



Physical Education, Physical Activity and Youth Sport (PEPAYS) Ireland

Lecture Series 2025

The University of Limerick (UL) has been awarded a UNESCO Chair in Physical Education and Sport Pedagogy for Sustainable Development with inaugural chairholders being Professor Ann MacPhail (UL) and Professor Marco Rieckmann (University of Vechta, Germany).

Aligned with the award is the PEPAYS Ireland Research Centre whose mission is to advance the physical, health, and social wellbeing of children, youth, adults and athletes of all abilities through the creation and dissemination of knowledge that impacts both policy and practice in physically active and healthy lifestyles. The UNESCO award provides impetus for PEPAYS Ireland to begin supporting the award with a view to developing and disseminating an innovative research agenda/portfolio that captures the pressing issues and potential synergies between physical education, sport pedagogy and sustainable development, with a view to directing stakeholders in meaningful research, and policy endeavours in the area.

PEPAYS Ireland is seeking expressions of interest from colleagues who would be interested in delivering (face to face) or online a 30 minute-presentation that captures the extent to which their research does, or can begin to, consider how in the future it can, address sustainable development. Presenters will be encouraged to determine their working definition of sustainable development, appreciating that there may be an emphasis on one of the following - addressing pressing global challenges, creating real-world impact, fostering interdisciplinary collaboration and contributing to long-term sustainable development efforts. Presenters will also share any experiences they have with ensuring that sustainable development is a consideration from the beginning of a research study. The lecture will be followed by 15 minutes for discussion, questions and answers.

The lecture series is to be a safe space where colleagues can begin to consider how best to position their research, and themselves, in the ever growing national and international interest in advocating for sustainable development. It is envisaged that the collective presentations that contribute to the lecture series can inform an innovative research agenda in physical education and sport pedagogy for sustainable development, with the intention of accessing funding opportunities and influencing policy.

Expressions of interest should be no more than 300 words and provide an outline of your research topic and alignment with sustainable development / United Nations sustainable development goals. Completed expressions of interest are to be submitted by 25 February 2025 to pepays@ul.ie

For any enquiries related to the UNESCO Chair in Physical Education and Sport Pedagogy for Sustainable Development and/or the PEPAYS Ireland Lecture Series 2025 please contact Prof. Ann MacPhail directly at Ann.MacPhail@ul.ie