

UK Sports Volunteering Research Network

Research Seminar

Wednesday 11th October 2017

Northumbria University, Newcastle upon Tyne

Speakers and Short Abstracts

Registration (tea and coffee available)	9.30 - 10.00
Welcome and housekeeping	10.00 – 10.05
'To be honest, nobody really knows': Exploring volunteer experiences of diversity work in community sport clubs in Melbourne, Australia. <i>Ryan Storr, Victoria University, Melbourne.</i> This presentation reports on an ethnographic PhD project which explores how community sport volunteers in Melbourne, Australia, respond to increased diversity. It specifically reports on the experiences of those volunteers in one community cricket club committed to engaging in diversity work. Diversity work was enacted through the creation of two specialist teams for players with an intellectual disability. Data reported that these volunteers experienced resistance to their work and their volunteering was demanding and stressful, whereby the teams and volunteers operated on the periphery of the club. It critically questions the roles of volunteers in delivering policies aimed at encouraging diversity, and the extent to which volunteers are complimentary to social welfare and inclusion objectives.	10.05 - 10.45
Developing and implementing an NGB Volunteering Strategy. <i>Geoff Grant, British Gymnastics.</i> This presentation covers how a Governing Body of Sport set about developing a volunteer-led strategy. Now more than two years into its implementation, it reviews the progress made, the lessons learned along the way and how this has shaped the future direction of volunteer thinking across the sport for the future	10.45 - 11.25
Key findings of an evaluation of Volunteer Coordinators within sport organisations in Wales. <i>Carwyn Young, Sport Wales.</i> This presentation will focus on what the findings tell us about the people that currently undertake the role of a Volunteer Co-ordinator in 4 different sports, and what they believe are the factors we should be focussing on for the recruitment and retention of volunteers. How the findings of evaluation are being used to develop sports volunteering in Wales will also be covered.	11.25 - 12.05
Discussion groups (1)	12.05 - 12.40
Lunch (provided) and Networking	12.40 - 13.10
Volunteering and inequalities – is this a public health issue? <i>Professor Jane South, Leeds Beckett University/Public Health England.</i> Volunteering is associated with intrinsic health benefits yet little attention is given to the question of how volunteering intersects with health inequalities. Drawing on a rapid evidence review of barriers to volunteering and other evaluative research, this presentation will provide an overview of what inequalities exist, why and what type of interventions are able to widen participation in volunteering and address social exclusion. Questions will be posed about the links between sports volunteering and the public health agenda.	13.10 – 13.50

<p>Disabled people in sport volunteering <i>Emma Spring, English Federation of Disability Sport (EFDS)</i> A two stage study using qualitative and quantitative methodologies looked at how and why disabled people volunteer in sport and how that compares to non-disabled people's volunteering habits. The qualitative study included a range of people with different impairments and different levels of volunteering and asked why they got involved in volunteering and the experiences they have had. The quantitative phase was designed to test the motivations and barriers identified in the qualitative phase and to determine if there are any differences between disabled and non-disabled people's views and experiences of volunteering.</p>	13.50 – 14.30
<p>Looking beyond event volunteering to longer-term legacies of sport event volunteering: methodologies, and measuring social connectedness. <i>Dr Fiona Reid, Glasgow Caledonian University, Dr Robert Rogerson, University of Strathclyde and Bridget Sly, Glasgow Life.</i> Long-term legacies of volunteering at sport events have rarely been considered. This paper explains one research methodology being used to address this gap and ascertain the social legacy of the Host City Volunteer Programme from Commonwealth Games 2014. While understanding individuals' social connectedness, particularly relating to continuing volunteering, is one strand, another one is questioning our research assumptions and corresponding methods.</p>	14.30 – 15.10
<p>Discussion groups (2)</p>	15.10 – 15.50
<p>Summary of SVRN Impact study Dr Lindsay Findlay-King (SVRN Vice-Chair)</p>	15.50 – 16.10
<p>Closing remarks – and further networking time</p>	16.10 – 16.30

Facilitated Discussion Groups and Forums: topics to be determined

If you have any queries, please contact Fiona Reid, UKSVRN Secretary: Fiona.Reid@gcu.ac.uk.

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Remember the event is **free** to attend, but please register through Eventbrite:
https://svrn_11oct17_seminar.eventbrite.com