International conference “Optimizing Athletes’ Employability”

‘Be a Winner in Elite Sport and Employment before and after athletic Retirement’
Erasmus+ Sport project B-WISER

12 December 2018

08:45  Registration & coffee

09:20 Welcome • Prof. Paul Wylleman, project coordinator - Vrije Universiteit Brussel

09:40 The university and its elite athletes • TBC

10:00 The results of B-WISER:
  • B-WISER: A general outline • Dr. Koen De Brandt, Vrije Universiteit Brussel
  • The current status of career support services for active and former elite athletes in Europe • Drs. Simon Defruyt, Vrije Universiteit Brussel
  • Which competencies do European athletes require to optimize their employability? • Dr. Koen De Brandt, Vrije Universiteit Brussel
  • Why should we (not) hire athletes? European employers’ perspectives • Dra. Sofie Smismans, Vrije Universiteit Brussel

11:15 Coffee break

11:45 Round table "B-WISER: Lessons learned and actions taken by the participating Member States” • Prof. Paul Wylleman, Vrije Universiteit Brussel (moderator)

Research partners of the participating Member States:
  • Prof. Natalia Stambulova, Halmstad University, Sweden
  • Dr. Babett Lobinger, German Sport University Cologne, Germany
  • Prof. Francesca Vitali, University of Verona, Italy
  • Prof. Saša Cecić Erpič, University of Ljubljana, Slovenia
  • Prof. Miquel Torregrossa, Universitat Autonoma de Barcelona, Spain
  • Drs. Simon Defruyt, Vrije Universiteit Brussel, Belgium

12:45 Lunch
14:00 **Parallel Workshops “Tools & instruments to work with active and former elite athletes”** (3 rounds x 4 rooms; 40 min/round; 10’ switch)

- **WHO AM I? “The Athletes’ Competency Questionnaire for Employability: Assisting athletes in evaluating their competencies”** • Prof. Francesca Vitali & dra. Nicole Tabarini, University of Verona, Italy

- **WHERE DO I WANT TO GO? “Assisting athletes in evaluating their life domains & values, and developing goals in different spheres of life”** • Dr. Babett Lobinger & dra. Sinikka Heisler, German Sport University Cologne, Germany

- **HOW DO I GET THERE? “The five-step career planning: planning for the future based on an analysis of the present situation and past experiences”** • Prof. Natalia Stambulova & drs. Johan Ekengren, Halmstad University, Sweden

- **TAKE ACTION! “Speed-networking: creating a positive understanding between athletes and employers”** • Mr. Patrick Glennon, Ms. Janine Bisschof & Ms. Iris Ulenaers, The Adecco Group, Athlete Career Programme

16:30 **Coffee break**

16:50 **Round table “The value and implications of the B-WISER project: Optimizing athletes’ vocational development in Europe”** • Prof. Paul Wylleman, Vrije Universiteit Brussel (moderator)

Participants:
- Mr. Patrick Glennon, The Adecco Group – SVP Athlete Career Programme
- Mr. Sven Baumgarten, Deutscher Olympischer Sportbund (TBC)
- Mr. Olek Kazimirowski, Belgian Paralympic Committee
- Ms. Iris Ulenaers, The Adecco Group – Athlete Career Programme Belgium
- Mr. Sebbe Godefroid, Olympic medalist & alumnus Vrije Universiteit Brussel (TBC)
- Mr. Marcel Ceulemans, Kapito, HR Consultant

17:45 **Closing • TBC**

18:00 **Cocktail reception**

**Registration** for the conference and parallel workshops is required at http://www.vub.ac.be/en/events/2018/international-conference-on-optimizing-athletes-employability

**Venue:** Brussels Health Campus  
Laarbeeklaan 103, 1090 Jette  
Auditorium P. Brouwer