralympian , Winner of Dancing with the Stars



ISAPA 2025 was an extraordinary opportunity to connect with colleagues and to make new friends, with Tralee, providing an exceptional backdrop for learning, growing and fun.

David Legg, Ph.D. (he/him/his) Professor, Department of Health and Physical Education Mount Royal University, Mohkinstsis (Calgary)

It was a distinct honour and privilege for me to be invited and attend ISAPA 2025. It was extra special as I had the opportunity to visit Tralee, Kerry County, meet new young talented researchers, and visit with many friends from the past. I also accepted, with immense pride and profound humility, to present the keynote G. Lawrence Rarick Memorial Lecture. Thank you Catherine Carty, thank you Munster Technological University and thank you Tralee, Kerry County for a memorable experience. I was overwhelmed.

Dr. Robert D. Steadward, CC, OC, AOE, PhD, LLD



"The 25th ISAPA hosted by the Munster Technological University, Ireland, has been an outstanding international event bringing together experts with diverse professional backgrounds from all around the world. The days in Tralee were both highly informative and inspiring, paving the way for future developments in APA."

Prof. Dr Gudrun Doll-Tepper, IFAPA President 1993-1995., CSSPE Honorary President

Part One

GLOBAL POLICY, SDGs & UNESCO

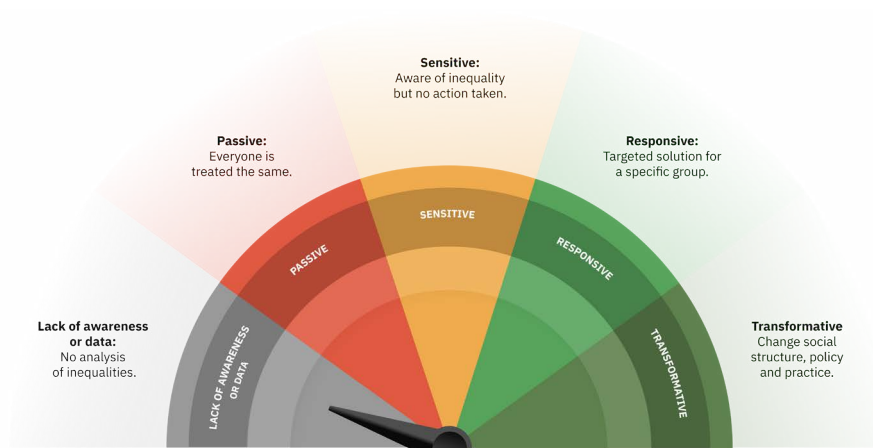


Theme: Shifting The Dial: From Awareness To Transformation

A Framework for Collective Progress

At ISAPA 2025, Shifting the Dial became both the guiding theme and a shared language for change. It captures how inclusive physical activity and sport evolve through deliberate, connected stages, each requiring research, reflection, and real-world action.

Stage	Focus	Action Keywords	Examples from ISAPA 2025
1. Awareness	Recognising barriers and amplifying lived experience.	Listen Observe Acknowledge	Studies uncovering participation inequities for persons with disabilities, and panels centred on the voices of athletes, youth, and families.
2. Understanding	Building insight through evidence and dialogue.	Analyse Question Interpret	Global data on inclusive PE, digital health research, and comparative studies bridging regions and disciplines.
3. Action	Translating evidence into applied innovation.	Co-create Implement Test	Programs on adapted sport design, inclusive policy pilots, and cross-sector collaborations in education and health.
4. Transformation	Embedding systemic change through partnership and policy.	Embed Scale Sustain	The UNESCO Consultation on Global Standards, the IFAPA - Special Olympics International MOU, and local legacy projects demonstrating community impact.



Using the Dial

Delegates were invited to reflect on their own contribution:

Where am I on the dial today, and how can I move closer to transformation?

This simple but powerful question connected presentations across the week, uniting scientists, educators, policymakers, and community leaders in a common purpose: to make inclusion real, measurable, and lasting.

Program Overview

ISAPA 2025 took place from the 16th to the 20th of June in Tralee, Ireland, hosted by Munster Technological University (MTU) under the Patronage of UNESCO. More than 700 delegates from across five continents came together for a landmark week that celebrated research, practice, policy, and culture in Adapted Physical Activity.

The Symposium received over 300 submissions representing diverse disciplines, methodologies, and cultural contexts. These contributions formed the backbone of an event designed not only to share knowledge but to connect people, inspire innovation, and advance the right to inclusive participation in sport, education, and health.

Across five days, the integrated program featured

- 4 keynote sessions
- 109 academic presentations showcasing original research and evaluation.
- 12 expert panels exploring global and regional priorities.
- 26 policy and program presentations linking evidence to action.
- 75 poster sessions providing a global snapshot of emerging inquiry.
- 10 practical workshops and 6 continuing professional development (CPD) sessions, translating science into skill.
- plus, dedicated networking, spotlight, and cultural sessions that brought the theme *Shifting the Dial – From Awareness to Transformation to life.*

The ISAPA 2025 Bursary Program ensured that delegates requiring financial support could participate fully, affirming that inclusion must be practised as well as promoted. The event also modelled how academic symposia can be enriched through culture: Irish music, dance, and storytelling were interwoven throughout the week, creating shared experiences that deepened learning and connection.

None of this would have been possible without the commitment of more than 40 international peer reviewers who oversaw the double-blind review process, and the moderators, presenters, and volunteers who animated every session. Their combined efforts transformed this gathering into a dynamic ecosystem of ideas, practice, and solidarity.

Together, the contributors to ISAPA 2025 demonstrated that Adapted Physical Activity is a vital catalyst for inclusion, health, and sustainable development, and that when science, policy, and community come together, the dial truly begins to shift.

ISAPA also presents an important opportunity for New Emerging Scholars of Adapted Physical Activity (NESAPA), whose mission is to foster collaboration, support emerging scholars and students, and build networks within the APA field, complementing its biannual events, online webinars and gatherings.

ISAPA 2025 Program Thematic Index

Theme	Focus & Description	Representative Areas	Session Types & Spotlight Links
Inclusive Education	Advancing universal access to quality physical education and lifelong learning through inclusive pedagogy, teacher training, and curriculum innovation.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Universal Design for Learning in PE • Camp Abilities global model • Peer-teaching and co-design methods • Inclusive play and recreation design (Crann Centre, Cork) 	Academic & Poster Sessions • CPD Workshops • Spotlight: AslAm – Autism Inclusion (Adam Harris)
Health & Well-being	Using physical activity, nutrition, and lifestyle interventions to enhance holistic health across the lifespan.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Movement literacy and motor competence • Exercise interventions for ADHD, ASD, CP • Active ageing • Special Olympics Healthy Athletes 	Research Papers • Practicals • Spotlight: European Disabled Golf Association (EDGA – Dr Tony Bennett)
Digital Innovation	Harnessing technology to improve accessibility, participation, and health outcomes.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • AI and VR-based rehabilitation • Smart therapy (STEPS – Salaso Health Solutions) • Wearables and data-driven health • Digital literacy for APA educators 	Demonstrations • Innovation Showcases • Spotlight: Superhumans Ukraine – Rehabilitation & Human Dignity • adidas – Community Co-creation in Sport
Policy & Governance	Translating research into frameworks, partnerships, and systemic change.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • UNESCO Consultation on Global Standards • IFAPA – Special Olympics International MOU • Inclusive sport policy (Sport Ireland) • Rights-based governance of adapted sport 	Panels • Policy/Program Sessions • Spotlight: Sport Ireland – Driving Systemic Change
Mental Health	Integrating physical activity, nutrition, and digital tools in rights-based mental-health care.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ISAPA Mental Health Summit • Early Intervention in Psychosis • Digital Mental Health Platforms • Special Olympics Mental Health Resource Development 	Keynotes • Cross-Sector Panels • Practicals • Spotlight: Special Olympics Ireland & Mental Health Ireland – Co-creation of resources
Sustainability & SDGs	Positioning APA within sustainable development, equity, and community regeneration frameworks.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • SDG 3, 4, 5, 10, 11 & 17 alignment • Paris 2024 Call to Action Follow-Up • Inclusive cycling & local legacy projects 	Workshops • Legacy Events • Poster Sessions • Spotlight: Primark Cares – Adaptive Clothing & Inclusive Sport

Spotlight and Innovation Voices

ISAPA 2025 introduced Spotlights - short, powerful interventions that captured the essence of "Shifting the Dial":

- Dr Tony Bennett – European Disabled Golf Association: Golf as Rehabilitation and Identity
- Dr Andrii Vilenskyi – Superhumans Centre, Ukraine: Redefining Trauma Care
- Adam Harris – AsIAM: Autism Inclusion Led by Lived Experience
- Gearóidín McTavish – Sport Ireland: National Strategy for Structural Change
- Sophie El-Masry – Adidas: Co-creation and Community in Inclusive Design
- Paul Walker (Primark Cares) – Adaptive Clothing & Belonging Through Sport
- Margaret Turley Special Olympics Athlete and Sargent Shriver Global Messenger with Claire Flynn Mental Health Ireland – Mental Health Resource Development

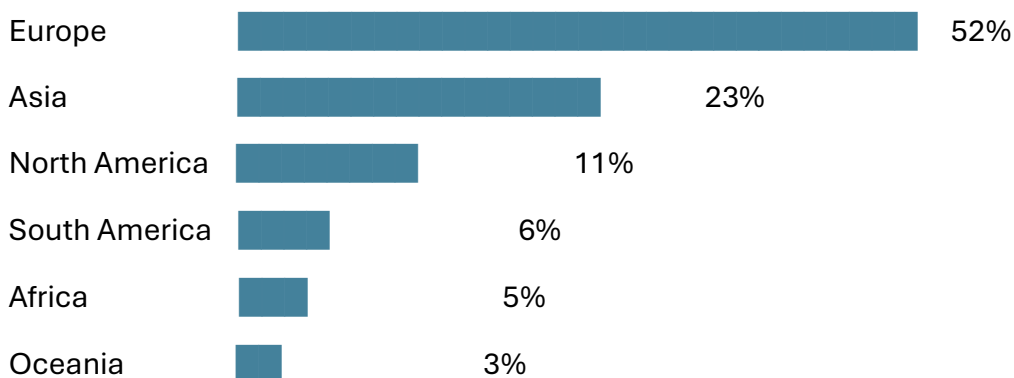
These Spotlights personified ISAPA 2025's belief that evidence and empathy must move together, that inclusive sport and physical activity thrive when industry, research, and lived experience meet on equal ground.



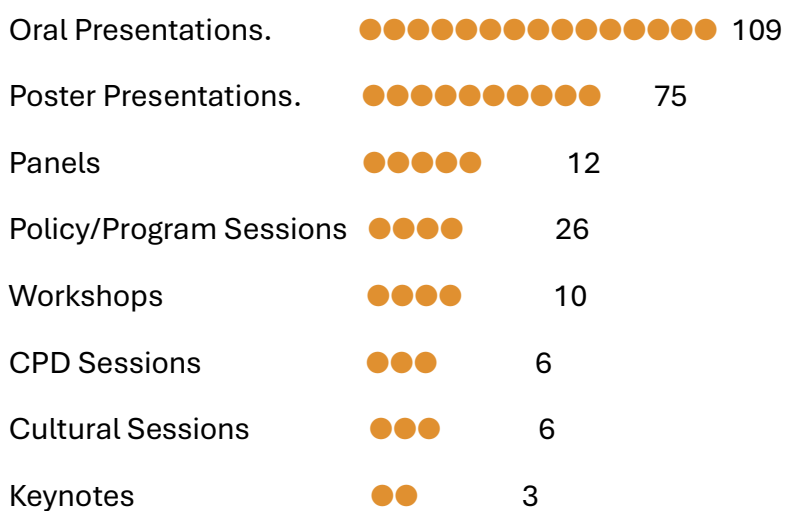
A woman with brown hair tied back, wearing a yellow t-shirt and a lanyard with a badge, is speaking into a microphone. She is seated in a large audience of diverse people. To her left, a man with a beard and a blue shirt is looking towards her. To her right, a woman in a pink shirt with 'VOLUNTEER' and the number '10' on the back is visible. The background shows other audience members seated in red chairs.

ISAPA 2025 by Numbers

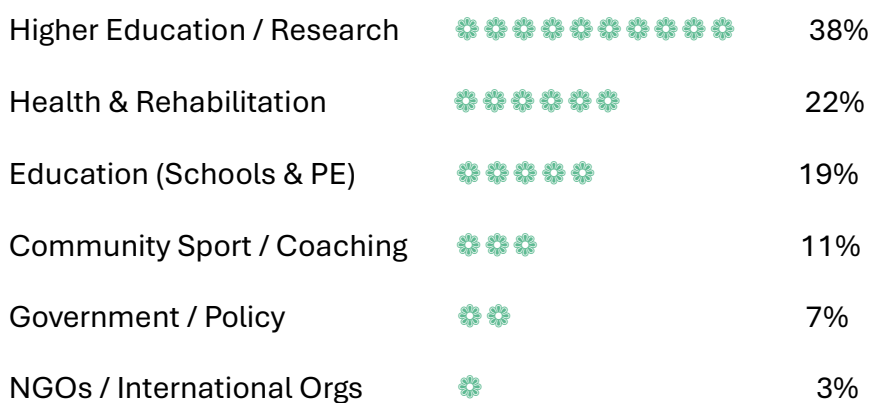
ISAPA 2025 Participation by World Region



ISAPA 2025 Programme Structure



Delegate Professional Backgrounds at ISAPA 2025





KEYNOTES

ISAPA 2025



Dr. Robert Steadward

G. Lawrence Rarick Memorial Lecture

Dr Robert Steadward is one of Canada's most distinguished figures in sport, education, and advocacy for people with disabilities. As the Founding President of the International Paralympic Committee (IPC) and Honorary Life Member of both the IPC and the Canadian Olympic Committee, he has played a pivotal role in advancing inclusive sport globally. A former member of the International Olympic Committee and President of the Canadian Paralympic Committee, he is also a celebrated sport scientist, educator, and consultant. Dr Steadward founded The Steadward Centre at the University of Alberta, an internationally recognised facility promoting sport, fitness, and research for people with disabilities. He contributed to the establishment of NAFAPA and held senior roles in organising numerous major international sporting events, including the 1978 Commonwealth Games, 1983 World University Games, 2001 World Championships in Athletics, 2005 World Masters Games, and the 2010 Olympic and Paralympic Winter Games bid. His legacy is one of transformative impact on adaptive sport, inclusive fitness, and international sport development.

We are very grateful to Dr Steadward for recording his keynote presentation for this publication. It is available [here](#).



Professor Cindy Sit

President of IFAPA. State of the Regions Address & Panel

Professor Cindy Sit is a Professor in the Department of Sports Science and Physical Education at The Chinese University of Hong Kong. She is the President of the International Federation of Adapted Physical Activity (IFAPA), Honorary Advisor of the Asian Society for Adapted Physical Education and Exercise (ASAPE) and Founding President of the Society for Adapted Physical Activity of Hong Kong, China (HKSAPA). Her research focuses on physical activity and sedentary behaviour in children with special educational needs and disabilities (SEND), as well as adapted physical activity interventions for health promotion. She serves on several editorial boards and has published over 150 scientific papers in the field. Cindy is dedicated to promoting physical and mental health and fostering social inclusion through adapted physical activity and sports for children and adolescents with SEND.

Professor Sit was joined by panellists from across the globe including: **Africa**

Dr. Peter Bukhala, Kenya **Asia** Dr. Jooyeon Jin, South Korea **Europe** Dr. Sean Healy, Ireland **Middle East** Dr Samir H. Qasim, Jordan **North America** Dr Andrew Pitchford, USA **Oceania** Dr Tracey Lee Dalton, New Zealand, **South & Central America** Dr Mey van Munster.



Patrick Stolpmann and Guests Discuss

Global Gaps in Inclusive Physical Education: Time for Real Change

Patrick Stolpmann (Germany) Executive Director, ICSSPE. A leading advocate for Diversity & Inclusion, Patrick brings decades of global experience from the Paralympic Movement and sport policy, offering a sharp lens on systemic change. This thought-provoking discussion raised the question that despite the promises of the UN Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (CRPD) and the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), inclusive physical education (PE) remains more aspiration than action in many parts of the world. Too often, students with disabilities are

sidelined due to lack of training, inclusive curricula, and accessible environments. The urgent and timely panel brought together global thought leaders who moved beyond rhetoric to put forward practical solutions and concrete steps toward achieving inclusive PE as a universal standard.

Panellists

Prof. Dr. Gudrun Doll-Teppe (Germany) Freie Universität Berlin. **Prof. Dr. Omar Hindawi** (Jordan) Jordan Paralympic Committee. **Prof. Tomoyasu Yasui** (Japan) Hokkaido University of Education. **Liesel Gouws** (South Africa) International para-athlete and motivational speaker.



Jason Smyth

*Paralympian and Dancing with the Stars Winner:
from Podium to Policy*

Jason Smyth is one of Ireland's most decorated sports stars with 21 gold medals in the 100m and 200m within Paralympic sport. He is the fastest Paralympian in history. A leader in advocating for disability inclusion, Jason has used his platform to challenge societal perceptions and drive systemic change both within and beyond sport, including winning Dancing with the Stars in 2024.

He is also a strategy manager at Paralympics Ireland, where he focuses on the wider impact and the long-term development of the Paralympic movement.

Jason's advisory work includes consulting on inclusive accessibility projects and collaborating with technology companies to improve sport accessibility for people with visual impairments through innovative solutions. He is also heavily involved in board work that influences policies related to adaptive physical activity, contributing to the development of inclusive sports and governance structures. In addition to his work as a leader and advocate, Jason is a sought-after motivational speaker, sharing his experiences to inspire change and empower individuals and organisations to embrace inclusion, adaptability and excellence.

ISAPA: Shaping Standards Globally

The UNESCO Consultation on Global Policy Standards for Inclusive, Equitable and Safe Sport and Physical Education, held at ISAPA 2025, represented a landmark moment for both the global APA community and the international policy landscape. Convened under UNESCO's mandate as the United Nations' lead agency for physical education and sport, this was the first global consultation on the standards, significantly, not in a capital city or major international hub, but in rural Ireland, on the MTU Kerry Campus.

The consultation opened with contributions from H.E. Ms. Larysa Gerasko, Ambassador of Ukraine to Ireland, and H.E. David Donoghue, former Ambassador of Ireland to the United Nations, whose reflections on diplomacy, rights-based policy, and international cooperation underscored the global importance of the work being undertaken. Their presence signalled that the development of these standards is not only a technical exercise, but part of a broader effort to advance equity, protection, and human dignity worldwide.

ISAPA's 50-year legacy of research excellence, cross-sector partnership, and lived-experience engagement provided an ideal environment for shaping global policy. ISAPA 2025 brought together a uniquely diverse assembly of researchers, policymakers, educators, practitioners, athletes, international federations, National Paralympic Committees, civil society groups, private-sector innovators, and disability advocates. This ensured that the consultation was genuinely multistakeholder, inclusive, and grounded in practical realities. As UNESCO emphasised, this process was about co-creating them with those who will apply, teach, implement, and be protected by them.



The presence of senior national leaders, including the Minister for Children, Disability and Equality, Norma Foley T.D., and Dr Úna May, Chief Executive of Sport Ireland, further underscored Ireland's commitment to advancing global inclusion. Both leaders highlighted the significance of beginning this global policy process in Kerry, a place known for community, culture, and collaboration, and recognised MTU's longstanding leadership in inclusion, disability rights, and the strengthening of sport systems worldwide.

The consultation was also a testament to the collaborative strengths of IFAPA and the IMSVI, whose five decades of scientific leadership enriched the process with evidence, experience, and global networks. By enabling ISAPA delegates to directly inform UNESCO's normative work the process offered a powerful opportunity for researchers, practitioners, and advocates to influence international policy at the point of creation. ISAPA 2025 became a catalyst for global system change, empowering delegates to shape a set of standards that will guide UNESCO Member States in the coming years. The work begun in Kerry will continue toward global endorsement at MINEPS VIII, marking ISAPA 2025 as a formative step in shaping the future of sport, physical education, and disability inclusion worldwide.



UNESCO Consultation on Global Policy Standards on Inclusive, Equitable and Safe Sport

UNESCO's longstanding mandate in sport centres on the protection and promotion of sport for all, recognising the fundamental right to access sport and physical education (PE) without discrimination, as affirmed in the International Charter of Physical Education, Physical Activity and Sport (PEPAS Charter).

Building on the global significance described above, this section outlines the consultation process, participation, and key themes that emerged from the day.

This in-person consultation on UNESCO's draft Global Policy Standards for Inclusive, Equitable, and Safe Sport and Physical Education (PE) was convened on 19 June 2025 in Kerry, Ireland, during the International Symposium of Adapted Physical Activity and the International Symposium on Physical Activity and Visual Impairment or Deafblindness. The aim of the session was to collect high-level feedback on the draft standards, with a particular focus on disability inclusion. Approximately 50 participants took part, including academics and individual experts, Member State delegates, athletes, and representatives from civil society, sporting bodies, the private sector, and the Paralympic Movement.

Participants were organized into six thematic groups: Member States, academia (sport and physical activity), academia (PE, health and wellbeing), National Paralympic Committees (NPCs) and athletes, data and impact experts, and private sector representatives. While the majority were academics, policymakers and sport governing officials were also present. Participants represented a wide geographical spread, including representatives from the Global North, Asia, the Middle East, Africa, and Latin America. The consultation was conducted in English.





The in-person consultation was structured as follows: Participants were first given 20 minutes to individually review the draft standards. This was followed by 60 minutes of structured group discussions, led by facilitators and documented by note-takers. Facilitators used a template with open-ended questions to guide the discussions, focusing on clarity and relevance, scope and cohesion, implementation and impact, and feasibility. Finally, all groups reconvened in plenary, where each group reported back on its main points.

Overall, the consultation showed broad support for the draft framework of the Global Policy Standards, which was viewed as a comprehensive and valuable tool to advance disability inclusion in sport and PE. There was agreement on the need for explicit articulation of stakeholder responsibilities and practical guidance to support implementation. Many noted that capacity-building resources for Member States would be as crucial as the standards themselves in ensuring their effective uptake and impact.

All this work is geared toward presenting the Global Policy Standards for endorsement by Ministers and Senior Officials Responsible for Physical Education and Sport at UNESCO's Global Sports Conference – MINEPS VIII.



IFAPA - Special Olympics International Memorandum of Understanding Signing Ceremony

Kerry Sports Academy, Munster Technological University

18th June 2025

The International Symposium of Adapted Physical Activity (ISAPA 2025) hosted a significant milestone on 18 June 2025 with the formal signing of a renewed Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between the International Federation of Adapted Physical Activity (IFAPA) and Special Olympics International (SOI). Held in the Kerry Sports Academy at Munster Technological University, the ceremony reflected the Symposium's theme Shifting the Dial – From Awareness to Transformation and reinforced a shared commitment to advancing global inclusion through research, practice, and partnership.

A Shared Declaration of Purpose

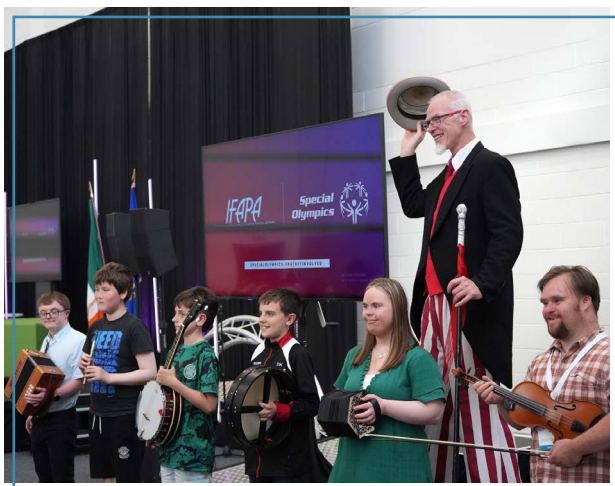
The ceremony was opened by Master of Ceremonies Gwendolyn Apgar, Senior Manager at SOI, who welcomed delegates and framed the signing as a strengthening of long-standing collaboration between the two organisations.

In her keynote address, Professor Cindy Sit, President of IFAPA, emphasised that the renewed MOU builds on the foundation established in 2022 and reaffirmed the alignment of IFAPA and SOI in translating scientific evidence into action. She highlighted the opportunities the MOU creates for collaborative research, co-designed initiatives, knowledge exchange, and the integration of lived experience into global programme development.

Representing Special Olympics International, Andy Lincoln, Vice President of Health Research and Evaluation, outlined SOI's commitment to deepening its research partnerships and strengthening the evidence base underpinning health, fitness, and sport programming for people with intellectual disabilities worldwide. He noted the scale of Special Olympics' existing data and the importance of academic collaboration in generating meaningful, inclusive, and actionable insights.

A Ceremony Rooted in Culture and Inclusion

The ceremony was enriched by performances from Comhaltas Ceoltóirí Éireann musicians with disabilities from Kerry, whose music created an atmosphere of celebration and community. Disability advocate and artist Fionn Crombie Angus joined on fiddle, adding spontaneity and joy to the event.



A powerful contribution came from Margaret Turley, a Special Olympics athlete and Sargent Shriver Global Messenger. Speaking from her perspective as both an athlete and a leader, Margaret reaffirmed the essential principle guiding the partnership: "Nothing about us without us." Her message underscored the centrality of lived experience in shaping the future of inclusive sport and research.



Commitment to Global Collaboration

The renewed MOU formalises a broad set of shared goals, including:

- Expanded collaboration in research and evaluation
- Co-hosted workshops, seminars, and professional development
- Increased data-sharing to strengthen global evidence
- Inclusive research design involving athletes and families
- Coordination between IFAPA regions and SOI global programmes
- Advocacy for equity, participation, and rights-based sport
- Joint exploration of innovation and funding opportunities

The agreement positions both organisations to influence global systems change, connecting academic research with community-led programming in more than 200 Special Olympics programmes worldwide.

A Moment Captured in Community

The atmosphere of the signing, kindly captured in video by Ken Black of the Inclusion Club and Niamh Nelson, Special Olympics Manager of Storytelling Activation and Sports Communication, reflected the unity, purpose, and optimism of the global APA community gathered in Kerry.

Delegates described the ceremony as symbolic of a new era of coordinated action across research, practice, policy, and lived experience. **Video link:** <https://youtu.be/H4sIsWKsRSk>

Additional footage: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=uv_zAioWPz4

Looking Ahead

The IFAPA–SOI MOU signing at ISAPA 2025 stands as a defining legacy of the Symposium. It exemplifies the belief that when global organisations work together, grounded in evidence, culture, leadership, and lived experience, transformational change becomes possible. The partnership now moves forward with a renewed sense of purpose and a shared promise to advance inclusion through sport and physical activity worldwide.

PART TWO

ABSTRACTS



MONDAY JUNE 16TH

10:00AM	<p>Connecting Policy with Practice: How the Dutch Ministry of Sport Builds Inclusive and Sustainable Communities</p> <p>Biko Blommestein, Knowledge centre of Sport and Physical Activity Lisa Snooy, Gehandicaptensport Nederland</p> <p>10:00 AM - 11:30 AM</p>
10:00AM	<p>Design and validation of a questionnaire to measure students 'perception of inclusive hiking'</p> <p>Clara Climent Oltra, Catholic University of Valencia Héctor Esteve Ibáñez, Catholic University of Valencia Lidia Ramos López, Catholic University of Valencia Francisco De Asís Martínez Manchón, Catholic University of Valencia Laura Jiménez Monteagudo, Catholic University of Valencia</p> <p>10:00 AM - 11:30 AM</p>
10:00AM	<p>Disability Studies on a Global Landscape: Pedagogical Study Abroad Experiences</p> <p>Brenda Rossow-Kimball, University of Regina Faculty of Kinesiology & Health Studies Doug Cripps, University of Regina Faculty of Kinesiology & Health Studies</p> <p>10:00 AM - 11:30 AM</p>
10:00AM	<p>Enhancing Movement: Fundamental Movement Skills in Foundation Phase Children with Visual Impairments in a South African Community</p> <p>Candace Vermaak, Stellenbosch University Catherine De Wet</p> <p>10:00 AM - 11:30 AM</p>
10:00AM	<p>"I didn't think I qualified": Adult wheelchair basketball players' journey to and experience in the sport.</p> <p>Steven K. Holland, Norwegian University of Science and Technology Katherine Holland, Norwegian University of Science and Technology Cathy McKay, James Madison University</p> <p>10:00 AM - 11:30 AM</p>
10:00AM	<p>Inclusive Physical and Sports Education as a Prerequisite for a Healthy Society (Czech-Slovak Corossborder Cooperation)</p> <p>Martin Kudláček, Palacky University, Olomouc Ondřej Ješina, Palacky University Tomáš Vyhřídál, Palacky University Dušana Augustovičová, Comenius University in Bratislava Stanislav Kraček, Comenius University in Bratislava Dagmar Němček, Comenius University in Bratislava</p> <p>10:00 AM - 11:30 AM</p>
10:00AM	<p>Inclusivising Our World: Co-designing an Inclusive Play Space in the Crann Centre, Cork, Ireland</p> <p>Alice Moore, Crann Centre</p> <p>10:00 AM - 11:30 AM</p>

MONDAY JUNE 16TH

10:00AM	<p>Inclusivizing Campus Recreation: Addressing Accessibility Barriers for College Students with Disabilities</p> <p>Kayla Abrahamson, Old Dominion University Samantha Ross-Cypcar, University of Utah</p> <p>10:00 AM - 11:30 AM</p>
10:00AM	<p>Making the case for using mobile technology to facilitate inclusion in outdoor physical activity for those who live with disabilities</p> <p>TA Loeffler PhD, Memorial University of Newfoundland</p> <p>10:00 AM - 11:30 AM</p>
10:00AM	<p>Practical Strategies for Children and Adults who are Deafblind to Access Physical Activities</p> <p>Deirdre J. Leech, Anne Sullivan Foundation Sorcha Nallen, Anne Sullivan Foundation</p> <p>10:00 AM - 11:30 AM</p>
10:00AM	<p>Preliminary convergent and known-groups validity evidence for scores from various executive function tasks in US adolescents with visual impairment</p> <p>Adam Pennell, Pepperdine University Alexandra Stribing, Kean University Peter Rifenburg, University of South Carolina Andrea Taliaferro, University of South Carolina Pamela Beach, Rochester Institute of Technology Lauren Lieberman, State University of New York College at Brockport Ali Brian, University of South Carolina</p> <p>10:00 AM - 11:30 AM</p>
10:00AM	<p>Redeveloping for accessibility: Applying design thinking approach to create a card game for people with visual impairment</p> <p>Rosa Aysegul Aksoy, University of Sirnak</p> <p>10:00 AM - 11:30 AM</p>
10:00AM	<p>Sleep and Physical Activity in Youth with Visual Impairments Pamela Beach, Rochester Institute of Technology</p> <p>Jack Peltz, SUNY Brockport Marlee Pontello, SUNY Brockport Ali Brian, University of South Carolina Sarah Decker, SUNY Brockport Lauren Lieberman, SUNY Brockport Andrea Taliaferro, University of South Carolina Adam Pennell, Pepperdine University</p> <p>10:00 AM - 11:30 AM</p>

MONDAY JUNE 16TH

10:00AM	<p>The Exploration of an Orientation and Mobility Internship Program at a Summer Sports Camp for Children who are Visually Impaired</p> <p>Benjamin Lytle, University of Nebraska - Lincoln Katie Ericson, University of Nebraska - Lincoln Lauren Lieberman, State University of New York College at Brockport Pamela Beach, Rochester Institute of Technology Amy Parker, Portland State University</p> <p>10:00 AM - 11:30 AM</p>
3:30PM	<p>Advancing Inclusion and Wellbeing: The Hauora (Wellbeing) Inclusion Initiative in New Zealand</p> <p>Tracey-Lee Dalton Dr, University of Auckland and Sport New Zealand</p> <p>3:30 PM - 5:00 PM</p>
3:30PM	<p>Bridging Science and Sports: The Role of Paralympic Science Support NL in creating a sustainable community</p> <p>Eline Blaauw, Knowledge Centre for Sport & Physical Activity</p> <p>3:30 PM - 5:00 PM</p>
3:30PM	<p>Calgary Adapted Hub Powered by Jumpstart</p> <p>David Legg, Mount Royal University Cheri Bradish Dr., Toronto Metropolitan University Marco DiBuono Dr., Jumpstart</p> <p>3:30 PM - 5:00 PM</p>
3:30PM	<p>Co-production of a Mixed Abilities Physical Education Curriculum for Youth with Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities and varying Intersectional Identities</p> <p>Thi Nancy Huynh, University of Toronto Rebecca Bassett-Gunter, York University Michael Atkinson, University of Toronto Kelly Arbour-Nicitopoulos, University of Toronto, Faculty of Kinesiology and Physical Education, Toronto, Ontario, Canada</p> <p>3:30 PM - 5:00 PM</p>
3:30PM	<p>Device-based methods for monitoring physical activity in children and adolescents with disabilities</p> <p>Piritta Asunta, Jamk University of Applied Sciences, School of Health and Social Studies, Likes, Finland Janne Kulmala, Jamk University of Applied Sciences, School of Health and Social Studies, Likes, Finland Tuomas Kukko, Jamk University of Applied Sciences, School of Health and Social Studies, Likes, Finland Harto Hakonen, Jamk University of Applied Sciences, School of Health and Social Studies, Likes, Finland Tuija Tammelin, Jamk University of Applied Sciences, School of Health and Social Studies, Likes, Finland Kati Karinharju, Satakunta University of Applied Sciences, Pori, Finland</p> <p>3:30 PM - 5:00 PM</p>

MONDAY JUNE 16TH

3:30PM	<p>Golf a Game Changer as Therapeutic Recreation for ASD</p> <p>Edel Randles, Munster Technological University Adrian Whitehead, Castlegregory Golf Club Mike Keane, Castlegregory Golf Club Erin Lozott, Els for Autism Foundation</p> <p>3:30 PM - 5:00 PM</p>
3:30PM	<p>Inclusive active courtyards</p> <p>Anna Fillat, University of Lleida</p> <p>3:30 PM - 5:00 PM</p>
3:30PM	<p>Inclusive hiking project with Joëlette chair in the educational environment</p> <p>Laura Jimenez-Monteagudo Clara Climent Oltra, Catholic University of Valencia Marta Martin Rodríguez, Catholic University of Valencia Héctor Esteve Ibáñez, Catholic University of Valencia</p> <p>3:30 PM - 5:00 PM</p>
3:30PM	<p>Knowledge based multidisciplinary testing of assistive devices for activities in a rehabilitation context</p> <p>Tor Erik Nyquist, Beitostølen Healthsport Center Viljar Aasan Mr</p> <p>3:30 PM - 5:00 PM</p>
3:30PM	<p>Mamanet: An Intervention Program to Promote Health Among Women Aged 21–53 with Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities</p> <p>Sharon Barak Dr., Ariel University, Faculty of Health Sciences, Department of Nursing, Israel Riki Tesler Prof., Ariel University, School of Health Sciences. Department of Health Systems Management. Israel</p> <p>3:30 PM - 5:00 PM</p>
3:30PM	<p>Move as You Are: Promoting Inclusion of Children with Visual Impairments through Sports</p> <p>Giulia Chiara Castiglioni, Real Eyes Sport ASD Sofia Del Governatore, Real Eyes Sport ASD</p> <p>3:30 PM - 5:00 PM</p>
3:30PM	<p>Paralympics Ireland NextGen community series</p> <p>Cliona Horan Ms, Paralympics Ireland</p> <p>3:30 PM - 5:00 PM</p>
3:30PM	<p>Policy Advocacy in Sport and Society</p> <p>Alana Richardson, German Sport University Sally-Ann Jennifer Fischer, German Sport University</p> <p>3:30 PM - 5:00 PM</p>

MONDAY JUNE 16TH

3:30PM	<p>Reducing inequality in high school sports - authentic sport participation through Friday Night Prime Time an inclusive interscholastic athletic program</p> <p>Nathan Murata, University of Hawaii at Manoa Allison Tsuchida, University of Hawaii at Manoa John Solomon, University of Hawaii at Manoa Kiera Glodowski, University of Hawaii at Manoa</p> <p>3:30 PM - 5:00 PM</p>
3:30PM	<p>Research to Practice: An Opportunity to Support Teachers Further with Inclusion in Physical Education</p> <p>Susan Marron, Dublin City University</p> <p>3:30 PM - 5:00 PM</p>
3:30PM	<p>Special Olympics Healthy Athletes Screenings: Using A Universal Design for Learning in the Health Promotion Discipline</p> <p>Franziska Loetzner, Oregon State University Leah R. Ketcheson, Wayne State University Andrew Pitchford, Oregon State University</p> <p>3:30 PM - 5:00 PM</p>
3:30PM	<p>Teaching Physical Education (PE) to Students With Learning Difficulties From the Perspective of Non-Specialist Teachers</p> <p>Laura Kummert, Centre for Sports and Physical Education, University of Wuerzburg Matthias Zimlich, Centre for Sports and Physical Education, University of Wuerzburg</p> <p>3:30 PM - 5:00 PM</p>
3:30PM	<p>The Paralympic Pathway: Evolution of Participation for Athletes with Intellectual Impairments in the Paralympic Games since 2012</p> <p>Debbie Van Biesen, Katholieke Universiteit Leuven Roi Charles Pineda, KU Leuven Jan Burns, Virtus</p> <p>3:30 PM - 5:00 PM</p>
5:00PM	<p>Experience of Superhumans Center in Rehabilitation and Prosthetics for Patients with Limb Amputations Due to Combat Injuries</p> <p>Andrii Vilenskyi, Superhumans Center</p> <p>5:00 PM - 5:30 PM</p>

TUESDAY JUNE 17TH

9:00AM	<p>A case-study on measurement of motor competence and health-related fitness in children with a vision impairment in Ireland.</p> <p>Úna Britton Dr, Dublin City University Stephen Behan, Dublin City University</p> <p>9:00 AM - 10:30 AM</p>
9:00AM	<p>Alignment of Disability Simulations with Intended Learning Outcomes for Pre-service Physical Education Teachers</p> <p>Amelia C. Simpson, California Polytechnic State University, Pomona Samantha Ross-Cypcar, University of Utah Abby Fines, University of Virginia Xiaoxia Zhang, West Virginia University</p> <p>9:00 AM - 10:30 AM</p>
9:00AM	<p>Barriers and Facilitators of Physical Activity Participation among Children with Visual Impairments in the Middle East</p> <p>Samir Qasim, Yarmouk University Omar Hindawi, The Hashemite University Amr Saad, Mansoura University</p> <p>9:00 AM - 10:30 AM</p>
9:00AM	<p>Class-Wide Peer Tutoring: Insights from the Same Class-Context Through Perspectives of Pre-Service Teachers, Typically Developing Students, Students with Down Syndrome</p> <p>An Van de Putte, Gent University Matthieu Lenoir, Ghent University Hilde Van Keer, Ghent University Geert Van Hove, Ghent University Elisabeth De Schauwer, Ghent University</p> <p>9:00 AM - 10:30 AM</p>
9:00AM	<p>Demographic Factors Influencing Parental Support for Physical Activity in Children with Autism Spectrum Disorder in Saudi Arabia</p> <p>Majed M. Alhumaid, King Faisal University Tânia Bastos, University of Porto</p> <p>9:00 AM - 10:30 AM</p>
9:00AM	<p>Effects of a structured exercise intervention incorporating behavioral interventions on children with ADHD: a randomized controlled pilot study</p> <p>Meiyuan Chen, University of Science and Technology of China Xiaozan Wang, College of Physical Education & Health, East China Normal University Guifeng Xu, Department of Pediatrics, The First Affiliated Hospital of University of Science and Technology of China Fang Liu, Qingdao Yongping Road Primary School</p> <p>9:00 AM - 10:30 AM</p>

TUESDAY JUNE 17TH

9:00AM	<p>Enhancing Physical Activity Participation for Students with Visual Impairments through Smart Sport Assistance Systems</p> <p>Philipp Kornfeind, University of Vienna, Department of Sport and Human Movement Science Arnold Baca, University of Vienna, Department of Sport and Human Movement Science</p> <p>9:00 AM - 10:30 AM</p>
9:00AM	<p>Exploring a system of able-bodied privilege that creates and maintains barriers to disability inclusion.</p> <p>Lynn Kilpatrick, Sport Canterbury / The University of Waikato</p> <p>9:00 AM - 10:30 AM</p>
9:00AM	<p>Exploring Grappling Sports Participation among Visually Impaired Athletes: A Qualitative Study</p> <p>Jaepyo Sim, University of Georgia T N Kirk, University of Georgia</p> <p>9:00 AM - 10:30 AM</p>
9:00AM	<p>Feasibility and Usability Testing of 'MoveMuse', an AI Chatbot to deliver a Brief Physical Activity intervention for Autistic College Students</p> <p>Gary Rodgers, University of Limerick Mary Rose Sweeney, Royal College of Surgeons in Ireland Anthony Staines, Dublin City University Debbie van Biesen, KU Leuven Natalia Morgulec-Adamowicz, Józef Piłsudski University of Physical Education in Warsaw Anna Ogonowska-Słodownik, Józef Piłsudski University of Physical Education in Warsaw Sean Healy, University of Limerick</p> <p>9:00 AM - 10:30 AM</p>
9:00AM	<p>From Soldiering On to Rebirth and Resilience: How Disability Sport Reconceptualises Recovery Among Injured and Ill Military Veterans their Families</p> <p>Emma V. Richardson, University of Worcester Gyozo Molnar, University of Worcester Don Vinson, University of Worcester</p> <p>9:00 AM - 10:30 AM</p>
9:00AM	<p>How do we get a[head] of the game?: An examination of disability sport staff understandings of quality sport and athlete mental health in disability sport and an exploration of disability sport staff preferences for a mental health educational resource in disability sport</p> <p>Roxy H. O'Rourke, University of Toronto Catherine M. Sabiston, University of Toronto Andrea Bundon, University of British Columbia Kelly P. Arbour-Nicitopoulos, University of Toronto</p> <p>9:00 AM - 10:30 AM</p>

TUESDAY JUNE 17TH

9:00AM	<p>Inclusion of Students with Intellectual Disabilities in Mainstream PE, PA, and Sports</p> <p>Amanda Farrugia, University of Birmingham Andrew Soundy, University of Birmingham</p> <p>9:00 AM - 10:30 AM</p>
9:00AM	<p>Influence of Physical Educator's Teaching Competency on Physical Activity Levels of Adolescents with/without a Developmental Disability in Physical Education Settings</p> <p>Young Rok Oh, University of Seoul Jooyeon Jin, University of Seoul</p> <p>9:00 AM - 10:30 AM</p>
9:00AM	<p>Motor competence assessment tool for children with visual impairment - - Proposal for validation</p> <p>Carla Lourenço Dinis Figueiredo, Cerebral Palsy Association of Viseu</p> <p>9:00 AM - 10:30 AM</p>
9:00AM	<p>Parental Perceptions of Teaching Competence of Children with and without CHARGE Syndrome</p> <p>Melanie Perreault, State University of New York College at Brockport Pamela Beach, Rochester Institute of Technology Lauren Lieberman, State University of New York College at Brockport</p> <p>9:00 AM - 10:30 AM</p>
9:00AM	<p>Physical education teaching program according the universal design for learning principles: accessibility for students with disabilities</p> <p>Mey van Munster, UFSCar Aline Basso-Braz, UFSCar</p> <p>9:00 AM - 10:30 AM</p>
9:00AM	<p>Physical Educators' Self-Efficacy to Teach Students with Disabilities Across Instructional Placements</p> <p>Lindsey Nowland, California State University - San Bernardino Justin Haegele, Old Dominion University</p> <p>9:00 AM - 10:30 AM</p>
9:00AM	<p>Quality of Participation in Sports Programs of Special Olympics Korea</p> <p>Soomin Lee, University of Seoul Jooyeon Jin, University of Seoul</p> <p>9:00 AM - 10:30 AM</p>
9:00AM	<p>The Effect of Disability Education among College Students' Attitudes and Perceptions of People with Disabilities in Society</p> <p>Allison J. Jackson, Samford University Mallory Marshall, Samford University</p> <p>9:00 AM - 10:30 AM</p>

TUESDAY JUNE 17TH

9:00AM	<p>The right to use leisure time for physical activities and sport in families with children with disabilities: parental burnout syndrome</p> <p>Julie Wittmannová, Faculty of Physical Culture, Palacký University Olomouc, Renáta Kratochvílová, Faculty of Physical Culture, Palacký University Olomouc</p> <p>9:00 AM - 10:30 AM</p>
9:00AM	<p>Unhearing and unheard: Emancipating the voices of individuals with hearing impairments toward equity in opportunities for sport participation</p> <p>Roi Charles Pineda, G-sport Vlaanderen Silke De Waelle</p> <p>9:00 AM - 10:30 AM</p>
9:00AM	<p>Universal Design for Learning to Applied to Physical Education</p> <p>Carla Lourenço Omar BEN RAKAA, Hassan II University of Casablanca</p> <p>9:00 AM - 10:30 AM</p>
12:30PM	<p>A Scoping Review of Aquatic Therapy for Children and Adolescents with Disabilities</p> <p>Natalia Morgulec-Adamowicz, Faculty of Rehabilitation, Jozef Pilsudski University of Physical Education in Warsaw; Disability Resource Center, University of Arizona Oliwia Jakobowicz, Faculty of Rehabilitation, Jozef Pilsudski University of Physical Education in Warsaw Lyndsay Alexander, Scottish Centre for Evidence-Based, Multi-Professional Practice: A JBI Centre of Excellence Andresa Marinho-Buzelli, St. John's Rehab Research Program, Sunnybrook Research Institute Catherine Devion, Library Services, Sunnybrook Health Sciences Centre Anna Ogonowska-Slodownik, Faculty of Rehabilitation, Jozef Pilsudski University of Physical Education in Warsaw; KITE Research Institute, Toronto Rehabilitation Institute—University Health Network, Toronto</p> <p>12:30 PM - 2:00 PM</p>
12:30PM	<p>A Single Subject Study on the Improvement of Depressive Emotions in Junior High School Students through Exercise Intervention</p> <p>Xinyue Mao, Shenzhen Longgang Foreign Language School Chuanfu Xiong, Shenzhen Longgang Foreign Language School Mengxiao Shen, Shenzhen Longgang Foreign Language School Pengcheng Li, Shenzhen Longgang Foreign Language School Yue Che, Shenzhen Longgang Foreign Language School Yuanzhen Huang, Shenzhen Longgang Foreign Language School Zichao Chen, Shenzhen Longgang Foreign Language School</p> <p>12:30 PM - 2:00 PM</p>
12:30PM	<p>A Systematic Review of Gymnastics-Based Interventions on Motor Skills in Children with Intellectual Disabilities</p> <p>Madeline Gose, Texas Christian University Phil Esposito, Texas Christian University</p> <p>12:30 PM - 2:00 PM</p>

TUESDAY JUNE 17TH

12:30PM	<p>Accessibility on trails and the experience of nature from the perspective of people with physical disabilities</p> <p>Mey van Munster, UFSCar Gustavo Almeida Silva, UFSCar</p> <p>12:30 PM - 2:00 PM</p>
12:30PM	<p>Accessing Physical Activity: Perspectives of Blind and Visually Impaired Emerging Adults</p> <p>T N “Nicole” Kirk, University of Georgia</p> <p>12:30 PM - 2:00 PM</p>
12:30PM	<p>Amplifying the Voices of Students with Disabilities in Integrated Physical Education</p> <p>Cathy McKay, James Madison University Maria Damewood, Mary Baldwin University</p> <p>12:30 PM - 2:00 PM</p>
12:30PM	<p>Analysis of Brain Activity during Game-Based Aerobic Exercise in Individuals with Spinal Cord Injury</p> <p>Kiara S. Todd, California State University, Northridge Edith Arrieta, California State University, Northridge Fatima Elias, California State University, Northridge Diana Vela, California State University, Northridge Taeyou Jung PhD, California State University, Northridge</p> <p>12:30 PM - 2:00 PM</p>
12:30PM	<p>Analysis of Brain Activity during Walking on Soft Uneven Surface among Individuals Post-Stroke</p> <p>Jongmin Lee, University of Iowa Kiara Todd, California State University, Northridge Mai Narasaki-Jara, California State Polytechnic University - Pomona Youngok Jung, California State University, Long Beach Brenda Meza, California State University, Northridge Taeyou Jung, California State University, Northridge</p> <p>12:30 PM - 2:00 PM</p>
12:30PM	<p>Analysis of Energy Expenditure during Game-based Aerobic Exercise among Individuals with Spinal Cord Injury</p> <p>Jordan J. Arteaga, California State University, Northridge Remy J. Ortega, California State University, Northridge Elvin O. Garcia, California State University, Northridge Jesus D. Aguilar, California State University, Northridge Taeyou Jung PhD, California State University, Northridge Ethan Palache, California State University, Northridge</p> <p>12:30 PM - 2:00 PM</p>

TUESDAY JUNE 17TH

12:30PM	<p>Assessment of Para Table Tennis Classification: From the Technological Approach to Examine the Fairness of Classification</p> <p>Sheng Wu Prof, National Taiwan University of Sport Yung-Hoh Sheu Prof, National Formosa University</p> <p>12:30 PM - 2:00 PM</p>
12:30PM	<p>Attitudes of Saudi Students toward the Inclusion of Students with Disabilities in Physical Education Classes</p> <p>Zuhair Abdaladeem Al Salim, University of Hafr Al Batin</p> <p>12:30 PM - 2:00 PM</p>
12:30PM	<p>Beliefs and Experiences of Latina Mothers of Individuals with Developmental Disabilities toward Dance as Physical Activity: A Qualitative Study</p> <p>Nicole M. Montanez-Alicea, University of Wisconsin-Madison Luis Columna PhD, University of Wisconsin-Madison</p> <p>12:30 PM - 2:00 PM</p>
12:30PM	<p>Camp Abilities Brazil: accessibility and inclusion of people with visual impairment</p> <p>Maria Luiza Tanure Alves, Universidade Estadual de Campinas Mey van Munster, UFSCar Joslei Viana Souza, Universidade Estadual de Santa Cruz José Júlio Gavião de Almeida, Universidade Estadual de Campinas</p> <p>12:30 PM - 2:00 PM</p>
12:30PM	<p>Evaluating the level of assistance needed for daily activities in children with spinal muscular atrophy</p> <p>Huan Richard Xu, Hong Kong Polytechnic University</p> <p>12:30 PM - 2:00 PM</p>
12:30PM	<p>Exercise Intervention and Attention Improvement in a Child with ADHD: A Case Study</p> <p>Zicheng Wang, College of Physical Education & Health, East China Normal University Xinyue Mao, Shenzhen Longgang Foreign Language School Meiyuan Chen, Institute of Public Health, Division of LifeSciences and Medicine, University of Science and Technology of China Xiaozan Wang, College of Physical Education & Health, East China Normal University</p> <p>12:30 PM - 2:00 PM</p>

TUESDAY JUNE 17TH

12:30PM	<p>Exploring Leisure Activity Interest, Participation, and Satisfaction in Visually Impaired Adults</p> <p>Kathryn E. Creveling, Old Dominion University Justin Haegele, Old Dominion University Xihe Zhu, Old Dominion University</p> <p>12:30 PM - 2:00 PM</p>
12:30PM	<p>"Inclusion in primary physical education from the perspectives of educational staff and pupils with disabilities: a qualitative systematic review"</p> <p>Chloe Leydon Miss, University of Ulster Katy Pedlow Dr., University of Ulster Sinead Connolly Mrs., University of Ulster Jean Daly-Lynn Dr., University of Ulster Karen McConnell Dr., University of Ulster</p> <p>12:30 PM - 2:00 PM</p>
12:30PM	<p>Inclusive experiences through alpine skiing? Perspectives towards inclusion by people with visual impairments</p> <p>Felix Oldörp, Pädagogische Hochschule Heidelberg Martin Giese, Phillips-Universität Marburg</p> <p>12:30 PM - 2:00 PM</p>
12:30PM	<p>Inclusive Surfing Program</p> <p>Maeve Johnston, West Coast Surf Club Nuria Smyth, West Coast Surf Club</p> <p>12:30 PM - 2:00 PM</p>
12:30PM	<p>Measuring daily physical activity of students with ID during school using accelerometers</p> <p>Jakob Precht, Bayerische Julius-Maximilians-Universität Würzburg Leonie Sauer, Bayerische Julius-Maximilians-Universität Würzburg Christiane Reuter, Bayerische Julius-Maximilians-Universität Würzburg</p> <p>12:30 PM - 2:00 PM</p>
12:30PM	<p>Optimized Analysis of Parental Behavioral Styles and Student Health Outcomes: Significant Correlation Findings</p> <p>Rui Wu, East China Normal University Fu Sheng Liang, East China Normal University Xiao Zan Wang, East China Normal University</p> <p>12:30 PM - 2:00 PM</p>
12:30PM	<p>Preferences for Exercise among Latino Parents of Children with Developmental Disabilities: A Qualitative Study</p> <p>Jamie L. Jaime Concepcion, University of Wisconsin - Madison Kristen A. Pickett, University of Wisconsin-Madison Kecia Doyle, University of Wisconsin-Madison Luis Columna, University of Wisconsin - Madison</p> <p>12:30 PM - 2:00 PM</p>

TUESDAY JUNE 17TH

12:30PM	<p>Protocoll on the implementation of the concept “Sports assistance for people with disabilities” (SpAss) in Bavaria</p> <p>Christiane Reuter, Bayerische Julius-Maximilians-Universität Würzburg Jakob Prechtel, Julius-Maximilians-Universität Würzburg Leonie Sauer, Bayerische Julius-Maximilians-Universität Würzburg</p> <p>12:30 PM - 2:00 PM</p>
12:30PM	<p>Research on the Dilemmas and Countermeasures in the Development of Early Childhood Physical Education: A Case Study of Xixian County, Xinyang City</p> <p>好 张, 华东师范大学</p> <p>12:30 PM - 2:00 PM</p>
12:30PM	<p>School development towards an active school</p> <p>Leonie Sauer, Bayerische Julius-Maximilians-Universität Würzburg Christiane Reuter, Bayerische Julius-Maximilians-Universität Würzburg Jakob Prechtel, Julius-Maximilians-Universität Würzburg</p> <p>12:30 PM - 2:00 PM</p>
12:30PM	<p>Shared physical education program: cooperative learning and inclusion of students with disabilities</p> <p>Mey van Munster, UFSCar Melina Radaelli Gatti, UFSCar</p> <p>12:30 PM - 2:00 PM</p>
12:30PM	<p>The effectiveness of inclusive sports activities in the improving Skill performance in individuals with cerebral palsy</p> <p>Ishak Hamdini, Oran University Hadjer Dridi, Biskra University</p> <p>12:30 PM - 2:00 PM</p>
12:30PM	<p>The Effects of the Rehabilitation Exercise Program on Functional Movement for Children with Brain Injuries</p> <p>Jiin Heo, Gachon University Bogja Jeoung, Gachon University</p> <p>12:30 PM - 2:00 PM</p>
12:30PM	<p>The Positive Impact of Collaborative Research Communities on Physical Education Teachers' TPACK</p> <p>Xiang Meng Yangming Zhu, East China Normal University XiaoZan Wang, East China Normal University</p> <p>12:30 PM - 2:00 PM</p>

TUESDAY JUNE 17TH

2:00PM	<p>Camp Abilities: An Educational Sports Camp for Children with Low Vision and Blindness: Perspectives of Directors from Around the World</p> <p>Lauren j. Lieberman, State University of New York College at Brockport Ingi Por Einarsson, Reykjavik University Valerie Caron, University of Fribourg Ursula Barrett, Munster Technical University Jane Blaine, British Columbia Blind Sports Association Molly Armstrong, California School for the Blind</p> <p>2:00 PM - 3:00 PM</p>
2:00PM	<p>Having the finger on the pulse? Questioning Qualitative Methodologies in APA</p> <p>Martin Giese, Philipps-University Marburg Janine Coates, Loughborough University Justin A. Haegele, Old Dominion University Anthony J. Maher, University of Leeds Sebastian Ruin, Universitat Graz Maria Luiza Tanure Alves, State University of Campinas, Brazil</p> <p>2:00 PM - 3:00 PM</p>
3:00PM	<p>An inclusive sport in a perceived exclusive industry - Golf is creating a more inclusive and accessible landscape.</p> <p>Tony Bennett Dr, International Golf Federation</p> <p>3:00 PM - 4:30 PM</p>
3:00PM	<p>Applicability of Standardized Physical Fitness Test in Schools for Children with Special Education Needs in Latvia</p> <p>Aija Klavina, Riga Stradins University, Lithuanian Sport University Zinta Galeja, Riga Stradins University Edgars Ozols, Riga Stradins University Rihards Ansons, Riga Stradins University</p> <p>3:00 PM - 4:30 PM</p>
3:00PM	<p>Beyond the Court: The Support System of Singaporean Wheelchair Rugby</p> <p>Daniel W.H. Seah Mr, Nanyang Technological University, Singapore Heng Yeow Yap Dr, Nanyang Technological University, Singapore Jernice S.Y. Tan Dr, Nanyang Technological University, Singapore</p> <p>3:00 PM - 4:30 PM</p>
3:00PM	<p>Boccia for Participants with CVI (Cortical/Cerebral Visual Impairment)</p> <p>Jane D. Blaine Ms, British Columbia Blind Sports and Recreation Association</p> <p>3:00 PM - 4:30 PM</p>

TUESDAY JUNE 17TH

3:00PM	<p>Building Physical Literacy: The PLAYshop Approach for parents of children with intellectual disabilities</p> <p>Hayley Kavanagh, Special Olympics Ireland Sarah Meegan, Dublin City University Valerie Carson, University of Alberta Nathan Gavigan, Dublin City University Morgan Potter, University of Alberta Mika Manninen, Dublin City University</p> <p>3:00 PM - 4:30 PM</p>
3:00PM	<p>Comparison of Functional Movement Screen and Balance Assessments After 6-Week Corrective Exercise Programs Developed for Deaf and Hard-of-Hearing Individuals</p> <p>Pelin Aksen, Kırıkkale University Faculty of Sport Sciences, Coaching Education Department, Kırıkkale, Turkey Pamela Beach, Rochester Institute of Technology College of Health Sciences and Technology, New York, USA Lauren Lieberman, State University of New York College of Brockport, Kinesiology, Sport Studies & Physical Education, New York, USA Melanie Perreault, State University of New York College of Brockport, Kinesiology, Sport Studies & Physical Education, New York, USA Sean Flanagan, Rochester Institute of Technology National Technical Institute for the Deaf, New York, USA</p> <p>3:00 PM - 4:30 PM</p>
3:00PM	<p>Defining “Inclusion”: Scholars’ Use and Operationalization in Major Physical Education Journals</p> <p>Jenna Fesemyer, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign Justin Haegele, Old Dominion University Wesley J. Wilson, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign</p> <p>3:00 PM - 4:30 PM</p>
3:00PM	<p>Dietary Intake, body composition analysis, muscle Soreness, fatigue, Mental Stress, Sleep Patterns and Alertness observance in Jordanian Paralympic athletes</p> <p>Omar Suleiman Hindawi Prof., Hashemite University Tamara Mohammad Alhalaiah MSc, □ Jordan Paralympic committee Mohammad Hassan Abualtaieb Prof., The University of Jordan</p> <p>3:00 PM - 4:30 PM</p>
3:00PM	<p>Effects of Short-Term Physical Exercise on Stress Biomarker and Mental Health Issues in Adolescents with ADHD: A Randomized Controlled Trial</p> <p>Sima Dastamooz PhD, The Chinese University of Hong Kong Cindy H.P. Sit PhD, The Chinese University of Hong Kong Kelly P. Arbour-Nicitopoulos PhD, University of Toronto Rainbow T. H. Ho PhD, The University of Hong Kong Stephen H.S. Wong PhD, The Chinese University of Hong Kong Juanita Cheung PhD, The Chinese University of Hong Kong</p> <p>3:00 PM - 4:30 PM</p>

TUESDAY JUNE 17TH

3:00PM	<p>Enhancing Physical Activity Participation among Adults with Visual Impairments through a Student-led Exercise Program</p> <p>Klára Dadřová, Charles University, Prague Jitka Vařeková, Charles University, Prague Markéta Křivánková, Charles University, Prague</p> <p>3:00 PM - 4:30 PM</p>
3:00PM	<p>Helpdesk Exercise and Sports: Empowering Independence in Physical Activity for People with a Visual Impairment</p> <p>Wilbert van Dorresteijn, Royal Dutch Visio</p> <p>3:00 PM - 4:30 PM</p>
3:00PM	<p>Invalidity Rates of Baseline ImPACT Concussion Assessments in High School Athletes with Disabilities</p> <p>Kiera Glodowski, University of Hawaii at Mānoa Troy Furutani, University of Hawaii at Mānoa Nathan Murata, University of Hawaii at Mānoa Allison Tsuchida, University of Hawaii at Mānoa</p> <p>3:00 PM - 4:30 PM</p>
3:00PM	<p>Participant Insights on Fitness Program Implementation in an Underserved Community</p> <p>Whitney N. Neal, University of Alabama at Birmingham Laurie A. Malone PhD, University of Alabama at Birmingham</p> <p>3:00 PM - 4:30 PM</p>
3:00PM	<p>Pre-Service Physical Education Teachers' Sentiments, Attitudes, and Concerns Toward Inclusion of Students with Disabilities: A Study at CACPE</p> <p>Shraddha Abhijit Naik Dr, MM's Chandrashekhar Agashe College of Physical Education Vilma Faleiro Ms, MM's Chandrashekhar Agashe College of Physical Education</p> <p>3:00 PM - 4:30 PM</p>
3:00PM	<p>Psychometric Validation of the Physical Educators' Judgments of Inclusion in Angol</p> <p>Agueda Gomes</p> <p>3:00 PM - 4:30 PM</p>
3:00PM	<p>The Effect of Participation in the Adapted Baseball Program on Visual Perception and Attention of Adolescents with Developmental Disabilities</p> <p>Seungeun Choi Ms., Seoul National University Hyundo Jun Mr., Seoul National University Yongho Lee Dr., Seoul National University</p> <p>3:00 PM - 4:30 PM</p>

TUESDAY JUNE 17TH

3:00PM	<p>The Effective Use of a Pre-Teaching Checklist for Physical Education for Children with Blindness, Low Vision, or Deafblindness</p> <p>Lauren j. Lieberman, State University of New York College at Brockport Pamela Beach, Rochester Institute of Technology Melanie Perreault, SUNY Brockport Ciara Murohy, SUNY Brockport</p> <p>3:00 PM - 4:30 PM</p>
3:00PM	<p>The physical fitness of youth with special educational needs in Hungary based on NETFIT® measurement in school year 2023/2024</p> <p>Katalin Tóthné Dr. Kälbli, Eötvös Loránd University Faculty of Special Needs Education, Hungarian School Sport Federation Tamás Dr. Csányi, Hungarian University of Sport Science, Hungarian School Sport Federation Alexandra Cselkó, Hungarian School Sport Federation Mónika Dr. Kaj, Hungarian School Sport Federation</p> <p>3:00 PM - 4:30 PM</p>
3:00PM	<p>The Relationship Between Weight Stigma and Exercise Avoidance: Exploring the Role of Internalized Weight Stigma and Social Anxiety</p> <p>Qingqing LI, Southwest university, Chongqing 400715, China Yun Li, Southwest university, Chongqing 400715, China</p> <p>3:00 PM - 4:30 PM</p>
3:00PM	<p>Together Rapid: Inclusive Football for People with Disabilities</p> <p>Gabriel Mayr, SK Rapid Matias Costa, SK Rapid Margit Straka, SK Rapid Jürgen Kerber, SK Rapid</p> <p>3:00 PM - 4:30 PM</p>
3:00PM	<p>Using Administrative Health Data to Explore Diabetes Rates in Special Olympics Participants in Ontario, Canada</p> <p>Meghann Lloyd, Ontario Tech University Robert Balogh, Ontario Tech University</p> <p>3:00 PM - 4:30 PM</p>
3:00PM	<p>Why Inclusion in Physical Education is not Working, and How to Make it Work!</p> <p>Martin E. Block, University of Virginia</p> <p>3:00 PM - 4:30 PM</p>
5:00PM	<p>Creative Movement in Action: An Adapted Dance Workshop</p> <p>Baillie R. Ollila, Old Dominion University</p> <p>5:00 PM - 6:30 PM</p>
5:00PM	<p>Experiencing Ancient Movement Cultures</p> <p>Tarik Orliczek, University of Graz</p> <p>5:00 PM - 6:30 PM</p>

TUESDAY JUNE 17TH

5:00PM

Exploring enablers of creating inclusive opportunities

Tracey-Lee Dalton Dr, University of Auckland and Sport New Zealand

5:00 PM - 6:30 PM

5:00PM

IPEPAS Inclusive Aquatics Practical for Practitioners

Eileen Sayers, Munster Technological University

5:00 PM - 6:30 PM

5:00PM

The Adventure Toolkit; Enhancing the therapy experience using adventures in blue and green spaces

Philip G. Stallard
Jasmin A. Stallard

5:00 PM - 6:30 PM



WEDNESDAY JUNE 18TH

9:00AM	<p>Adapted Sports in Brazilian Universities: Are We Truly Preparing Future Professionals?</p> <p>Ciro Winckler Pablo B. Souza Mr, UFPA Anselmo Costa e Silva Prof Ricardo Tanhoffer, UNIFESP Otávio Furtado</p> <p>9:00 AM - 10:30 AM</p>
9:00AM	<p>An Intersectional Examination of Blind and Visually Impaired Women's Physical activity Experiences</p> <p>Lindsay E. Ball PhD, SUNY Cortland</p> <p>9:00 AM - 10:30 AM</p>
9:00AM	<p>Body Normativity and Inclusion in Physical Education: A Critical Reflection Through bell hooks' Lens</p> <p>Maria Luiza Tanure Alves, Universidade Estadual de Campinas Justin Haegele, Old Dominion University Janine Coates, Loughborough University Martin Giese, Phillips-Universität Marburg Sebastian Ruin, Universität Graz Anthony J. Maher, Leeds Beckett University</p> <p>9:00 AM - 10:30 AM</p>
9:00AM	<p>Bridging the gaps: trends and disparities in sport participation among people with disabilities, mental health disorders and chronic diseases in Flanders, Belgium</p> <p>Debbie Van Biesen, Katholieke Universiteit Leuven Roi charles pineda, KU Leuven Silke Dewaelle, G-sport Vlaanderen Jeroen Scheerder, KU Leuven</p> <p>9:00 AM - 10:30 AM</p>
9:00AM	<p>Chances and challenges for physical activity in adolescents and young adults with hemophilia</p> <p>Tabea Nauschuetz, Philipps-University Marburg Ulrich Theobald, Philipps-University Marburg</p> <p>9:00 AM - 10:30 AM</p>
9:00AM	<p>Contributions of sport to Venezuelan refugees with disabilities</p> <p>Vinicius Denardin Cardoso, State University of Roraima, Brazil Rafaele Rodrigues Bastilha, Boa Vista City Hall, Brazil Alyne Tavares Honorato, University of Roraima, Brazil Allana Lithicia Oliveira Camilo, University of Roraima, Brazil</p> <p>9:00 AM - 10:30 AM</p>

WEDNESDAY JUNE 18TH

9:00AM	<p>Development of fundamental motor skills of children with visual impairment in Switzerland: One step at a time</p> <p>Valerie Caron Dr Lauren Lieberman Dr, Suny Brockport, New York Ali Brian Dr, College of Education, University of South Caroline</p> <p>9:00 AM - 10:30 AM</p>
9:00AM	<p>Exploring the Adaptation Process and Experiences of Para Baseball Player with Physical Disabilities after an Accident</p> <p>Hyundo Jun Mr., Seoul National University Soojung Yoo Ms., Seoul National University Seungeun Choi Ms., Seoul National University Yongho Lee Dr., Seoul National University</p> <p>9:00 AM - 10:30 AM</p>
9:00AM	<p>From barriers to bridges: Key Learnings from the IDEAL Journey (2018–2025)</p> <p>Debbie Van Biesen, Katholieke Universiteit Leuven Ingi Einarsson, Reykjavik University Sean Healy, University of Limerick Alba Roldan, University of Elche Natalia Morgulec, Józef Piłsudski University of Physical Education in Warsaw Jan Burns, Virtus</p> <p>9:00 AM - 10:30 AM</p>
9:00AM	<p>Gateways and Pathways within Para Sport in Ireland; the Perspectives of Athletes</p> <p>Alan Dineen Mr, University of Limerick Phil Kearney Dr, University of Limerick Elaine Murtagh Prof, University of Limerick Frank Nugent Dr, University of Limerick Ian Sherwin Dr, University of Limerick Brian Hughes Mr, Paralympics Ireland Sean Healy, University of Limerick</p> <p>9:00 AM - 10:30 AM</p>
9:00AM	<p>"I didn't even know any other visually impaired people, I was just on my own": generative outcomes of football for visually impaired women</p> <p>Jessica L. Macbeth, University of Central Lancashire Andrew Sprake, University of Central Lancashire</p> <p>9:00 AM - 10:30 AM</p>
9:00AM	<p>Lessons Learned using Participatory Research to Develop Physical Education Resources and Recommendations for Blind Students</p> <p>Mary A. Keene, Elizabeth City State University Nina Marranca Julia LaGrand Andrew Mead-Colegrove</p> <p>9:00 AM - 10:30 AM</p>

WEDNESDAY JUNE 18TH

9:00AM	<p>Parasport Development Model</p> <p>Mariana Simões Pimentel Gomes, Faculty of Physical Education - State University of Campinas, Brazil Ciro Winckler Elke Lima Trigo</p> <p>9:00 AM - 10:30 AM</p>
9:00AM	<p>Physical activity and gaming activity among adolescents with disabilities</p> <p>Kwok Ng, Lithuanian Sports University</p> <p>9:00 AM - 10:30 AM</p>
9:00AM	<p>Progressive strength and balance training enhances physical functioning in older adults with decreased functional capacity</p> <p>Saila Hänninen MSc (Health Science), Age Institute, Finland Katja Borodulin PhD, MSc in Sport Sc, Adjunct Professor,, Age Institute, Finland</p> <p>9:00 AM - 10:30 AM</p>
9:00AM	<p>Qualitative Exploration of Applied Sport Psychology Practices in Deaflympic Sports</p> <p>Alon Markov-Glazer, OTH Regensburg Rainer Schliermann, OTH Regensburg</p> <p>9:00 AM - 10:30 AM</p>
9:00AM	<p>Safe Spaces or Enclaves? Negotiating Social Hierarchies in Specialized PE for Students with VI</p> <p>Martin Giese, Philipps-University Marburg Brigitta Höger, Universität Vienna Stefan Meier, University of Augsburg</p> <p>9:00 AM - 10:30 AM</p>
9:00AM	<p>Social Impact of Friday Night Prime Time: An evaluation of athlete, peer, teacher, and fan experience</p> <p>Allison Tsuchida, University of Hawaii at Manoa Nathan Murata, University of Hawaii at Manoa John Solomon, University of Hawaii at Manoa</p> <p>9:00 AM - 10:30 AM</p>
9:00AM	<p>The existential nature of touch exchange for blind people as a bridge to confidence and participation in physical activities. A qualitative preparatory study using Reflexive Thematic Analysis</p> <p>Mathias Alberton, St. Mary's University, Twickenham, London</p> <p>9:00 AM - 10:30 AM</p>

WEDNESDAY JUNE 18TH

9:00AM	<p>The Health-Related Quality of Life and Putative Factors of Icelandic and American Youth with Multiple Disabilities including Visual Impairments</p> <p>Ali S. Brian, University of South Carolina - Columbia Andrea R. Taliaferro, University of South Carolina - Columbia Pamela S. Beach, Rochester Institute of Technology Ben Lytle, University of Nebraska - Lincoln Adam Pennell, Pepperdine University Lauren J. Lieberman, State University of New York College at Brockport Ingi Thor Einarsson, Reykjavik University</p> <p>9:00 AM - 10:30 AM</p>
12:30PM	<p>A pilot intervention to promote physical activity participation among youth with cerebral palsy: Action research</p> <p>Karin Kleinhans Dr, Stellenbosch University</p> <p>12:30 PM - 2:00 PM</p>
12:30PM	<p>Activities of the Head of the Secondary Schools Creating a Friendly Environment for the Inclusion</p> <p>Jurate Pozeriene, Lithuanian Sports University Ugne Slapsyte, Lithuanian sports University Oksana Macenaite, Lithuanian Sports Unoversity</p> <p>12:30 PM - 2:00 PM</p>
12:30PM	<p>Attitudes and Intentions of Mothers of Autistic Children toward Yoga: A Qualitative Study through the Lens of the Theory of Planned Behavior</p> <p>Gayatri Swarup, University of Wisconsin-Madison Susan Andreae, University of Wisconsin-Madison Kristen Pickett, University of Wisconsin-Madiso Luis Columna, University of Wisconsin-Madison</p> <p>12:30 PM - 2:00 PM</p>
12:30PM	<p>Beyond Just Moving - Cognitively Engaging Physical Activity Enhances Inhibitory Control in Children with ADHD: A Pilot Randomized Controlled Trial</p> <p>Ruiyuan Tao, The Chinese University of Hong Kong Cindy Hui-Ping Sit Prof., The Chinese University of Hong Kong Andy Chia-Liang Tsai Prof., National Cheng Kung University Wendy Yajun Huang Prof., Hong Kong Baptist University Stephen Heung-Sang Wong Prof., The Chinese University of Hong Kong Parco Ming-Fai Siu Prof., The University of Hong Kong Savio Wai-Ho Wong Prof., The Chinese University of Hong Kong Jie Feng Dr., The Chinese University of Hong Kong Sima Dastamooz Dr., The Chinese University of Hong Kong Chang Liu Dr., Tsinghua University</p> <p>12:30 PM - 2:00 PM</p>

WEDNESDAY JUNE 18TH

12:30PM	<p>Brazilian School Paralympics: an analysis of the evolution</p> <p>Pedro André da Silva Lins, Universidade Estadual de Campinas José Antônio Fogão, Universidade Estadual de Campinas Gustavo da Cunha Silva, Universidade Estadual de Campinas Pablo Henrique Carneiro de Matos Viana, Universidade Estadual de Campinas João Vítor Sebastião Rodrigues, Universidade Estadual de Campinas Rogerio Virginio dos Santos, Universidade Estadual de Campinas Beatriz Cuppi Machado, Universidade Estadual de Campinas Maria Luiza Tanure Alves, Universidade Estadual de Campinas</p> <p>12:30 PM - 2:00 PM</p>
12:30PM	<p>Can sport counteract social isolation? The opportunity of innovative sports programs for people with Intellectual Disabilities</p> <p>Sina Eghbalpour, Katholische Fachhochschule Nordrhein-Westfalen Liane Prof. Dr. Schirra-Weirich</p> <p>12:30 PM - 2:00 PM</p>
12:30PM	<p>Comparative study of inclusive local sports clubs: Ecosystem analysis of Sapporo and Berlin</p> <p>Tomoyasu Yasui, Hokkaido University of Education, Sapporo Campus Ai Senga, Hokkaido University of Education, Sapporo Campus Rihito Yamamoto, Hokkaido University of Education, Iwamizawa Campus Gudrun Doll-Tepner, Free University of Berlin</p> <p>12:30 PM - 2:00 PM</p>
12:30PM	<p>Conceptualizing Sustainable Physical Literacy for Children with Developmental Disabilities: A Systematic Review</p> <p>Jooyeon Jin, University of Seoul Hoo Kyung Lee, Oregon State University Jiwoo Han, University of Seoul Soomin Lee, University of Seoul</p> <p>12:30 PM - 2:00 PM</p>
12:30PM	<p>Cross-sectional Descriptive Study Assessing Fundamental Motor and GAA Specific Motor Skills in Irish Primary-school aged Autistic Children</p> <p>Edel Ryan Ms, South East Technological University Carlow Dean McDonnell Dr, South East Technological University Carlow Sean Healy Dr, University of Limerick Rhodri Lloyd Dr, Cardiff Metropolitan University, Wales Sharon Kinsella Dr, South East Technological University Carlow</p> <p>12:30 PM - 2:00 PM</p>
12:30PM	<p>Deficits are not a limitation - adapted physical activity an opportunity for every student” - project assumptions and partial results</p> <p>Diana Celebańska, Academy of Physical Education in Katowice Anna Zwierzchowska, Academy of Physical Education in Katowice Barbara Rosolek, Academy of Physical Education in Katowice</p> <p>12:30 PM - 2:00 PM</p>

WEDNESDAY JUNE 18TH

12:30PM	<p>Differences in Physical Activity Levels and Adiposity Among Children with Special Educational Needs: Disparities in Gender and SEN Type</p> <p>Min Yang, The Chinese University of Hong Kong</p> <p>12:30 PM - 2:00 PM</p>
12:30PM	<p>Effects of a School-Based Physical Activity Intervention on Physical Activity and Physical Fitness in Children and Adolescents with Disabilities: A Pre-Post Study</p> <p>Mengyao Wang, The Chinese University of Hong Kong</p> <p>12:30 PM - 2:00 PM</p>
12:30PM	<p>Evaluating the Impact of the 'I Can' Health and Wellbeing Program on Adults Who Are Blind and Vision Impaired.</p> <p>Áine Stanley</p> <p>12:30 PM - 2:00 PM</p>
12:30PM	<p>Evaluation of the Adapted Physical Activity Master study program at Lithuanian Sports University</p> <p>Vida Ostaseviciene, Lithuanian Sports University Kwok Ng, Lithuanian Sports University, University of Turku, University of Limerick Jurate Pozeriene, Lithuanian Sports University Diana Reklaitiene, Lithuanian Sports University</p> <p>12:30 PM - 2:00 PM</p>
12:30PM	<p>Every Move Matters: Experiences of Students with Disabilities in Inclusive Physical Education Classes</p> <p>Vida Ostaseviciene, Lithuanian Sports University Airida Labeckaite, Lithuanian Sports University Kwok Ng, Lithuanian Sports University, University of Turku, University of Limerick</p> <p>12:30 PM - 2:00 PM</p>
12:30PM	<p>Experimental study of the effect of intelligent exercise APP on TGMD-3 in children with developmental delay</p> <p>Jiayu zhou, East China Normal University</p> <p>12:30 PM - 2:00 PM</p>
12:30PM	<p>Forging Paths: Understanding Outdoor Play for Children with Disabilities in Early Childhood.</p> <p>Alessia M. Capone, University of Toronto, Faculty of Kinesiology and Physical Education, Toronto, Ontario, Canada Maeghan E. James, Healthy Active Living and Obesity Group, Children's Hospital of Eastern Ontario Research Institute Louise de Lannoy, Outdoor Play Canada, Ottawa, Ontario, Canada Kelly Arbour-Nicitopoulos, University of Toronto, Faculty of Kinesiology and Physical Education, Toronto, Ontario, Canada Mark S. Tremblay, Children's Hospital of Eastern Ontario, Ottawa</p> <p>12:30 PM - 2:00 PM</p>

WEDNESDAY JUNE 18TH

12:30PM	<p>Investigation of the Relationship Between Functional Movement Screen and Postural Stability and Stability Limits in Deaf and Hard-of-Hearing Individuals</p> <p>Pelin Aksen, Kirikkale University Faculty of Sport Sciences, Coaching Education Department, Kirikkale, Turkey Lauren Lieberman, State University of New York College of Brockport, Kinesiology, Sport Studies & Physical Education, New York, USA Pamela Beach, Rochester Institute of Technology College of Health Sciences and Technology, New York, USA Melanie Perreault, State University of New York College of Brockport, Kinesiology, Sport Studies & Physical Education, New York, USA Sean Flanagan, Rochester Institute of Technology National Technical Institute for the Deaf, New York, USA</p> <p>12:30 PM - 2:00 PM</p>
12:30PM	<p>Peer-Led Sport Socialization Intervention Program on adaptive behavior functioning Amongst Children with Intellectual Disability in Kakamega County Kenya</p> <p>Roselyne Ajwang Odiango Dr, Masinde Muliro University Of Science Of Technology</p> <p>12:30 PM - 2:00 PM</p>
12:30PM	<p>Perceptions about Inclusion of Students with Disabilities in Education in Sub-Saharan Africa: A Scoping Review</p> <p>Agueda Gomes</p> <p>12:30 PM - 2:00 PM</p>
12:30PM	<p>PIQ-PE - an innovative tool for assessing the student's perception of inclusion in physical education</p> <p>Basia Rosolek, Academy of Physical Education in Katowice Lauren j. Lieberman, State University of New York College at Brockport Melanie Perreault, State University of New York Brockport Pamela Beach, Rochester Institute of Technology Anna Zwierzchowska</p> <p>12:30 PM - 2:00 PM</p>
12:30PM	<p>The Impact of a Self-Advocacy Physical Activity Training Program in Children with Visual Impairment</p> <p>Lauren j. Lieberman, State University of New York College at Brockport Ruth Childs, SUNY Brockport Ali Brian, University of South Carolina Pamela Beach, Rochester Institute of Technology</p> <p>12:30 PM - 2:00 PM</p>
12:30PM	<p>The memories of failure in PE turned into success in Sport by Brazilian Paralympic athletes</p> <p>Maria Luiza Tanure Alves, Universidade Estadual de Campinas Isabella Santos Alves, Universidade Estadual de Campinas Nathali Fernanda Feliciano, Universidade Estadual de Campinas Gustavo Cunha Silva, Universidade Estadual de Campinas Janine Coates, Loughborough University</p> <p>12:30 PM - 2:00 PM</p>

WEDNESDAY JUNE 18TH

12:30PM	<p>The relationship of health literacy with physical fitness and exercise capacity among students with mild intellectual disabilities</p> <p>Takahiro Watanabe, Juntendo University Yujiro Kawata, Juntendo University Tadashi Watari, Juntendo University Kunio Odaka, Juntendo University</p> <p>12:30 PM - 2:00 PM</p>
12:30PM	<p>Thirty Years of Applied Physical Activity at the Faculty of Physical Education and Sport of Charles University in Prague Czech Republic</p> <p>Ilona Pavlová, Physical Education and Sport Charles University in Prague Czech Republic</p> <p>12:30 PM - 2:00 PM</p>
12:30PM	<p>Understanding the Experience of Participating in a University-Hosted Inclusive Sports Even</p> <p>Yaejee Kim, Ewha Womans University So-Yeun Kim, Ewha Womans University</p> <p>12:30 PM - 2:00 PM</p>
12:30PM	<p>Understanding the Physical Activity Patterns of Children with Autism Spectrum Disorder in China</p> <p>Zichao Zhang, East China Normal University Yuemei Lu, East China Normal University Chenjun Zong, East China Normal University Zhihui Li, East China Normal University Xiaozan Wang, East China Normal University</p> <p>12:30 PM - 2:00 PM</p>
12:30PM	<p>Validation of AI-based Physical Function Test (myFitNote) in Timed Up and Go (TUG) Test</p> <p>Muncheong Choi CEO,Ph.D., exercowork Co., Ltd. Hong-sun song Prof., Andong National University Alchan Kim Prof., Seokyeong University Da-Ae Kim Dr., Ajou University Ji-woong Kim PhD candidate Bogja Jeoung Prof., Gachon University</p> <p>12:30 PM - 2:00 PM</p>
12:30PM	<p>Validation of the Czech Version of the SRS-22r Questionnaire for Assessing Quality of Life in Adolescents with Idiopathic Scoliosis</p> <p>Pavlaína Hušková, Faculty of Physical Education and Sport</p> <p>12:30 PM - 2:00 PM</p>

WEDNESDAY JUNE 18TH

12:30PM	<p>Weekdays and weekends do not contribute equally: Uncovering the association between physical activity and adiposity among children with special educational needs in Hong Kong</p> <p>Jie Feng Dr., The Chinese University of Hong Kong Cindy Hui-ping Sit Prof., The Chinese University of Hong Kong Stephen Heung-sang Wong Prof., The Chinese University of Hong Kong Wendy Yajun Huang Dr., Hong Kong Baptist University Martin Chi-sang Wong Prof., The Chinese University of Hong Kong Raymond Kim-wai Sum Prof., The Chinese University of Hong Kong Catherine Carty Ms., Munster Technological University Judy Ka-wai Kong Ms., InspiringHK Sports Foundation limited Jinghao Sui Mr., The Chinese University of Hong Kong</p> <p>12:30 PM - 2:00 PM</p>
2:00PM	<p>Building Adapted Physical Activity Collectives in Canada: Challenges and Opportunities</p> <p>David Legg, Mount Royal University Jennifer Leo Dr., University of Alberta Andrea Carey, Inclusion Incorporated</p> <p>2:00 PM - 3:00 PM</p>
5:00PM	<p>Adults with intellectual disabilities and motor intervention in trampolines</p> <p>Carla Lourenço Antonino Pereira, Polytechnic University of Viseu</p> <p>5:00 PM - 6:30 PM</p>
5:00PM	<p>ENHANCING PHYSICAL ACTIVITY AND EQUITY THROUGH COMMENSURATE ACCESSIBILITY INFORMATION</p> <p>Kati Karinharju, Satakunta University of Applied Sciences Reetta-Kaisa Kuusiluoma, Satakunta University of Applied Sciences Henna Niemi, City of Helsinki, Finland Kati Seppala, City of Helsinki, Finland</p> <p>5:00 PM - 6:30 PM</p>
5:00PM	<p>Expanding Access to Adapted Sports: Preparing Future Educators to Champion Adapted Sports in Schools and Communities.</p> <p>Kathleen Happel, University of Wisconsin - Whitewater Rebekah Johnson, University of Wisconsin-Whitewater Nikki Hollett, University of Wisconsin - Whitewater</p> <p>5:00 PM - 6:30 PM</p>
5:00PM	<p>Exploring the Influence of Group-Based Organized Physical Activity on Social Abilities and Motor Skills in Autistic Children: A Multilevel Meta-Analysis</p> <p>He Jinrong, Shanghai University of Sport Zhang Lei, Shanghai University of Sport Wu Quanshuo, South China Normal University Wu Xueping, Shanghai University of Sport</p> <p>5:00 PM - 6:30 PM</p>

WEDNESDAY JUNE 18TH

5:00PM	<p>Exploring the Interplay between diet, obesity, mental health, and the gut microbiome. The MIND-GUT pilot intervention study</p> <p>Deborah Gustafson DG, Downstate University, New York (USA) Elisabet Rothenberg ER, Kristianstad University, Sweden. Fabrizio Belloni FB, University of Skövde, Sweden. Nagalakshmi Eruvuri NE, University of Skövde, Sweden. Steinn Steinngrímsson SS, University of Gothenburg, Sweden. Hanne Carlssen HC, Västra Götaland Region, Gothenburg, Sweden. Rajna Knez RK, University of Skövde, Sweden. Erika Olsson EO, Uppsala University, Sweden. Robert D. Burk RDB, Albert Einstein College of Medicine, New York (USA) Hellas Cena HC, University of Pavia, Italy Rachele de Giuseppe RDG, University of Pavia, Italy Gianluca Tognon, University of Skövde, Sweden.</p> <p>5:00 PM - 6:30 PM</p>
5:00PM	<p>Health and Wellbeing in Intellectual Disability: A feasibility and evaluation study of a program for adults with intellectual disabilities.</p> <p>Helen McCready, Atlantic Technological University Ken VanSomeren, Atlantic Technological University Ben Fitzpatrick, University of Ulster Sinead Martin, No Barriers Foundation</p> <p>5:00 PM - 6:30 PM</p>
5:00PM	<p>Neurotraining for Adapted Physical Activity: Enhancing Coordination, Balance, and Perception.</p> <p>Markéta Křivánková, Charles University, Prague Faculty of Physical Education and Sport</p> <p>5:00 PM - 6:30 PM</p>
5:00PM	<p>Radical Inclusion</p> <p>Christian Lauro Rodríguez Morales, IBILKI ELKARTEA</p> <p>5:00 PM - 6:30 PM</p>
5:00PM	<p>Supporting Teachers to Include a Child with Visual Impairment in the PE lesson</p> <p>Niamh Boylan, Dublin City University Frances Murphy Dr., Dublin City University Sinéad McCauley Lambe Dr., Dublin City University</p> <p>5:00 PM - 6:30 PM</p>
5:00PM	<p>Working together to increase physical activity opportunities for children experiencing blindness/vision impairment in Ireland.</p> <p>Úna Britton, Dublin City University Stephen Behan, Dublin City University Lisa Flynn, Dublin City University Sarahjane Belton, Dublin City University Ali Brian, University of South Carolina Kristina Millar, Vision Sports Ireland</p> <p>5:00 PM - 6:30 PM</p>



THURSDAY JUNE 19TH

9:00AM	<p>A behaviour analysis of adult nutrition behaviours and technology use of individuals living with severe mental illness in high support hostels in Ireland.</p> <p>Ciara M. O'Sullivan, Munster Technological University Alison Merrotsy, Munster Technological University Indika Dhanapala, Munster Technological University Tara Coppinger, Munster Technological University</p> <p>9:00 AM - 10:30 AM</p>
9:00AM	<p>Barriers to Sports Participation amongst Youth Refugees with Disabilities in Kenya: A Case of Kakuma Refugee Camp</p> <p>Edinah Sabiri M/S, Masinde Muliro University of Science and Technology Masinde Muliro University of Science and Technology</p> <p>9:00 AM - 10:30 AM</p>
9:00AM	<p>Educating volunteers with disabilities to work at sport events - a chance to enhance sport participation?</p> <p>Marlene Jobst, University of Graz Christoph Kreinbacher-Bekerle, University of Graz</p> <p>9:00 AM - 10:30 AM</p>
9:00AM	<p>Effects of VR-based Physical Activity Programs with/without Headset on Attention, Balance, Physical Activity, and Social Skills of Children with Disability.</p> <p>Jiwoo Han Jooyeon Jin</p> <p>9:00 AM - 10:30 AM</p>
9:00AM	<p>Exploring community-based organizations and their efforts to foster the physical literacy journey for all</p> <p>Kyle Pushkarenko, Memorial University of Newfoundland</p> <p>9:00 AM - 10:30 AM</p>
9:00AM	<p>Identity Formation and Social Benefits at the Intersection of Disability and Fitness: Leveraging Disabled Lived Experience to Re-Evaluate Physical Activity</p> <p>Cade Kuehl, McMaster University</p> <p>9:00 AM - 10:30 AM</p>
9:00AM	<p>Impact of a 12-week Motor Skill Intervention on Gross Motor Skill Proficiency and Adaptive Behaviour in Children Aged 3-5 years with ASD</p> <p>Hannah Lywood, Ontario Tech University Meghann Lloyd, Ontario Tech University</p> <p>9:00 AM - 10:30 AM</p>

THURSDAY JUNE 19TH

9:00AM	<p>"It's like a big family reunion": Parent experiences of a national wheelchair basketball tournament in the United States</p> <p>Katherine E. Holland, Norwegian University of Science and Technology Steven K. Holland, Norwegian University of Science and Technology Cathy McKay, James Madison University</p> <p>9:00 AM - 10:30 AM</p>
9:00AM	<p>Move to Improve: An 8-week, coach-led fundamental movement skill intervention for children with intellectual disabilities</p> <p>Hayley Kavanagh, Special Olympics Ireland Sarah Meegan, Dublin City University Nathan Gavigan, Dublin City University Valerie Carson, University of Alberta Morgan Potter, University of Alberta Mika Manninen, Dublin City University</p> <p>9:00 AM - 10:30 AM</p>
9:00AM	<p>Reaching In and Reaching Out: Lessons Learned from the Co-Development and Co-Implementation of a Community-Engaged Physical Literacy Program</p> <p>Kyoung June Yi, McMaster University</p> <p>9:00 AM - 10:30 AM</p>
9:00AM	<p>The Effects of a Digital Physical Activity Intervention on Individuals with a Severe Mental Illness.</p> <p>Shannon Aisling Forde, Munster Technological University</p> <p>9:00 AM - 10:30 AM</p>
9:00AM	<p>The effects of physical activity timing and adherence to physical activity guidelines on sleep in children with ADHD</p> <p>Xiao Liang Dr, The Hong Kong Polytechnic University Hui Qiu Dr, The Hong Kong Polytechnic University Mengping Zhao, Lanzhou University Nan Liu, Lanzhou University Huan Richard Xu Dr, The Hong Kong Polytechnic University</p> <p>9:00 AM - 10:30 AM</p>
9:00AM	<p>The role of the Paralympics in the context of the perception of people with disabilities in (competitive) sport</p> <p>Sina Prof. Dr. Eghbalpour, Katholische Fachhochschule Nordrhein-Westfalen Liane Prof. Dr. Schirra-Weirich, Katholische Hochschule Nordrhein Westfalen</p> <p>9:00 AM - 10:30 AM</p>

THURSDAY JUNE 19TH

9:00AM	<p>Trajectories of Leisure-Time Physical Activity and Influencing Factors among Middle-Aged and Older Adults with Disabilities</p> <p>Areum Han, University of Seoul Jooyeon Jin Prof., University of Seoul</p> <p>9:00 AM - 10:30 AM</p>
9:00AM	<p>#WheelchairBBStories: A co-designed resource for accessible dissemination of research</p> <p>Lesley M. Sharpe Dr, University of Lincoln Janine K. Coates Dr, Loughborough University Victoria Goosey-Tolfrey Prof, Loughborough University</p> <p>9:00 AM - 10:30 AM</p>
9:00AM	<p>Writing and Reviewing for APAQ: A Panel Discussion with the Editor and Associate Editors</p> <p>Justin Haegele, Old Dominion University Janine Coates, Loughborough University Phil Esposito, Texas Christian University Sean Healy, University of Limerick Andrew Pitchford, Oregon State University - Cascades Campus Cindy Sit, Chinese University of Hong Kong</p> <p>9:00 AM - 10:00 AM</p>
10:30AM	<p>A Systematic Review of the Effects of Exercise on Gross Motor Skills and Social Abilities in Children with Autism</p> <p>Jiawei Luo, Southwest University, Chongqing 400715, China Yun Li, Southwest University, Chongqing 400715, China</p> <p>10:30 AM - 12:00 PM</p>
10:30AM	<p>Active learning strategies in adapted physical education courses in higher education</p> <p>Otávio Luis Piva da Cunha Furtado, University of São Paulo - Brazil Justin Haegele, Old Dominion University - USA Roberta Caveiro Gaspar, University of São Paulo - Brazil</p> <p>10:30 AM - 12:00 PM</p>
10:30AM	<p>Active play among young children (0-4 years) with disabilities: A scoping review</p> <p>Alessia M. Capone, University of Toronto, Faculty of Kinesiology and Physical Education, Toronto, Ontario, Canada Kelly Arbour-Nicitopoulos, University of Toronto, Faculty of Kinesiology and Physical Education, Toronto, Ontario, Canada Louise de Lannoy, Outdoor Play Canada, Ottawa, Ontario, Canada Suzanne Deliscar, Canadian Disability Participation Project Leah G. Taylor, Western University, London, Ontario, Canada Patricia Tucker, Western University, London, Ontario, Canada Leigh M. Vanderloo, Western University, London, Ontario, Canada Maeghan E. James, Healthy Active Living and Obesity Group, Children's Hospital of Eastern Ontario Research Institute</p> <p>10:30 AM - 12:00 PM</p>

THURSDAY JUNE 19TH

10:30AM	<p>Affective Reflective Theory: An Exploratory Study of the Exercise Experiences of Elite Wheelchair Curlers</p> <p>Jeffrey Martin, Wayne State University Klara Dadova, Charles University, Prague Eva Prokesova, Charles University, Prague Jitka Varekova, Charles University, Prague Drew J. Martin, Western Michigan University</p> <p>10:30 AM - 12:00 PM</p>
10:30AM	<p>AI-Driven Adapted Physical Activity to Promote Health and Mobility for Frail Older Adults</p> <p>Yijian Yang Prof, The Chinese University of Hong Kong Xiaoping Zheng Dr, The Chinese University of Hong Kong Jingwen Pan Dr, The Chinese University of Hong Kong Ka Po Chan Ms, The Chinese University of Hong Kong</p> <p>10:30 AM - 12:00 PM</p>
10:30AM	<p>Belonging and inclusion in Norwegian PE: An amplified analysis of supervised master's theses</p> <p>Steven K. Holland, Norwegian University of Science and Technology Katherine Holland, Norwegian University of Science and Technology Oda Innvæer, Melhus Municipality, Norway (Teacher) Nora Klaussen, Bodø Municipality, Norway (Teacher) Ingrid Kissten, Norwegian University of Science and Technology Maren Østby, Norwegian University of Science and Technology</p> <p>10:30 AM - 12:00 PM</p>
10:30AM	<p>Exploration and Practice of KDL Motor Intervention for Children with Special Needs</p> <p>Xiaozan Wang, East China Normal University Qinping Xu, Huzhou Normal University Meiyuan Chen, University of Science and Technology of China Yuemei Lu, East China Normal University</p> <p>10:30 AM - 12:00 PM</p>
10:30AM	<p>Impact of Physical Activity on Quality of Life: Examining the Quality of Life of People with Developmental Disabilities in South Korea Using the 2023 Work and Life Status Survey</p> <p>Jiyeon Kim, Korea National Sport University</p> <p>10:30 AM - 12:00 PM</p>
10:30AM	<p>Move and Thrive: Effectiveness of a Structured Motor Intervention on Motor Behaviors and Social Development in Children with Autism Spectrum Disorder</p> <p>Yuemei Lu, East China Normal University Chenjun Zong, East China Normal University Zichao Zhang, East China Normal University Zhihui Li, East China Normal University Xiaozan Wang, East China Normal University</p> <p>10:30 AM - 12:00 PM</p>

THURSDAY JUNE 19TH

10:30AM	<p>Parents of Athletes in Competitive Paralympic Sports - A Combination of Mapping and Scoping Review</p> <p>Alina Vogel, University of Paderborn Sabine Radtke, University of Paderborn</p> <p>10:30 AM - 12:00 PM</p>
10:30AM	<p>Participation of People with Impairments in Shaping Accessible Sports Facility Standards: Opportunities and Obstacles</p> <p>Jonas Wibowo, Bergische Universität Gesamthochschule Wuppertal Lasse Müller, Bergische Universität Gesamthochschule Wuppertal</p> <p>10:30 AM - 12:00 PM</p>
10:30AM	<p>Physical activity (PA) and barriers of adults with special needs – how do age, gender, living environment and the nature of special needs affect it?</p> <p>Timo Ala-Vähälä PhD, Finnish Society of Sport Sciences Venla Väyrynen M.H.Sc., Finnish Society of Sport Sciences</p> <p>10:30 AM - 12:00 PM</p>
10:30AM	<p>The Impact of Service-learning on Undergraduate Kinesiology Majors' Self-efficacy Toward Working with individuals with Disabilities</p> <p>Michihito Ichihara, Old Dominion University Chloe Simpson, California Polytechnic State University, Pomona Ken Hansen, California Polytechnic State University, Pomona Mai Narasaki Jara, California Polytechnic State University, Pomona</p> <p>10:30 AM - 12:00 PM</p>
10:30AM	<p>The Influence of an Inter-University Collaborative on the Socialization of Adapted Physical Activity Doctoral Students</p> <p>Paul H. Warner, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign Paul R. Malinowski, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign Kevin A. Richards, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign Peter Rifenburg, University of South Carolina Wesley J. Wilson, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign</p> <p>10:30 AM - 12:00 PM</p>
12:00PM	<p>A study of the relationship between 24h physical activity behavior and basic motor skills in 3-6 year old children</p> <p>Chen FeiYu, East China Normal University Wang XiaoZan, East China Normal University Xu QinPing, East China Normal University</p> <p>12:00 PM - 1:00 PM</p>

THURSDAY JUNE 19TH

12:00PM	<p>A Study on the Correlation Between Actual motor competence and Parental Perceived Motor Abilities in Children with Autism Spectrum Disorder</p> <p>Chenjun Zong, East China Normal University Yuemei Lu, East China Normal University Zhihui Li, East China Normal University Zichao Zhang, East China Normal University Xiaozan Wang, East China Normal University</p> <p>12:00 PM - 1:00 PM</p>
12:00PM	<p>A Two-Year Study on Dual-Task Interventions: Advancing Elderly Care in Community Settings</p> <p>Kameliya Konstantinova Emerick Kaitell</p> <p>12:00 PM - 1:00 PM</p>
12:00PM	<p>An Investigation on Parental Perceived Motor Competence in Children on the autism spectrum</p> <p>Zhihui Li, East China Normal University Yuemei Lu, East China Normal University Chenjun Zong, East China Normal University Zichao Zhang, East China Normal University Xiaozan Wang, East China Normal University</p> <p>12:00 PM - 1:00 PM</p>
12:00PM	<p>Analyzing the Intention to Use Digital Technology in Physical Activities for People with Disabilities: A Study Based on the Theory of Planned Behavior</p> <p>Hyunsu Lee Prof., Pusan National University Jaehwa Kim Prof., Soonchunhyang University Gunsang Cho Prof., Pusan National University</p> <p>12:00 PM - 1:00 PM</p>
12:00PM	<p>Brazilian Physical Education Undergraduate Students' Attitudes Toward Different Types of Disability</p> <p>Doralice Lange de Souza, Universidade Federal do Paraná Jackeline Colere, Universidade Federal do Paraná</p> <p>12:00 PM - 1:00 PM</p>
12:00PM	<p>Football as a tool helping to tackle social issues</p> <p>Julie Wittmannová, Faculty of Physical Culture, Palacký University Olomouc, Arnošt Šyoboda, Faculty of Physical Culture, Palacký University Olomouc Simona Šafaříková, Faculty of Science, Palacký University Olomouc</p> <p>12:00 PM - 1:00 PM</p>

THURSDAY JUNE 19TH

12:00PM	<p>Incorporating “Exercise Snacks” into School Lunch Breaks Promotes Cardiorespiratory Fitness and Self-perceived Physical Competence among Adolescents with Attention-Deficit/Hyperactivity Disorder</p> <p>Jinghao Sui, The Chinese University of Hong Kong Cindy Hui-ping Sit, The Chinese University of Hong Kong Jie Feng, The Chinese University of Hong Kong Sima DASTAMOOZ, The Chinese University of Hong Kong Chang Liu, The Chinese University of Hong Kong</p> <p>12:00 PM - 1:00 PM</p>
12:00PM	<p>Mediating Role of Self-determined Motivation in the Relationship between Mindfulness and Intention toward Physical Activity among Individuals with Physical Disabilities</p> <p>Jaehwa Kim, Soonchunhyang University Sang Yeon Woo, Soonchunhyang University Hyun-Su Lee, Pusan National University Gun-Sang Cho, Pusan National University Seokmin Yun, Yeungnam University</p> <p>12:00 PM - 1:00 PM</p>
12:00PM	<p>Move Smart MS - Online physical activity and education programmes</p> <p>Susan Coote Prof, MS Society of Ireland Hugh O'Loughlin, MS Society of Ireland</p> <p>12:00 PM - 1:00 PM</p>
12:00PM	<p>Physical Fitness Levels of Adult Special Olympics Athletes Across Sports</p> <p>Hanna H. Lee, Oregon State University Franziska Loetzner, Oregon State University Andrew Pitchford, Oregon State University</p> <p>12:00 PM - 1:00 PM</p>
12:00PM	<p>Proposed Digital-Based, Customized Sports Program for the Underprivileged</p> <p>Gunsang Cho Prof., Pusan National University Jaehwa Kim Prof., Soonchunhyang University Hyunsu Lee Prof., Pusan National University</p> <p>12:00 PM - 1:00 PM</p>
12:00PM	<p>The Effect of Exercise Program on Musculoskeletal Changes in Individuals with Diabetic Foot Syndrome</p> <p>Eliška Vrátná, Charles University, Prague Klára Dadová, Charles University, Prague Jitka Vařeková, Charles University, Prague Vladimíra Fejfarová, Clinical Rehabilitation Division, Institute for Clinical and Experimental Medicine, Prague Kateřina Králová, College of Physical Education and Sport Palestra, Prague</p> <p>12:00 PM - 1:00 PM</p>
12:00PM	<p>The patterns of wheelchair badminton match in comparison between wheelchair class 1 and 2</p> <p>Jaehwa Kim, Soonchunhyang University Sang Yeon Woo, Soonchunhyang University Yunsik Shim, Soonchunhyang University</p> <p>12:00 PM - 1:00 PM</p>

FRIDAY JUNE 20TH

10:00AM	<p>Workshop International Symposium on Physical Activity and Visual Impairment and Deafblindness</p> <p>Martin Geise, Philipps-Universität Marburg Germany Brigitta Höger, Philipps-Universität Marburg Germany Valerie Caron, Université de Fribourg Ben Lytle O, Instructor and Teacher of Students with Visual Impairments in Nebraska Laura Jimenez, Catholic University in Valencia Clara Climent, Catholic University in Valencia Hector Esteve Ibanez, Catholic University in Valencia Inge Por Einersson Lecturer Reykjavik University</p> <p>10:00 AM - 4:00 PM</p>
10:00AM	<p>Introduction to Special Olympics MATP' certified training at ISAPA 2025</p> <p>Niamh E Mourton Martin Block Eleni Rossides Ken Black Shaun Hennessey Jeff Lahart</p> <p>10:00 AM - 4:00 PM</p>
10:00AM	<p>Irish Dance: An Inclusive Approach</p> <p>Sharon Phelan, Munster Technological University</p> <p>10:00 AM - 1:00 PM</p>
10:00AM	<p>Ingenium Research Partnership on Mental Health</p> <p>Tara Coppinger, Munster Technological University Catherine Carty, Munster Technological University</p> <p>10:00 AM - 1:30 PM</p>



PART THREE

SUMMIT



ISAPA 2025 Mental Health Summit

Shifting the Dial for Better Mental Health Outcomes through Physical Activity, Nutrition, and Digital Innovation

Thursday 19 June 2025 | MTU Kerry North Campus

A New Chapter for ISAPA

ISAPA 2025 marked a historic milestone, the first time in the Symposium's 50-year legacy that Mental Health was given a dedicated platform within its scientific and policy program. This new focus reflected both the growing global urgency around mental-health reform and ISAPA's commitment to exploring how physical activity, nutrition, and digital innovation can work together to transform lives and systems.

By integrating a full-day Summit on mental health within an international adapted physical activity forum, ISAPA 2025 redefined the field's boundaries. It demonstrated that inclusion is not limited to disability or sport, but extends to emotional, cognitive, and social well-being as part of the right to health. The Summit became a living example of transdisciplinarity, uniting clinical science, digital innovation, education, lived experience, and policy reform under the shared banner of 'Shifting the Dial.'

The atmosphere in the MTU Kerry North Campus was both expectant and hopeful as delegates gathered for the first-ever Mental Health Summit at ISAPA. Following the launch of The Dial and the [Aclú video](#) by Catherine Carty, the audience was reminded that shifting the dial in mental health requires courage, collaboration, and compassion. Visit www.aclu.ie.

A series of warm and purposeful welcomes set the tone for the day. John Farrelly, Chief Executive of the Mental Health Commission, spoke about regulation rooted in dignity and human rights. Professor Maggie Cusack, President of MTU, reaffirmed the university's commitment to inclusion and sustainability in health innovation. Dr Gerardina Harnett, Head of Nursing and Mental Health at MTU, highlighted the importance of behavioural change and community connection, particularly in rural and remote settings.

Together, their remarks framed the Summit as a space where research, policy, and lived experience could meet on equal terms. This event marks the beginning of a new chapter in ISAPA's story, one that places mental health, rights, and wellbeing firmly at the heart of global inclusion and APA.

Highlights and Keynotes

- Professor Ahmed Hankir – dignity-centred, lifestyle psychiatry
- Aoife Ní Mhuirí – Salaso STEPS digital therapy platform
- Dr Karen O'Connor – early intervention in psychosis as a right
- Ambassador David Donoghue SDG Co-Chair & Dr Niall Muldoon Ombudsman for Children – policy coherence and rights-based reform
- Catherine Carty – moderation and strategic framing





Voices of Inclusion

Spotlight: Margaret Turley (Special Olympics Global Messenger) and Claire Flynn (Mental Health Ireland) showcased the co-creation of accessible mental-health resources for people with intellectual disabilities. Their intervention captured the essence of the Summit: knowledge shared across boundaries, leadership grounded in lived experience, and dignity placed at the centre of every solution.

Research in Action

Hands-on demonstrations connected research to practice across MTU's Solas Building:

- Salaso STEPS (Aoife Ní Mhuirí)
- MTU Mental and Physical Health Simulation Suite (Una Cronin)
- Private Therapy Clinic (Dr Rebecca Spelman)
- Digital Physical Activity & Nutrition Interventions (MTU PhD Candidates Ciara O'Sullivan & Shannon Aisling Forde with supervisor Dr Tara Coppinger)

Legacy and Impact

The inaugural Mental Health Summit at ISAPA 2025 established a blueprint for how Adapted Physical Activity can integrate with mental-health science to support equitable well-being worldwide. It formalised new collaborations among MTU, the Mental Health Commission, and global partners, ensuring that mental health will continue to feature as a standing pillar of future ISAPA events.

As delegates reflected on the day's discussions, one theme resonated: "When we move the body, we move the mind, and when systems move together, transformation follows."

Key Messages – Shifting the Dial

- Transformation, not improvement – a whole-system shift.
- Lifestyle matters – PA, nutrition & digital inclusion as essentials.
- Early intervention is a right.
- Digital health for all – accessible, user-led, equitable.
- Multidisciplinary future – clinicians, educators, technologists, peers.
- Local action = global change.
- Lived experience leads.

SDG Alignment

SDG 3 – Good Health & Well-being

SDG 10 – Reduced Inequalities

SDG 17 – Partnerships for the Goals



Young People with Disabilities Take Centre Stage at ISAPA 2025 Panel

HOSTED BY ACTIVE DISABILITY IRELAND

Active Disability Ireland brought youth voices to the forefront at ISAPA 2025 on Thursday, 19th June, during a powerful panel discussion titled “The Right to Physical Activity for Youths with Disabilities.” Held at the Kerry Sports Academy in Tralee, the session gathered delegates from around the world to hear directly from young people with disabilities about their experiences, aspirations, and the barriers that still exist in accessing physical activity.

The Ombudsman for Children opened the event, emphasising that participation in physical activity is not a privilege but a fundamental human right for all young people. He highlighted the vital role of inclusive policy, education, and community support in ensuring that every child has the opportunity to be active, healthy and empowered.

Eva Grace, a representative from the Active Disability Ireland Youth Forum, followed with a moving personal account of the difference inclusive sport and physical activity can make in the lives of young people with disabilities.

“Keep making sport a place where every young person, with or without a disability, knows they belong”.

During the youth-led panel, discussion centred on key questions: Is physical activity a human right? How can Ireland become more inclusive? What progress has been made – and what still needs to change? Panel members called for continued investment in accessible programmes, stronger representation of disabled youth in decision-making, and greater awareness across sport, education and community sectors.

“When no one is left on the sidelines, sport becomes what it was always meant to be - a place where everyone belongs”.

Delegates were encouraged to leave with one clear commitment: to take a specific action within their own work that will help empower young people with disabilities to be active, included, and heard.



IFAPA General Assembly 2025 – Summary Report

18 June 2025 | Munster Technological University, Kerry, Ireland

Held during the 25th International Symposium on Adapted Physical Activity (ISAPA 2025)

The IFAPA General Assembly (GA) convened on 18 June 2025 on the MTU Kerry Campus as part of ISAPA 2025. This gathering brought together global representatives, executive committee members, regional delegates, resource specialists, and IFAPA members to review progress for the 2023–2025 period, receive organisational updates, elect new board members, and initiate planning for ISAPA 2027.

The GA was opened and chaired by Professor Cindy Sit, President of IFAPA. The agenda was formally adopted, and the minutes of the previous General Assembly (New Zealand, 2023) were approved. The 2023 minutes highlighted 250 participants from 23 countries, with all motions passed unanimously, a precedent mirrored in the collaborative spirit of the 2025 meeting.

Executive Committee Reports

Past President – Professor David Legg (Canada)

- Professor Legg presented an overview of his extensive global contributions, including:
- Serving on the ICSSPE Board and the IPC Historical Advisory Committee.
- Being named a Fellow of the University of Queensland Centre for Olympic & Paralympic Studies.
- Co-founding and chairing multiple APA and inclusion initiatives, including Alberta Inclusive Sport & Recreation Collective and the Children's Adapted Physical Activity (CAPA) programme.
- Strategic leadership roles across parasport, powerchair sport, Hockey Canada's Para Ice Hockey planning, and the Calgary Adapted Hub Powered by Jumpstart.

President – Professor Cindy Sit (Hong Kong)

Professor Sit reported a highly active period marked by:

- Close collaboration with executive members and regional representatives.
- Strengthening IFAPA's partnerships with global organisations, including the Global Schools Program.
- Recruitment of new board members.
- Oversight of the IFAPA Awards panel.
- Contributions to the JEDI Committee and the Active Healthy Kids Global Alliance.
- Delivering multiple keynote and invited presentations internationally.

Vice President – Dr Cathy McKay (USA). Dr McKay's contributions were acknowledged as:

- Attended, presented research, and represented IFAPA (focusing on recruitment) at the following conferences:
- National Association for Kinesiology in Higher Education (NAKHE), San Juan, Puerto Rico, January 2025
- National Association for Diversity Officers in Higher Education (NADOHE), Chicago, Illinois, USA, March 2025
- Society for Health and Physical Educators (SHAPE America), Baltimore, Maryland, USA, April 2025



- Delivered a Student Keynote and was awarded Mentor of the Year
- Developed educational materials for Scholastic, INC.; partnered with Move United to extend education materials; hosted and/or supported two large scale, interdisciplinary Paralympic education events.

Priorities for 25/26 include

Work collaboratively with the IFAPA Board; serve SHAPE America through research and grant reviews; serve Quest and Palaestra as an editorial board member; attend NAKHE, SHAPE, and other related conferences; partnerships with Move United, IDRETT, and US Dept of State GSMP; continued focus on Paralympic Education and Awareness research and events.

Vice President – Dr Kwok Ng (Finland). Dr Ng reported:

- Ongoing monitoring of IFAPA's website and social media with support from Dr Matias Henriquez.
- Completion of key editorial and scientific roles, including in EUJAPA and at major global events.
- Collaboration with the ISAPA 2025 LOC.
- Continued leadership in the international APA Master's programme at Lithuanian Sports University.
- Strategic priorities for 2025–2026 including website revisions, global outreach, and supporting APA degree programme recruitment.

Secretary – Dr Jooyeon Jin (Korea)

Dr Jin reported:

- A highly successful ASAPE 2024 hosted in Japan.
- Election as ASAPE Vice-President.
- Attendance at West Asia & Middle East scientific conferences.
- Strengthened relationships with the Asia Paralympic Committee and Special Olympics networks.
- Continued representation of IFAPA in national and regional APA initiatives.

Treasurer – Dr J.P. Barfield (USA)

Dr Barfield presented:

- Updated FIPFA accounts and improved financial transparency.
- Appointed Head of Classification for FIPFA.
- Recent publications in coaching education and ACSM's Exercise Testing & Prescription text.
- Updates to PayPal membership systems and IPC-aligned classification code work

Regional Representatives – Highlights

Africa – Dr Peter Bukhala. Key developments included:

- National and regional events aligned with UNESCO's inclusion theme.
- Engagement with WHO Global Physical Activity initiatives.
- Growth in APA research and adapted sport competitions.
- Disability Inclusive Physical Activity Capacity Building Programme (South Africa & Malawi).
- Expansion of structured physical activity programmes for adults and older persons with disabilities.

Asia – Dr Jooyeon Jin. Key updates included:

- Strengthening continental collaborations (APC, Special Olympics Asia).
- Participation in major conferences (ISAPA 2025, ASAPE 2026, NAFAPA 2026).
- Commitment to expanding APA partnerships and member engagement.

Europe – Dr Sean Healy. Highlights included:

- New EUFAPA board elected for 2024–2026.
- Growth of the European Journal of APA (open-access, Scopus-indexed).
- UCAPA 2024 (Seville) and EUCAPA 2026 (Prague) launches.
- Emerging collaborations with World Physiotherapy and Ukrainian rehabilitation partners.

Middle East – Dr. Omar Hindawi. Major advances across the MENA region included:

- MEFAPA's first MENA conference with 120+ participants.
- Scientific events in UAE, Jordan, Oman, and Qatar.
- New Master's in Sport Psychology for Persons with Disabilities launching in 2025.
- Expanded partnerships with Paralympic and regional federations.

North America – Dr. Kyle Pushkarenko (NAFAPA). Important highlights included:

- NAFAPA 2024 conference outcomes and leadership updates.
- Rebranding and accessibility initiatives.
- Expansion of APA service infrastructure and community sport funding (US and Canada).
- Plans for a 2026 Hawaii NAFAPA conference.

Key developments included:**South America – Dr. Luiz Gustavo.**

- Strategic participation in major APA and Paralympic sport congresses (SOBAMA, SOCHIAFA).
- Engagement in the International Parasport Congress hosted by the Brazilian Paralympic Committee.
- Continental collaboration through the Americas Paralympic Committee, involving 32 of 34 National Paralympic Committees.
- Joint initiatives with Virtus Americas on intellectual disability classification research.
- Strengthened Paralympic sport management development in the Dominican Republic.
- Approval of a major FAPESP research proposal, creating a multi-institutional partnership (CPB, State Secretariat for the Rights of Persons with Disabilities, UNICAMP, USP, UNESP, UNIFESP).
- Advancement of applied research to improve assessment, intervention, and athlete development pathways for persons with disabilities.

Resource specialists reported achievements in:

Website management and digital communications (Kwok Ng, Matias Henriquez).

Newsletter production (2024 edition completed).

Enhanced social media dissemination, with 79 website posts and two weekly social media posts.

Future media strategy including CANVA Premium, enhanced design consistency, and improved global outreach.





The NESAPA co-chair highlighted:

NESAPA Report – Ayşegül Rosa Aksoy & Francis Asare

- Diverse contributions across conferences in Europe and Asia.
- Research achievements in accessible game design for visually impaired persons.
- Coordination of the IVP at ISAPA 2025, including recruitment, training, and handbook development.
- Future priorities: expanding NESAPA membership, podcasting, and preparing a historical study of ISAPA for the 50-year anniversary in 2027.

Symposium Director's Report – ISAPA 2025. Presented by Catherine Carty

- Catherine Carty provided a brief overview of ISAPA 2025, highlighting its scale, innovation, and global impact. The Symposium hosted over 700 delegates from more than 50 countries and delivered a fully integrated programme spanning research, policy, practice, and community engagement.
- Key achievements included the first UNESCO Global Policy Standards Consultation, the inaugural Mental Health Summit, a strong SDG/CRPD focus, and a bursary programme supporting equitable participation. She also noted legacy outputs such as community events, CPD expansion, and digital tools.
- Looking ahead, priorities include disseminating ISAPA outcomes, strengthening global partnerships (including Special Olympics International and Paralympic committees), expanding open-access training, and supporting preparations for ISAPA 2027 in Jordan.

IFAPA Elections 2025. The GA received the results of the 2025 IFAPA elections.

David Legg Announced the Election Outcome: Dr. Omar Hindawi from Jordan, was elected as President elect of IFAPA.

ISAPA 2027 – Jordan

Dr Omar Hindawi presented updates for ISAPA 2027, in Jordan. Highlights included:

- Preparations underway for a Middle East-hosted ISAPA, the first in the region.
- Continued mentoring and handover support from MTU and IFAPA.
- Engagement with regional academic, sport, and disability organisations.

Closing Remarks

President Cindy Sit closed the assembly, thanking all members, regional representatives, executive officers, and volunteers for their contributions. The GA reaffirmed IFAPA's global role in advancing inclusive physical activity, strengthening regional networks, supporting future hosts, and driving evidence-based advocacy worldwide.

IFAPA Awards 2025

Celebrating Excellence and Global Leadership in Adapted Physical Activity

Presented during the ISAPA 2025 Gala Dinner | Ballygarra Estate Hotel & Spa, Tralee

The International Federation of Adapted Physical Activity (IFAPA) Awards recognise individuals whose research, leadership, and service have significantly advanced inclusion, equity, and professional excellence worldwide. Presented under the Patronage of UNESCO during the ISAPA 2025 Gala Dinner, the awards reflected the spirit of the Symposium theme “Shifting the Dial – From Awareness to Transformation.”

Elly D. Friedmann Professional Contribution Award

Recipient: *Dr Martin Block*

Presenter: *Professor Gudrun Doll-Tepper*

Dr Martin Block was honoured for more than 30 years of scholarship and leadership in Adapted Physical Activity. At the University of Virginia, he has directed the APA program and authored seminal works on inclusive physical education. His enduring partnership with Special Olympics International includes the creation and development of the Motor Activities Training Program (MATP) for athletes with severe disabilities. Former President of both IFAPA and NCPERID, long-time editor of *Palaestra*, and beloved “Coach Marty” to his local athletes, Dr Block embodies the synthesis of academic rigour and community commitment.

IFAPA Fellows

Presenter: *Professor Cindy Sit*

Dr David Legg – Professor of Sport Management and Adapted Physical Activity, Mount Royal University, Canada. Recognised for research on Paralympic legacy and for transformative leadership roles with the Canadian Paralympic Committee, ICSSPE, and multiple international sport bodies.

Dr Cathy McKay – Associate Professor, James Madison University, USA. Celebrated for extensive scholarship on Paralympic and disability sport, attitude change, and sexuality education, and for mentorship that empowers new generations of scholars.

Dr Kwok Ng – Docent of Health Promotion and APA, University of Turku, University of Limerick, and Lithuanian Sports University. Honoured for outstanding scientific productivity, editorial stewardship, and service to IFAPA and EUFAPA, advancing global communication and education in APA.

Dr Andy Tsai Chia-Liang – Distinguished Professor, National Cheng Kung University, Taiwan. Acknowledged for prolific research on neurocognitive and biochemical outcomes of exercise interventions and sustained international collaboration in APA.

Dr Seán Healy – Associate Professor, University of Limerick, Ireland. Commended for leading research on physical-activity participation among Autistic people and individuals with intellectual disabilities, and for contributions to national policy and global APA governance.



IFAPA Awards 2025

Young Professional Award

Presenter: *Professor Gudrun Doll-Tepper, with remarks from Dr Karen DePauw*

Dr Liang Xiao – Research Assistant Professor, The Hong Kong Polytechnic University. Recognised for emerging leadership in exercise interventions for children with ADHD and for an impressive publication record early in his career.

Dr Gerard Masdeu Yélamos – UNESCO Chair Researcher, Munster Technological University, Ireland. Honoured for pioneering research and innovation in inclusive fitness and global policy. His work on UFIT – Universal Fitness Innovation & Transformation and collaboration with UNESCO's Sport Section have advanced data-driven policy for inclusive, equitable, and safe sport worldwide.

Special Appreciation Award

Recipient: *Catherine Carty, UNESCO Chair Manager, MTU Kerry – Director, ISAPA 2025*

In a gesture of deep gratitude, IFAPA presented a Special Appreciation Award to Catherine Carty for her exceptional leadership in directing ISAPA 2025 and for her enduring contributions through the UNESCO Chair at Munster Technological University. Catherine's vision, dedication, and ability to unite partners across academia, policy, and practice under the banner of inclusion transformed ISAPA 2025 into a truly historic event. Her stewardship exemplified the spirit of "Shifting the Dial," inspiring global collaboration and setting new standards for inclusive symposium design.

A Night of Recognition and Celebration

The awards ceremony, held amid the warmth of Irish hospitality and the vibrancy of traditional music honoured both achievement and shared purpose. Each awardee's story reflected the values at the heart of ISAPA 2025, rigour, empathy, and the unwavering belief that research and action together can build a more inclusive world.







PART FOUR

EMERGING KNOWLEDGE



FROM ISAPA 2025

Emerging Knowledge from ISAPA 2025

Bridging Research, Policy, Practice, and Legacy

ISAPA 2025 showcased the collective intelligence and generosity of a truly global community.

Over 300 peer-reviewed abstracts, 12 expert panels, 10 practical workshops, 6 continuing professional development (CPD) sessions, and dozens of demonstrations together created one of the most comprehensive exchanges ever hosted within the field of Adapted Physical Activity.

Each presentation, whether empirical, experiential, practical or policy-driven, added evidence, nuance, and courage to the movement for inclusion.

1. Advancing the Science

Researchers from more than 70 countries presented rigorous studies spanning physical education, digital health, rehabilitation, community sport, and policy innovation. Their work collectively expanded the evidence base for the UN CRPD and SDGs, introducing validated assessment tools, cross-cultural comparisons, and new models of intervention.

The double-blind review process upheld academic integrity while ensuring representation of diverse methodologies and regions.

2. Research into Policy and Systemic Change

The UNESCO Consultation on Global Policy Standards for Inclusive, Equitable and Safe Sport and PE transformed research into governance. Insights from academic and policy delegates informed revisions to UNESCO's framework and strengthened mechanisms for implementation, accountability, and data equity. The signing of the IFAPA–Special Olympics International Memorandum of Understanding signalled the alignment of research networks with global advocacy and program delivery.

3. Education, Practice, and Professional Development

The Symposium's workshops and CPD sessions bridged the gap between theory and practice.

Teachers, coaches, and clinicians engaged with evidence-based approaches, from MATP inclusive aquatics and adapted games to digital therapy platforms, equipping them to apply research outcomes directly within schools, clubs, and health settings.

These sessions exemplified ISAPA's belief that continuing education is both a professional duty and a social imperative.

4. Health and Well-being for All

The inaugural Mental Health Summit translated the "Shift the Dial" ethos into the language of health systems. Researchers, clinicians, and digital innovators demonstrated that integrated physical activity, nutrition, and technology approaches can transform prevention, treatment, and recovery models in line with human rights approaches.

This work connected local governance and practice in Ireland to global frameworks, including through Sharing the Vision and the WHO Mental Health Policy and its Global Action Plan on Physical Activity.

5. Technology, Data, and Innovation

From AI-enabled assessment tools to VR rehabilitation and wearable monitoring, ISAPA 2025 captured a step-change in how technology can drive inclusion when guided by ethics and co-design.

Researchers emphasised accessibility, affordability, and data protection, ensuring that digital transformation serves human rights.

6. Cultural and Community Integration

Irish music, dance, and storytelling threaded throughout the program, illustrating how cultural participation strengthens belonging.

Practical sessions on adapted cycling, goalball, and inclusive dance demonstrated the conference theme in motion.

Through the Kerry Recreation and Sports Partnership and local community collaborators, ISAPA's inclusive events became living examples of research translating to everyday life.

7. Equity in Access

The ISAPA Bursary Program enabled delegates from under-resourced contexts to contribute fully, ensuring that diverse voices informed the global conversation.

This initiative modelled structural inclusion, proof that equitable participation enriches both science and society.

8. A Legacy that Lives Beyond the Week

The partnerships, publications, and new research consortia emerging from Kerry form a continuing legacy.

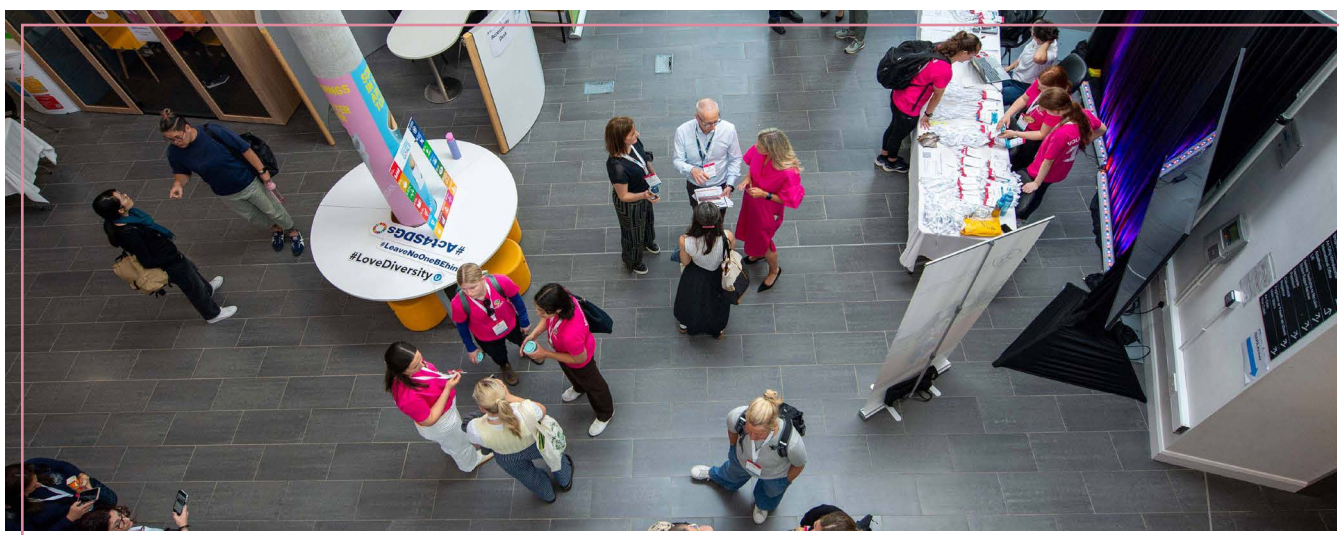
Data-sharing through MTU's SWORD repository and forthcoming collaborative projects with UNESCO, IFAPA, and Special Olympics International will extend ISAPA 2025's influence into education, health, and policy arenas worldwide.

Conclusion

The knowledge captured here reflects the commitment of hundreds of researchers, educators, practitioners, and volunteers who together shifted the dial from isolated studies to collective impact.

Their combined work redefines what a symposium can achieve, transforming research into relationships, evidence into empathy, and ideas into enduring change.

As the movement turns toward ISAPA Jordan 2027, this book stands as a record of the people and partnerships that made transformation real.



Global Impact Summary

Global Scale and Participation

ISAPA 2025, hosted by Munster Technological University under the Patronage of UNESCO and delivered in partnership with IFAPA and the Institute of Movement Studies for Individuals with Visual Impairment and Deafblindness (IMSVI), brought together more than 700 delegates from over 70 countries for one of the most globally representative and scientifically comprehensive ISAPA programmes to date. Across five days, the Symposium showcased 223 peer-reviewed abstracts, 109 academic presentations, 75 posters, 26 policy and programme presentations, 12 expert panels, 10 practical workshops, and 6 CPD sessions, reflecting the depth and breadth of the global Adapted Physical Activity community.

Advancing UNESCO, IFAPA, and IMSVI Priorities

Aligned closely with UNESCO's sport mandate, IFAPA's research mission, and IMSVI's global leadership in visual impairment and deafblindness, ISAPA 2025 advanced international dialogue on inclusive physical education, disability sport, digital innovation, rehabilitation science, mental health, and rights-based governance. Strong thematic areas included Inclusive Education and PE, Health and Well-being, Disability Sport and Community Participation, Digital Innovation, Rehabilitation and Clinical Science, and Mental Health. The scientific contributions demonstrated significant advancement in evidence-based practice supporting the UN Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (CRPD) and the Sustainable Development Goals, particularly SDG 3, 4, 5, 10, and 17.

UNESCO Global Policy Standards Consultation

A major highlight was the UNESCO in-person consultation on the draft Global Policy Standards for Inclusive, Equitable and Safe Sport. Approximately 50 experts, including Member State delegates, academics, athletes, NPC representatives, civil-society organisations and private-sector partners, participated in structured group dialogue. Their insights strengthened the clarity, feasibility, and implementation pathways of the emerging Standards, reinforcing ISAPA's role as a trusted setting for global policy development.

Strengthening IFAPA, IMSVI Leadership, and Global Collaboration

ISAPA 2025 strengthened global leadership across IFAPA, IMSVI, and partner organisations. IFAPA's annual awards showcased excellence across research and practice; IMSVI's leadership and long-standing partnership were reflected through high-impact contributions, including keynote participation, specialist sessions on visual impairment and deafblindness, and the joint delivery of the parallel International Symposium on Physical Activity and Visual Impairment and Deafblindness.

The signing of a Memorandum of Understanding between IFAPA and Special Olympics International further signalled enhanced collaboration across research, policy, and programme delivery. The inaugural Mental Health Summit added a new interdisciplinary dimension, highlighting how physical activity, digital innovation, and community-based practice can support rights-based mental-health reform.



Equity, Participation, and Inclusion

Equity and inclusion were central to the event. The ISAPA 2025 Bursary Programme supported delegates from low- and middle-income countries and prioritised women with disabilities. Cultural inclusion, accessibility, and the active involvement of people with lived experience strengthened ISAPA's impact and modelled good practice for future international gatherings.

Global Legacy and Future Pathways

The scientific outputs, policy processes, and community partnerships showcased at ISAPA 2025 underline the Symposium's role as a catalyst for global transformation. The legacy of this event, including strengthened collaboration with IFAPA and IMSVI, new research partnerships, open-access dissemination through MTU's SWORD repository, and a clear pathway to ISAPA Jordan 2027, reflects ISAPA's continuing contribution to IFAPA and the global movement for inclusive, equitable and human-rights-based sport, physical education, and health.



Local Legacy

Local Legacy: Strengthening Inclusion Through Community Action

ISAPA 2025 created valuable opportunities to connect global learning with local practice across County Kerry. While the Symposium brought international expertise and lived-experience perspectives to MTU, its presence also encouraged local clubs, coaches, and partners to explore practical steps toward more inclusive sport and physical activity.

Through collaboration between the UNESCO Chair at MTU, Kerry Recreation & Sports Partnership, local governing bodies, community clubs, and national organisations, a series of focused legacy activities were delivered during and immediately after the Symposium. These initiatives supported local capacity-building, offered hands-on demonstrations, and introduced new ideas that clubs and coaches could adapt within their own settings.

The following case studies give a picture of ISAPA's local legacy, highlighting areas where interest was strengthened, programmes were trialled or expanded, and community partners took concrete steps toward more inclusive opportunities. While much remains to be built over time,

these examples reflect the positive momentum generated by ISAPA 2025 and the commitment of local partners to continue fostering accessible sport and physical activity across Kerry.

Future Pathways



Case Study 1: Kerry Recreation Sports Partnership and the GAA: Strengthening Inclusive Sport and Community Participation in Kerry

ISAPA 2025 generated significant and immediate local impact across County Kerry, demonstrating how a global symposium can catalyse sustainable community change. Through close collaboration between the UNESCO Chair at Munster Technological University, Kerry Recreation & Sports Partnership (KRSP), Kerry GAA, and local clubs, ISAPA stimulated new inclusive sport opportunities, expanded existing programmes, and strengthened local capacity to support participation for people with disabilities in their own communities.

Connecting Partners and Accelerating Local Action

KRSP, under the leadership of Coordinator Gearóid O'Doherty, used ISAPA 2025 as a platform to bring together local coaches, volunteers, sports clubs, and disability advocates, creating a shared momentum for inclusion. The symposium provided:

- exposure to role models and examples of inclusive practice,
- structured opportunities for training and education,
- hands-on demonstration sessions,
- and ongoing support for clubs wishing to develop or expand disability-inclusive programmes.

This collaborative approach has already led to new initiatives and strengthened capacity across the county.

GAA For All: Demonstration and Expansion

A key ISAPA legacy event was the GAA For All in-person demonstration session (17 June, MTU Kerry North Campus), attended by 70 participants from clubs across Kerry. Delivered by KRSP and Kerry GAA, and supported by Milltown Castlemaine GAA Club, this session allowed attendees to:

- observe a live inclusive Gaelic Games session,
- learn about adapted activities and equipment,
- engage with experienced coaches,
- and understand the model for embedding inclusive sport within local clubs.

The impact was immediate: several clubs, including Milltown Castlemaine and others present, committed to launching or expanding their GAA For All programmes following ISAPA.

Building Capacity Through Training and Education

Responding to demand generated during ISAPA, KRSP delivered a Sport Inclusion & Disability Awareness Workshop (15 July 2025), attended by 11 coaches from local GAA clubs including Austin Stacks and Laune Rangers. Participants have since initiated inclusive sessions within their clubs, demonstrating a direct and tangible legacy of ISAPA-driven interest and capacity-building.

Inclusive Summer Camps (Cúl Eile Camps)

KRSP also supported Kerry GAA in delivering GAA For All Summer Camps (Cúl Eile Camps) in Milltown Castlemaine and Tralee. These camps:

- provide dedicated inclusive Gaelic Games opportunities for children with disabilities,
- complement the mainstream Kellogg's Cúl Camps,
- and reinforce the principle of a community club for all.

KRSP's contributions included training coaches, supporting organisers, and promoting the camps to families across the county.

A Sustainable Community Legacy

The local legacy emerging from ISAPA 2025 demonstrates how international symposia can activate long-term, community-based impact. In Kerry, ISAPA has:

- expanded inclusive sport provision,
- empowered coaches and volunteers,
- strengthened club-level awareness and readiness,
- and established sustainable inclusive pathways for children, young people, and adults with disabilities.

Through these initiatives, ISAPA 2025 has left a lasting imprint on Kerry's sporting landscape, exemplifying how global collaboration can transform local practice, ensuring that inclusion is not only discussed at international level but lived every week in community clubs across the county.

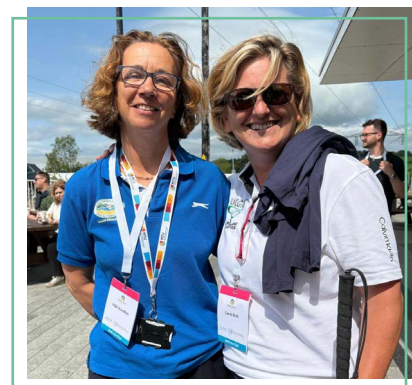


Case Study 2: ISAPA 2025 Legacy Project: Advancing Inclusive Golf

At ISAPA 2025, golf emerged as one of the clearest demonstrations of the Symposium theme Shifting the Dial – From Awareness to Transformation. Through lived-experience storytelling, practical engagement, technological innovation, and new international partnerships, the sport showcased how an activity often perceived as exclusive can be reimaged as universally accessible.

Lived Experience and Empathy Through Simulation

The Legacy began with a compelling session from international blind golfer and Usher Syndrome advocate Carol Brill, delivered in collaboration with the Anne Sullivan Foundation. Delegates overflowed from the room, captivated by Carol's personal story and her advocacy for equity in golf. Participants experienced golf through her "pinhole lens," using blindfolds to simulate visual impairment, an impactful moment of embodied learning that deepened understanding of the barriers and possibilities within the sport.



Global Leadership and Policy Direction

Dr Tony Bennett, President of the European Disabled Golf Association (EDGA), delivered a provocative oral presentation, An Inclusive Sport in a Perceived Exclusive Industry. He challenged longstanding assumptions about who belongs in golf and outlined the global movement toward greater accessibility and inclusion. His Spotlight Session further mapped EDGA's work internationally, including efforts to advance the inclusion of golf within the Paralympic Games. Delegates, researchers, policymakers, programme designers, and sport administrators, left with clear takeaways about the structural change now underway globally.

Golf as Therapeutic Recreation

A second major strand of legacy work focused on autism inclusion. The Els for Autism Foundation's Erin Lozott and UNESCO/Health & Leisure researcher Edel Randles delivered an evidence-informed presentation, Golf as Therapeutic Recreation for Autism, followed by a practical #GameON™ Autism Golf demonstration.

Supported by PGA Coach Adrian Whitehead and Golf Coach/Mentor Mike Keane, a group of ten young people on the autism spectrum tried golf for the first time at the Kerry Sports Academy. Parents were delighted with this introduction to golf, with many signing their children up for the next programme role out at the Kerry Sports Academy MTU, continuing the legacy of ISAPA at MTU.



National Impact: Golf Ireland's Disability & Inclusion Strategy

Mark Kennelly, CEO of Golf Ireland, provided delegates with a clear picture of national progress since the organisation's establishment in 2021. The work of its Disability & Inclusion National Subcommittee was highlighted, including:

- Golf4All club grants
- Player pathways
- Coaching grants
- Regional DIGA events
- International travel bursaries
- Hosting international EDGA events

Golf Ireland's strategic plan, Golf for Everyone 2022–2026, positions inclusion not as a programme but as core organisational purpose. Their interactive activation tent at ISAPA allowed delegates to try golf in both a standing position and using a seated chair prototype developed by MTU researchers, an innovation designed to support golfers with lower-limb physical disabilities. This hands-on experience sparked meaningful conversations on technological innovation and empathic understanding.

Innovation and a New Research Collaboration

One of the most significant legacy outcomes of ISAPA 2025 was the emergence of a new international research partnership. MTU STEM researchers Dr Bobby Woods and Chris O'Donoghue, alongside Edel Randles, formally presented their seated golf chair prototype to Dr Tony Bennett. In discussions that followed, the group agreed to co-develop a modular, advanced version of the device and to jointly submit a research proposal to the R&A Philanthropic Fund to support a two-year MEng project at MTU.

This collaboration reflects the best of ISAPA's and UNESCO Chair MTU legacy ethos: grounded in practice, rooted in lived experience, and designed for global scalability and impact.

Legacy Significance

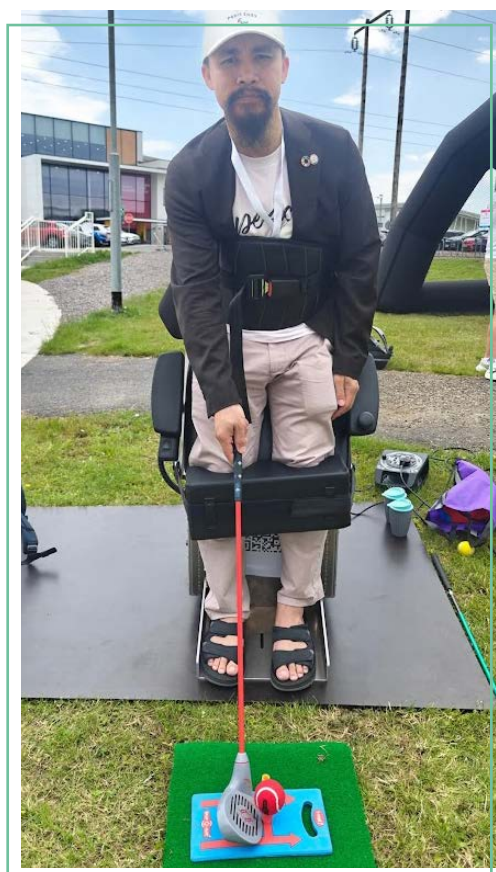
The Inclusive Golf Legacy from ISAPA 2025 demonstrates:

Awareness – Understanding: through lived experience, simulation, and storytelling.

Understanding – Action: through national programmes, therapeutic recreation initiatives, and inclusive coaching models.

Action – Transformation: through technological innovation, partnership with EDGA, and a new internationally aligned research agenda aligned with the UNESCO Chair at MTU, Kerry.

Together, these elements show what is possible when advocacy, innovation, and policy leadership converge. Golf at ISAPA 2025 not only shifted perceptions, it initiated new pathways, built new partnerships, and laid foundations for future global impact.



Case Study 3: Inclusive Aquatics Legacy

As part of the ISAPA 2025 Continuing Professional Development and Legacy Programme, MTU's long-standing leadership in inclusive aquatics was brought to life through a highly impactful IEPAS Inclusive Aquatics Practical delivered by MTU Aquatics Lecturer Eileen Sayers. This hands-on session invited practitioners to deepen their skills, expand their confidence, and explore practical methods for enabling participation for all. Feedback from participants was exceptionally positive, with many identifying the workshop as a catalyst for two important outcomes: renewed commitment to inclusive practice in their daily environments and a strong interest in completing the full UNESCO Chair IEPAS Inclusive Aquatics E-learning Units.

The practical session also highlighted the importance of role-modelling lived experience within professional learning. Brendan O'Connell, a Special Olympics Ireland athlete from Tralee who won gold in the 800m freestyle at the 2015 Special Olympics World Games in Los Angeles, undertook the training as part of his own development in swimming instruction. His participation brought unique insight into athlete-centred coaching, demonstrating how lived experience can directly inform and strengthen inclusive aquatics education. Brendan's ongoing journey in swimming instruction stands as a legacy in itself, showing future educators, volunteers, and aquatic leaders what inclusion looks like in practice.

The wider impact of the IEPAS Inclusive Aquatics programme is already significant. To date, 605 individuals have completed the online IEPAS Inclusive Aquatics units, representing professionals and volunteers from education, community sport, rehabilitation, and leisure services worldwide. Each graduate contributes to a growing global network of practitioners equipped with the knowledge, mindset, and practical capacity to make aquatic environments safer, more welcoming, and more equitable for people of all ages and abilities.

This legacy aligns strongly with ISAPA 2025's theme, Shifting the Dial – From Awareness to Transformation, by ensuring that transformative learning continues long after the Symposium through accessible digital training, skills-based workshops, and a commitment to lifelong professional development.

Further details on the IEPAS Inclusive Aquatics course are available at:
<https://iepas.com/courses/iepasinclusiveaquatics/>



Case Study 4: FAI Football for All – ISAPA 2025 Legacy Project

As part of the ISAPA 2025 Legacy and Community Programme, the Football Association of Ireland (FAI) delivered a vibrant and empowering Football for All (FFA) pan-disability coaching session in partnership with Killarney Celtic FC. This session exemplified how national governing bodies can contribute meaningfully to local communities while advancing the values of inclusion, participation, and joy in sport.

Led by Paul Smyth, Football for All Development Officer, together with Peter Murphy, Grassroots Football Development Officer for Kerry, and supported by Patrick O'Reilly, National FFA Programme Coordinator, the session introduced young players to a series of fun, accessible football activities. The event formed a cornerstone of ISAPA's commitment to ensuring that global dialogue on inclusion is matched with real, local action on the ground.

Held at the excellent facilities of the MTU Kerry Campus, the session gave players a memorable opportunity to learn new skills, connect with peers, and enjoy football in a welcoming environment. The involvement of club coaches also ensured that learning would continue long after ISAPA 2025, equipping them with new strategies and activity ideas to support their own inclusive programmes.

Each participant received a football and a commemorative medal, marking their contribution to ISAPA 2025 and recognising the value of their participation. For many families, this event highlighted how accessible, supported sport can build confidence, friendships, and belonging.

Local Impact

The collaboration showcased how ISAPA's presence in Kerry contributed directly to strengthening community inclusion and sporting opportunity. For Killarney Celtic FC, the session reinforced the club's ongoing commitment to disability inclusion and provided valuable professional input from FAI experts.

Testimonial

Jane O'Donoghue, FFA Coordinator, Killarney Celtic FC:

"Our players really enjoyed the visit from the FAI during the ISAPA conference. As coaches, we were able to gain some takeaways from the session, and it was also great to avail of the facilities at MTU."

Legacy Contribution

The FAI Football for All initiative at ISAPA 2025 stands as a strong example of how local partners can translate the Symposium's values into tangible community impact. By engaging children, supporting coaches, and strengthening inclusive football pathways, this legacy project helped ensure that Shifting the Dial resonated not only in academic and policy spaces but also on the pitches of Kerry - where inclusion becomes lived, joyful practice.



Case Study 5: MTU Campus Accessibility Enhancements – Building an Inclusive Physical Environment

In preparation for hosting more than 700 international delegates for ISAPA 2025, MTU Kerry undertook a series of meaningful accessibility upgrades that now form a lasting and tangible legacy for students, staff, and the wider community. These enhancements reflect MTU's commitment not only to accessibility during major events, but to embedding inclusion into the physical fabric and daily life of the university.

Grounded in the principles of Universal Design, the MTU Estates team, led by Donal Hunt with implementation by Aidan Walsh and strengthened through consultation with the ISAPA Accessibility Committee and the UNESCO Chair team, delivered improvements that addressed key access points across the MTU Kerry North Campus, ensuring that arrival, movement, and participation were more inclusive for ISAPA delegates and will continue to benefit users long after the Symposium.

Enhancing Campus Navigation and Arrival

As highlighted in MTU's pre-ISAPA feature Paving the Way to Inclusion the University completed a suite of access-focused upgrades including:

- improved footpaths and wayfinding routes,
- enhanced and clearly marked accessible parking bays,
- widened kerbs and reduced gradients,
- improved markings, surfacing, and signage at key transitions between buildings.

These changes were implemented to support safe, confident movement across campus for wheelchair users, blind and low-vision delegates, Deafblind participants, and those with mobility, sensory, or cognitive access needs.

A New Wheelchair-Accessible Outdoor Classroom & Recreation Area

One of the most significant developments, and a direct legacy outcome, is the creation of a wheelchair-accessible outdoor classroom/recreation area adjacent to the main building. Featuring reinforced grass surfacing and level access, this new space:

- supports outdoor learning, recreation, and group activities for disabled and non-disabled users alike,
- enables accessible movement for wheelchair users, mobility-aid users, and children in buggies,
- offers a safe, textured, and stabilised area for physical activity, small-group teaching, and social interaction,
- and stands as a visible symbol of MTU's commitment to inclusive environments.

This outdoor classroom will be used by many students across Health & Leisure, Adapted Physical Activity, Outdoor Learning, and Early Years programmes, providing a permanent, practical space where inclusive pedagogy can be modelled and experienced.

Strengthening Accessibility for the ISAPA 2025 Week

During the Symposium, the enhanced routes and spaces played an important role in ensuring that:

- delegates using wheelchairs or mobility devices could move comfortably between venues,
- Outdoor and practical sessions (including aquatics, golf, adapted games, and CPD workshops) were reachable and manageable for all,
- volunteers supporting blind and low-vision participants could rely on clear, continuous ootpath networks,
- the overall feel of the campus reflected the inclusive ethos of the event.

A Lasting Infrastructure Legacy

The upgrades undertaken for ISAPA 2025 now serve as a long-term asset for MTU's teaching, research and community programmes. The developments:

- align with MTU's commitments under the UNESCO Chair,
- complement ongoing work in inclusive curriculum design,
- support increased participation in outdoor learning, adapted physical activity and community sport,
- and stand as a practical example of how universities can shift the dial by improving the places where inclusion happens.

Legacy Significance

The MTU Kerry campus accessibility enhancements demonstrate that inclusion is not only a matter of programme design or policy, but also of environment. By investing in physical infrastructure that welcomes and enables everyone, MTU has ensured that ISAPA 2025 leaves a daily, visible, and meaningful impact for years to come, supporting students, staff, community users, and future international visitors alike.



Case Study 6 Special Olympics Motor Activity Training Program (MATP)

The Motor Activity Training Program (MATP) is Special Olympics' dedicated sport and physical activity pathway for athletes with profound intellectual disabilities and high support needs. As a movement-based sport programme, MATP ensures that every athlete, regardless of ability, communication style, mobility, or support requirement, has a meaningful place in sport, with opportunities to participate, progress, and perform in ways that reflect their strengths, preferences, and goals.

At ISAPA 2025, Special Olympics International and Special Olympics Ireland delivered a landmark MATP training and community engagement programme for local and not-so-local participants, marking one of the most comprehensive MATP activations ever held at an international symposium. Led by Dr Niamh-Elizabeth Mourton, Senior Manager for MATP at Special Olympics International, alongside global Special Olympics advisors and Irish practitioners, the ISAPA programme demonstrated MATP's unique ability to bridge research, practice, inclusion, and human rights.

Embedding MATP in the ISAPA Learning Experience

Delegates were offered the opportunity to complete an Introduction to Special Olympics MATP certified training, beginning with a pre-conference online module and culminating in a full day of immersive, hands-on learning on Friday, 20 June at the MTU Kerry Sports Academy.

The training sequence included:

Foundational presentations from MATP founder and global advisor Prof. Martin Block, and global Special Olympics leader Dr Eleni Rossides, exploring the why, how, and what of MATP.

"MATP in Action" practical training, led by Dr Niamh Mourton and Shaun Hennessey (Special Olympics Ireland), where participants engaged directly with MATP activities, equipment, coaching strategies, and athlete-centred adaptations.

A community-facing MATP "Come and Try" festival, an inclusive celebration inviting families, supporters, and the public to experience MATP first-hand. This event demonstrated how MATP creates belonging, joy, and meaningful participation for athletes with high support needs.

MATP's Contribution to the ISAPA 2025 Vision

The inclusion of MATP at ISAPA 2025 embodied the Symposium's theme, Shifting the Dial – From Awareness to Transformation, by:

- positioning athletes with high support needs at the centre of the programme,
- showcasing practical, rights-based approaches to inclusion,
- equipping educators, practitioners, and researchers with actionable skills,
- strengthening the global evidence base for adapted physical activity, and
- modelling inclusive, community-connected sport in practice.

Special Olympics' presence also highlighted the broader mission of MATP: enabling athletes with the highest support needs not only to take part, but to shine and ensuring that inclusion is understood not as an accommodation, but as a right.

ISAPA 2025 Exhibitor Showcase

Celebrating Innovation, Inclusion & Practice

The ISAPA 2025 Exhibition Hall brought together a diverse and vibrant collection of organisations spanning inclusive mobility, sensory education, adaptive sport, digital health, rehabilitation, and community advocacy. Exhibitors enriched the Symposium experience by offering demonstrations, showcasing assistive and therapeutic technologies, and providing practical solutions that complemented the scientific and policy discourse throughout the week. Their combined presence demonstrated the essential role of industry, community organisations, and innovators in advancing “Shifting the Dial” from awareness to transformation.

Exhibitor Profiles

Inclusive Mobility & Active Travel

Like Bikes (Ireland) – Andy Smyth

Providers of accessible bicycles and inclusive mobility solutions designed to enhance participation, independence, and health for individuals of all ages.



Comotion (Ireland) – Jarlath Gantly

Leaders in innovative active-travel and inclusive mobility systems, supporting communities to move safely, sustainably, and without barriers.

Adaptive & Inclusive Sport

Golf Ireland – Deborah Madden

Promoting Golf4All, an inclusive disability-golf pathway offering accessible coaching, equipment, and participation opportunities across Ireland.

Kin-Ball UK – Stephen Grace (Liverpool)

Representing one of the world’s most inclusive team sports, Kin-Ball UK showcased the cooperative, mixed-ability sport featuring a 1.22-metre ball—ideal for schools, community settings, and inclusive PE.



Sensory, Educational & Therapeutic Resources

Learning Space (UK & Ireland) – Philip Anderson

A trusted provider of sensory and specialist educational equipment for classrooms, clinics, hospitals, and family settings.

The Learning Store (Ireland) – Maurice, Bernie & John

Suppliers of educational and therapeutic materials including calming tools, sensory toys, STEM resources, arts materials, construction toys, and motor-skill supports.

Comfort Clothing (Ireland) – Monica Murphy

Creators of sensory-friendly and elegant adaptive clothing designed for comfort, dignity, and confidence across diverse needs and settings.

Autism Inclusion & Advocacy

AslAm (Ireland) – Adam Harris

Ireland's national autism organisation, promoting rights-based inclusion, public awareness, and community-oriented supports for Autistic people and their families.

Digital Innovation, Assessment & Health Technologies

Salaso – STEPS Digital Therapy Platform (Ireland)

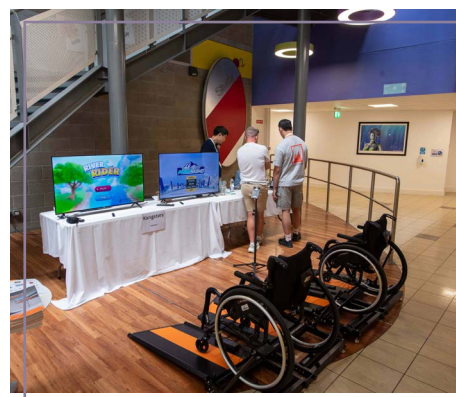
A leading Irish health-tech company, Salaso showcased its STEPS digital therapy platform, an evidence-informed solution combining video-based exercise prescription, personalised rehabilitation plans, progress tracking, and remote support for clinicians and service users. STEPS supports physical activity, recovery, and self-management across community, clinical, and workplace settings, demonstrating how digital tools can strengthen equitable access to rehabilitation and health promotion.

Kangsters (Korea) – Tyrion Kim

Innovators in personalised mobility and daily-life technology designed to enhance independence, comfort, and functional capacity.

movisens GmbH (Germany) – Darren McLennan

European leaders in ambulatory assessment technology, providing research-grade wearable sensors and the movisensX platform for precise behavioural and physiological data collection in academic and clinical research.



Rehabilitation, Therapy & Specialist Support

Private Therapy Clinic (Ireland & UK) – Dr Becky Spelman

Offering a wide range of evidence-based mental-health and behavioural therapies tailored to individual needs, including clinical support for people with disabilities and diverse health conditions.

Royal Dutch Visio (Netherlands) – Wilbert van Dorresteijn

The national expertise centre for blind and partially-sighted people in the Netherlands, providing rehabilitation, education, assistive technology, and multi-age supports for individuals with visual impairment.



Vitality Neuro Rehab (Ireland) – Barry Moore

Specialists in neurological rehabilitation for spinal cord injury, stroke, and neuro-recovery. Their approach blends kinesiology, activity-based therapy (ABT), and whole-body movement principles to support meaningful recovery.

Inclusive Aquatics & Physical Access

Poolpod (Scotland) – Josh Reid

An award-winning accessible pool-lift system enabling safe, dignified, independent water access in leisure centres, therapy pools, hotels, and homes. Portable and fixed options cater to the widest diversity of users.

Inclusive Clothing & Belonging

Primark Cares (Ireland/International) – Paul Walker

Presenting their emerging adaptive clothing line co-designed with disabled people and inclusion partners, Primark Cares demonstrated how mainstream retail can support dignity, affordability, and belonging through inclusive design.



A Living Exhibition of Inclusion

Throughout ISAPA 2025, exhibitors contributed to the practical and creative energy of the event, supporting demonstrations, inspiring new collaborations, and equipping delegates with tools to translate research into meaningful everyday practice. Their participation showcased innovation, compassion, and partnership at the heart of the Symposium's mission to accelerate global inclusion.

Organising a trade exhibition takes dedicated effort, and we strongly recommend an 18-month lead into the event to start promoting exhibitor spaces.



Feedback From ISAPA 2025 Participants

Feedback received following ISAPA 2025 reflected deep appreciation for the Symposium's ambition, atmosphere, and impact. While formal submissions tended to be brief or neutral, the individual messages sent directly to the organisers were consistently warm, enthusiastic, and personal. Together, they offer a rich picture of how ISAPA was experienced by delegates, partners, and contributors from around the world.

Overall Experience and Atmosphere

Many delegates described ISAPA 2025 as memorable, special, and in several cases one of the best conferences they had ever attended. The welcoming environment in Kerry, combined with the professionalism of the event, left a strong impression. Several visitors referenced the beauty of the campus, the warmth of the local community, the restaurants and landscapes of Tralee, and the distinctive sense of Irish culture woven throughout the week. Many expressed that their time in Kerry would remain with them long after the event.

Scientific, Policy, and Professional Value

A recurring theme across feedback was the strength and balance of the programme. Delegates valued the mix of research, policy, and practice, noting that ISAPA provided meaningful opportunities for learning and exchange.

Several highlighted:

- the UNESCO Consultation as a rare and significant opportunity to contribute to global policy standards,
- the IFAPA–Special Olympics International MoU signing as a landmark moment for the field, and
- the wide range of workshops and practical sessions as valuable additions to the week.
- International guests from government agencies, sport organisations, and NGOs expressed strong interest in continued learning, follow-up resources, and access to presentation materials.

Awards and Ceremonial Moments

The honours presented during ISAPA, including the Elly D. Friedmann Award and the Young Professional Awards, were described by respondents as “wonderful moments” and among the highlights of the week. Delegates appreciated the recognition of both senior leaders and emerging scholars, and the emotional resonance of these presentations was noted in several messages.

Cultural and Social Events

The closing gala dinner received particularly strong praise. Guests described it as exceptional, joyful, and uniquely reflective of local culture. The dance performances were frequently mentioned as being “special” and an expression of the warm hospitality associated with the region.

International Engagement and Connection

Delegates from multiple continents shared that ISAPA 2025 was an opportunity not only to learn, but to build new friendships, partnerships, and networks. Many expressed a desire to remain connected, extended invitations to collaborate internationally, or welcomed future engagement in their home countries.

Constructive Reflections

While personal emails were overwhelmingly positive, formal feedback was more understated, with fewer respondents offering detailed written reflections. This contrast indicates that although the conference resonated strongly with many participants, not all chose to submit extended formal evaluations.

Overall Synthesis

Taken as a whole, the feedback illustrates a Symposium that made a strong impact scientifically, professionally, and personally. Delegates consistently referenced the:

- warmth and professionalism of the hosting,
- high calibre of the programme,
- strong cultural identity of the event, and
- unique opportunity to contribute to global policy, witness key organisational milestones, and participate in meaningful discussions.

The personal messages of gratitude, connection, and admiration underscore that ISAPA 2025 not only delivered a world-class academic programme but also created a sense of community and belonging, leaving a lasting impression on those who attended.

Post-Event Survey

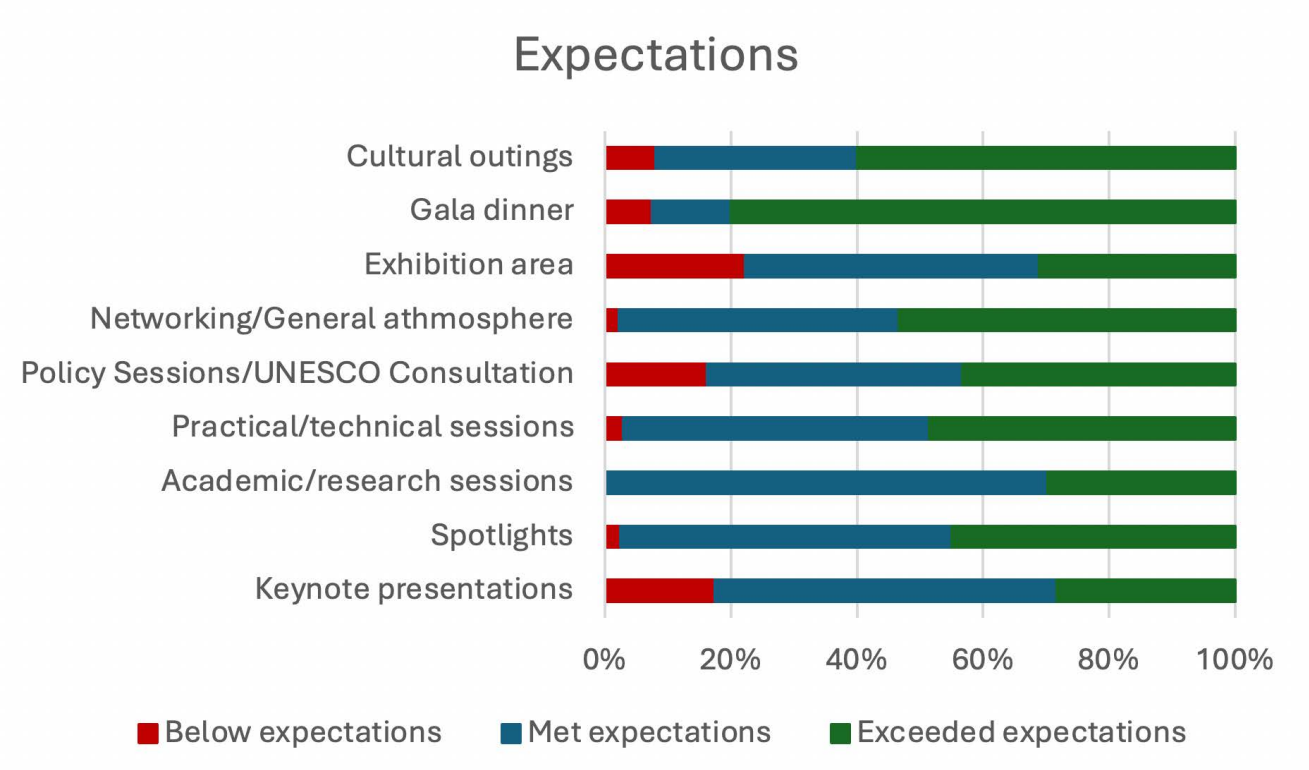
We conducted a post-event survey of all ISAPA 2025 participants to assess overall satisfaction with key aspects of the Symposium. The survey used a 5-point satisfaction scale as well as open-ended questions and achieved a 20% response rate. The following summary presents the main findings, with a focus on both strengths and areas for improvement to inform the planning of future Symposia.

Overall satisfaction levels were high across most dimensions of the event. Respondents rated their overall Ireland experience very positively, along with the hospitality and welcome provided by the organising team and the accessibility of the venue. The ISAPA 2025 location in Kerry/Ireland, accommodation suggested by the organising team, and the quality of the venues, including rooms, sports facilities, audiovisual equipment, and seating were also rated favourably. Digital and programme-related aspects received slightly lower, though still generally positive, scores: the ISAPA 2025 website, quality of the programme (content and speakers), ISAPA 2025 communications, and the ISAPA 2025 app. The lowest-rated aspect was the food provided during the event, indicating a clear area for improvement in future Symposia, alongside enhancements to the app and communication tools.

What is your level of satisfaction regarding the following aspects of ISAPA?	Average (out of 5)
Overall Ireland Experience	4.61
Hospitality and Welcome by Organising Team	4.53
Accessibility of venue	4.45
ISAPA 2025 location (Kerry/Ireland)	4.43
Accommodation suggested by organising team	4.4
Quality of the Venues (rooms, sport facilities, AV, seating)	4.35
ISAPA2025 Website	4.33
Quality of the program (content and speakers)	4.2
ISAPA 2025 Communications	4.15
ISAPA 2025 App	3.98
Food provided during the event	3.86

While many respondents stated that they would not change anything, several constructive suggestions emerged that can help strengthen future ISAPA events. The most frequent comments related to logistics and structure: participants found the program very dense at times, with parallel sessions and high-level policy content making it hard to choose, and they suggested a clearer, more user-friendly program and website, with more advance and regular communication and announcements.

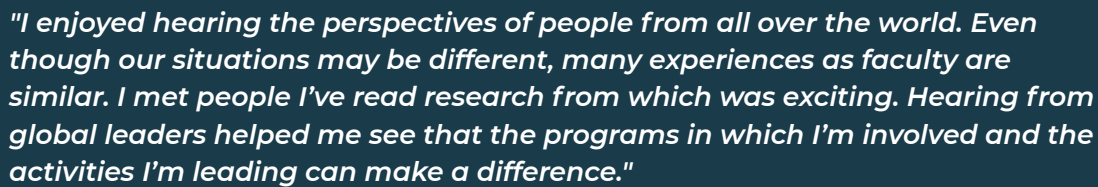
Repeated feedback also focused on the venue and catering arrangements, particularly the crowded lunch area, the “rolling lunch” not adequately meeting needs (including for attendees with accessibility requirements), and the challenge of holding poster sessions in the same space and at the same time as meals; several participants recommended separating eating times from poster presentations and providing more suitable spaces for keynotes and posters. A smaller number of comments pointed to the overall conference concept and content focus, encouraging more sessions that link theory and practice, and, in future, a location and facilities that are easier to access from accommodations. All this feedback provides a positive foundation and helpful guidance for enhancing clarity, focus, accessibility, and the overall attendee experience in future editions.



Future ISAPA Events

Finally, we asked participants about their likelihood of attending future ISAPA events and recommending ISAPA to others. Most respondents expressed a strong intention to remain engaged: approximately 80% reported being either “somewhat likely” or “extremely likely” to participate in future ISAPA events. In addition, 84% of respondents indicated they would recommend the event to others, with a further 12% answering “maybe,” highlighting a high level of satisfaction.

These are some quotes that participants shared with us



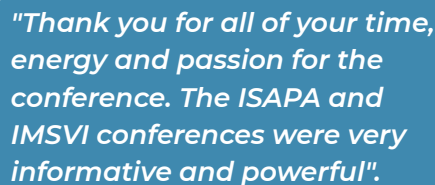
"I enjoyed hearing the perspectives of people from all over the world. Even though our situations may be different, many experiences as faculty are similar. I met people I've read research from which was exciting. Hearing from global leaders helped me see that the programs in which I'm involved and the activities I'm leading can make a difference."



"ISAPA 2025 was a wonderful opportunity to bring together like-minded people committed to make a real difference in the disability space".



"ISAPA 2025 made a change in my life towards APA"



"Thank you for all of your time, energy and passion for the conference. The ISAPA and IMSVI conferences were very informative and powerful".

Communications Feedback

Delegate feedback on communications was mixed. Many participants praised the clarity, frequency, and professionalism of updates, particularly those who had subscribed to the ISAPA mailing list and therefore received all announcements as intended. Others reported gaps or confusion, which likely occurred when delegates had not completed the website subscription process despite multiple reminders.

The introduction of the ISAPA conference app received especially positive feedback from users who engaged with it. They described it as modern, helpful, and an excellent support for navigating the programme. However, delegates who did not download or explore the app experienced less benefit from the features designed to streamline communication.

The website's enhanced search function was also valued by those who used it to locate sessions, speakers, and programme elements quickly. As with the app, engagement played a key role in the user experience.

Overall, communications systems worked effectively for participants who used the available tools, while non-engagement with the app or mailing list contributed to variation in individual experiences. This highlights the importance of early sign-up and clearer prompts to ensure consistent access to updates for future events.

Empowering Inclusion: The Volunteer and Support Workforce of ISAPA 2025

The success of ISAPA 2025 was built not only on its scientific and policy achievements but on the dedication of a remarkable volunteer and support workforce. The International Volunteer Program (IVP), MTU's professional staff, and the Skills for Life young adult volunteers collectively shaped an inclusive, welcoming, and barrier-free experience for more than 700 delegates. Their contributions reflected the values embedded throughout ISAPA: dignity, accessibility, cultural sensitivity, and community leadership.

International Volunteer Program (IVP): A Global Learning Community

The IVP established at ISAPA 2009 and strengthened again in 2025 under the coordination of Ayşegül Rosa Aksoy provides students and early-career professionals with a unique opportunity to immerse themselves in an international adapted physical activity environment. Drawing on the IVP Training Manual's emphasis on communication, accessibility, cultural competency, and proactive assistance, volunteers supported delegates across every venue on the MTU campus.

Throughout the Symposium, they staffed registration, accessibility and concierge desks, assisted with session operations, provided wayfinding support, and ensured delegates felt oriented and welcomed. Their professionalism, adaptability, and warmth were widely acknowledged in participant feedback.

IVP Volunteers at ISAPA 2025

Visible all week in their pink t-shirt, and teal on Thursday sincere thanks to all our IVP Class of 2025: Jiin Heo · Anthony DeBalso · Saba' Almarahleh · Raghad Alkhatib · Baillie Ollila · Alessia Capone · Yaejee Kim · Justin Goddard · Breanna Bowman · Ciara Murphy · Hannah Lywood · Michihito Ichihara · Roisin Jordan · Pedro Lins. This diverse group exemplified ISAPA's mission of connecting cultures, disciplines, and perspectives to advance global inclusion.

MTU Support Staff: The Backbone of Event Operations

Alongside the international volunteers, MTU's ISAPA dedicated event operations support team and Health & Leisure staff teams ensured seamless delivery across multiple buildings and parallel events. Their behind-the-scenes work, logistics, venue readiness, technical and IT assistance, signage and navigation, safety, accessibility coordination, and rapid problem-solving, was essential to the high standard of care delegates consistently praised.

Daily briefings and communication flows, led locally by Tomás Aylward, in close collaboration with Ursula Barrett, Brid Browne, and many health and leisure colleagues enabled staff to respond quickly to real-time needs and maintain coherence across the campus. Special thanks are extended to ISAPA MTU event support staff Brenda Giblin, Nicole Walker, and Clodagh Hickey, whose consistent presence and commitment greatly enhanced the delegate experience.

Skills for Life Volunteers: Inclusion in Action

Building on their powerful role at the Opening Ceremony, the Skills for Life young adult volunteers with intellectual disabilities served as wayfinding and hospitality leaders throughout the week. Stationed at key navigation points, they offered guidance, reassurance, and warm engagement to delegates moving between buildings and sessions.

Their visible leadership showcased the core message of ISAPA 2025: inclusion is a practice. The Skills for Life volunteers brought authenticity, confidence, and joy to the Symposium, demonstrating the value of meaningful participation and community belonging.

A Legacy of Inclusive Volunteerism

Together, the International Volunteer Program, MTU support staff, and Skills for Life volunteers created a model of inclusive volunteerism that will shape the future of ISAPA. With the IVP Training Manual now forming part of the ISAPA Legacy, future symposia will benefit from the frameworks, standards, and ethos developed in Kerry.

Beyond the operational excellence they provided, this volunteer workforce shaped the human experience of ISAPA 2025 ensuring that every delegate felt supported, seen, and welcome. Their contribution becomes part of ISAPA's enduring story and a lasting example of how inclusion is brought to life through people.



Acknowledgements

The Organising Committee of ISAPA 2025 extends its sincere appreciation to all those who contributed to the success of the 25th International Symposium on Adapted Physical Activity.

We wish to acknowledge the exceptional commitment of our partners, sponsors, volunteers and contributors whose expertise, goodwill and collaboration made this symposium possible.

Our thanks go to our Patron UNESCO, Munster Technological University, IFAPA, IMSVI our national and international partners and the many organisations and institutions represented across the programme. Their shared commitment to inclusion, equity, human rights and the advancement of adapted physical activity shaped the direction and impact of this event.

We express deep gratitude to the presenters, keynote speakers, workshop facilitators and performers whose contributions enriched the academic, cultural and experiential dimensions of ISAPA 2025. Their generosity in sharing research, practice, and lived experience continues to strengthen the global APA community.

We acknowledge the tremendous energy and professionalism of the ISAPA volunteers and support teams, whose enthusiasm and kindness created a welcoming and accessible environment for all delegates. Their engagement reflects the very ethos of this symposium.

We further thank the delegates from around the world for their active participation, thoughtful dialogue and commitment to advancing inclusion through education, sport, culture and community practice. The diversity of perspectives represented at ISAPA 2025 is central to its legacy.

Finally, we recognise the many individuals and partners whose behind-the-scenes contributions supported ISAPA 2025. A detailed account of operational planning, hosting logistics and institutional learning will be provided separately in the ISAPA 2025 Organiser's Report, available through MTU.

We are honoured to have hosted this milestone event in Kerry and remain deeply grateful to all who contributed to its success and lasting impact.



A Flavour of What Awaits at ISAPA 2027 – Jordan

The 26th International Symposium of Adapted Physical Activity (ISAPA 2027) held under the slogan "Optimal Performance in Adapted Physical Activity" will be organized in the heart of the Middle East, Jordan, under the leadership of Prof. Dr. Omar Hindawi. Jordan serves as a link between Asia, Europe, and Africa; therefore, we hope to welcome a large number of researchers from all over the world to this conference.

For full details about the event, you may visit the official conference website at:

<https://isapa2027.com/>. ISAPA 2027 will take place at the Hilton Dead Sea Resort & Spa, a world-class venue overlooking the lowest point on earth. You can explore the conference venue through the photo gallery at:

<https://www.hilton.com/en/hotels/ammdshi-hilton-dead-sea-resort-and-spa/gallery/>

We invite all interested researchers worldwide to take part, as the event offers an excellent and unique opportunity to share experiences and meet key figures in the field, as well as high-ranking representatives from the Olympic and Paralympic Committees, the UN, and Special Olympics. ISAPA 2027 will provide not only scientific enrichment but also cultural and touristic value.

Jordan is known for its security and safety and reasonable prices for everyone. Most importantly, the people of Jordan are hospitable, peaceful, and widely recognized for their friendliness. Jordan offers numerous remarkable sites to visit, including Amman's downtown, The Baptismal Site of Jesus Christ, Petra, and the Dead Sea.









Míle buíochas (MEE-leh BWEE-uh-khuss)
a thousand thanks from all of us to all of you.

Your presence, energy and contributions made ISAPA 2025 truly special.
For ISAPA 2025 in Photo Format, Visit <https://www.flickr.com/people/153600504@N04/>

