

## INTERNATIONAL RESEARCH CONFERENCE IN SPORT SCIENCES

### SPEAKERS

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#### DAY 1

**13:25 - 13:35: Sustainability in research from a transdisciplinary perspective**



**Eva Särndahl** is professor in biomedicine at Örebro University (ORU), Sweden with almost four decades of experience in academia and research. She acts at the Director of the research center *iRiSC - Inflammatory Response and Infection Susceptibility Centre*, hosting several projects of translational character, including Örebro University's strategic research profile *HiDE – Exploring Inflammation in Health and Disease*. With the aim to understand inflammatory mechanisms in health and disease, the role of inflammation has been evaluated in novel approaches, like psychiatric disorders and surgical stress, and proactively for understanding of adverse health effects by exposure of pollutants in the industry. Her research interest on the inter-individual host response has progressed into today's research fields of personalized medicine and precision health, and she is a member of the team currently working with the transdisciplinary project *Prevention with Precision*.

Her upbringing as a PhD-student in a multidisciplinary and multicultural research environment, where scientific quality preceded, has inspired her academic work as an independent researcher; both with the aim set of innovative research of the highest quality in multidisciplinary settings and by applying a sustainable work philosophy, involving gender and equality aspects. She has therefore fostered several multi-, inter-, and transdisciplinary collaborations by involving the society, e.g., the business sector, research institutes, patient and stakeholder organizations; all with a high success rate of progression and spin-off research endeavors. Sustainability in the form of academic diversity, involving topics like multigenerational and internationalization, and with research driven by curiosity but still addressing societal challenges, is and has always been high on Dr. Särndahl's agenda. Taken together with a strong commitment to mentorship and visionary leadership, acquired by experience and educational qualifications, Dr. Särndahl take great pride in acting as mentor for the next generation of scientists by advocating academic day-to-day issues and providing support in career prospects.

### 13:35 - 15:30: Technologies in Sport



**Denis Bertin** - After completing a PhD in polymer science in 1997 at the University of Montpellier II, Denis Bertin joined the petrochemical company TOTAL as a research and development engineer in Materials Sciences where he stayed until 2000. He then joined AMU to develop a mixed academic/industrial research group on material sciences at the Faculty of Science. He became a university professor in 2002. He has worked on nanostructured organic materials with various applications (health, environment, energy, sport, etc.). In 2006, he became AMU's Vice-chancellor for research. After 14 years at the Faculty of Science, he joined the Faculty of Sports Science (2014) and the Institute of Movement Science.



**Stina Lundgren Högbom** - Director for Sports Technology and Innovation at svexa. Stina is a PhD with a broad education in biochemistry, sports science, and economics. During the spring of 2019, she was the Program Manager of SPIN Accelerator Sweden to accelerate SportsTech startups that support and empower athletes. She is also engaged in SVEXA which optimizes training for the individual athlete by using data. Stina is also the National team manager for the Swedish Jujutsu Federation, advisor to the KTH Center for Sports Engineering, and on the sports physiology group at the Swedish Budo & Martial Arts Federation.



**Ludovic Seifert** is Professor at the Faculty of Sport Sciences at University of Rouen Normandy in France. He gained a PhD in Sport Sciences focused on Behavioural Neurosciences in 2003, and a MSc. in Statistics in 2005. He conducts his research in the field of Motor Learning and Motor Control following Ecological Dynamics framework

His main research topics relate to acquisition, transfer and expertise of interlimb coordination, interpersonal coordination and visual-motor coordination in sport. He is the vice dean of the CETAPS lab at the University of Rouen Normandy and awarded as senior member of the French University Institute (IUF) in 2021.

## 16:45 - 17:45: Perspectives from French and Swedish Sport National Organizations



### **Bâbak AMIR-TAHMASSEB**

Bâbak AMIR-TAHMASSEB, is an Olympian (Sydney & Athens) and world champion in sprint Kayak. Since 2017 he's working at INSEP, the french institute of High-performance sport, and he is the director of international and grand INSEP network.



**Kent Lindahl**, a former multiple championship coach, head coach national team and national sports director in Basketball. Works at the Swedish Sports Confederation. Head of the development of National Sports Universities, Elite Sports Friendly Universities and Dual Careers.



**Mikael Swarén** is a researcher focusing on sports biomechanics, mechanics, and performance analysis. With more than 15 years of expertise, he has partnered with Swedish and international Olympic athletes and teams. Presently, Mikael holds the role of Director at the Swedish Unit of Metrology in Sports at Dalarna University. Additionally, he is actively engaged with the Swedish Sports Confederation, contributing to advancements in sports technology and biomechanics.

## DAY 2

### 8:45 - 10:30: Sport and Health



**Ulf Ekelund** - Main research areas include assessment of physical activity and sedentary time; patterns and trends in population levels of physical activity; the role of sedentary time and physical activity in preventing chronic diseases; and early life determinants of physical activity behavior and its interaction with health outcomes across the life course.

I have published more than 425 original publications (H-index = 100 according to Thomson Reuters web of Science; >100,000 references; H-index = 133 according to Google Scholar) since 2000, including articles in The Lancet, The BMJ, JAMA, Nature, Science and Lancet Public Health.

Three of my papers have been listed on the Altmetric Top 100 list in 2012, 2016 and 2019. I was listed as a highly cited researcher in 2018, 2019, 2021, 2022 and 2023 by Clarivate analytics. I am member of the steering committee for the Lancet series on physical activity and health. I am also serving on the executive committee of the Global Observatory for Physical Activity (GoPA) and have served on the American College of Sports Medicine's board (2016-2019). I served on the International Society for Physical Activity and Health (ISPAH) executive committee between 2012 and 2016. In 2019 to 2020 I served on the WHO guideline development group for physical activity and was an international expert for the UK guidelines for physical activity in 2018. I sit on the editorial board for Medicine and Science in Sports and Exercise, and the Journal of Physical Activity and Health.



**Maria Ekblom** is a licensed Physiotherapist from Linköping University, with a PhD from the Department of Neuroscience at Karolinska Institute in 2004. Her research initially focused on neural mechanisms for motor control, and how the nervous system adapts to acute and/or prolonged exercise.

Over the years, she has assumed various roles, such as establishing a new Biomechanics and Motor Control laboratory and directing a master's program in Sports Science. Currently, she serves as the director of the PhD program in Sports Science at the Swedish School of Sport and Health Sciences, GIH.

Since 2016, she has led a translational research group focusing on physical activity for brain health, spanning from exercise neurophysiology to physical activity epidemiology and behavior change. Since November 2021, this research group has been on an 8-year mission to establish E-PABS: a Center of Excellence in Physical Activity, Healthy Brain Functions, and Sustainability.

E-PABS collaborates in both research and education with societal stakeholders interested in understanding how physical activity can promote healthy brain functions for individuals at risk of or suffering from psychiatric or neurological disorders. We aim to design both research and education to deliver outcomes that provide value to these individuals.





**Aurélie Van Hoyer** is a Associate Professor at University of Lorraine, member of the Public Health Laboratory INSPIRE. Her research interests are focusing on supporting coaches and PE teacher in their role, especially regarding their health promotion activities and motivational climate, as well as more indirectly through the study of health enhancing physical activity policies. She has worked on the evaluation of the impact and implementation of the PAPA project (<http://www.papaproject.org>) in France. This project aimed at enhancing youth sport experience trough an educational training on an empowering motivational climate of their grassroots coaches. She participated to the EPHEPA project, being responsible of the data collection of national physical activity policies in Belgium. Furthermore, her actual work is centered on the development of an intervention for sport clubs to become health promoting setting, from intervention mapping to

intervention implementation and evaluation (PROSCeSS project; <http://www.proscess.org>). She is also leader, with Susanna Geidne, of the Promoting Health and Physical Activity in Sports Clubs working group of the Health Enhancing Physical Activity network of the WHO Europe. Finally, she works on the evaluation of physical activity interventions, especially on the implementation process evaluation using mixed methods.



**Oddrun Samdal** is Professor at the Department of Health Promotion and Development, Faculty of Psychology at the University of Bergen. Her main research interest is to study how pupils' experiences in school affect their learning, health behaviours, and well-being by exploring the interplay between individual and environmental correlates. She has a particular interest in studying adolescents' physical activity and well-being. A core strand of Samdal research relates to intervention research in schools evaluating implementation and effect of intervention programs aiming at promoting pupils' physical activity, healthy eating and well-being. She has published widely through more than 100 peer-reviewed papers and book chapters and has been the editor of two books. Further, throughout all her career, Samdal has been involved in giving policy advice to ministries of health and education.

Samdal has since 1999 been the [Data Manager](#) and the Norwegian Principal investigator of the international WHO-collaborative study "[Health Behaviour in School-aged Children](#)", which involves 51 countries and regions in Europe, North America, and Western Asia. From June 2024 she will take over as the International Coordinator of the study.

## 11:00 - 12:00: Perspectives from French and Swedish Health National Organizations



**Florence Rostan**, a nutritionist, serves as a health promotion officer at French National Public Health Agency within the Department of Prevention and Health Promotion. Her areas of interest focus on health promotion models and strategies, as well as the implementation of effective interventions, specifically related to physical activity. She is responsible for implementing the project to promote physical activity and reduce sedentary behavior among adolescents (ICAPS). In this capacity, she has contributed to the drafting of a guide titled "Promoting Youth Physical Activity: Developing an ICAPS-Type Project," as well as the development of distance learning courses related to physical activity (e-learning, MOOC). She is also involved in the research and development project PROSCeSS (Health Promotion in Sports Clubs), which aims to promote health in sports clubs and support them in becoming health-promoting environments.



**Marita Friberg**, Public health analyst at the Public Health Agency of Sweden. She is specialised in physical activity and sedentary behaviours, with a PhD from the Karolinska Institutet. Her main responsibility at the Public Health Agency is to implement the national guidelines on physical activity and sedentary behaviours.