

PRESS RELEASE

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World Academy of Sport establishes Manchester as the International Sporting Knowledge Capital City

The World Academy of Sport has brought together International sporting dignitaries to serve on its International Advisory Board (IAB) launched here in Manchester today.

The Academy's education headquarters, based at Manchester Business School, has partnered with Manchester City Council and the University of Manchester to host the first IAB meeting at the Town Hall, ensuring that the city is recognised as a leading global centre of knowledge for sport, and ensuring key international education and sport decisions are made here.

The Chairman, Ex Director General of the International Olympic Committee, Mr Francois Carrard commented

"Manchester which is already an established world leader in major international sporting event delivery, will now also act as the international education hub for the IAB due to its excellent reputation for world class sports knowledge and education delivered through the University of Manchester. "

The Board has two well defined mandates, one to establish global industry standards for global sport education and two, to identify and address projects of global significance in support of the industry standards; both are significant in addressing issues which will arise as we move forward in a business sector that is both dynamic and challenging. The Board will endeavour to provide guidance and influence for industry growth through skill development, innovation and leadership, which will impact upon all federations/sectors of the sporting community in all corners of the globe.

Sir Howard Bernstein, chief executive of Manchester City Council said: "Manchester is renowned as a world leader for hosting major international sporting events and is extremely well placed to become the recognised international capital for sports knowledge. British Cycling, England Squash, International Netball Federation and the Professional Footballers Association are just a few of the many national sports' bodies to be based in Manchester and the formation of the World Academy of Sport International Advisory Board here will ensure that key educational international sport decisions are made in the city."

Background

The World Academy of Sport is the Trusted Education Partner in World Sport, and provides both Athlete and Executive training programmes on a global basis.

The Academy Executive programmes are developed in partnership with the University of Manchester, through the world leading Manchester Business School.

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Another world leading example of “**Original Thinking Applied**”.

International Advisory Board Biographies

<p>Mr Patrick Baumann</p> <p>Secretary General International Basketball Federation (FIBA)</p>	<p>Patrick was elected a member of the IOC in July 2007, and is also a member of various IOC commissions including; Evaluation Commission for the 2014 Youth Olympic Games; International Relations Commission; and Coordination Commission for the 2012 Olympic Games</p> <p>During his role as Deputy Secretary General at FIBA, Patrick gained an MBA at the University of Chicago Graduate School of Business USA, and was then appointed to role of Secretary General of FIBA in 2003.</p> <p>Patrick has had a successful career as a basketball player and coach, and speaks five languages; French, German, Italian, English and Spanish.</p>
<p>Sir Howard Bernstein</p> <p>Chief Executive Manchester City Council</p>	<p>Sir Howard Bernstein joined the City Council as Junior Clerk, rising to become the Council’s Chief Executive in 1998.</p> <p>Following the terrorist bombing of the City Centre in 1996 he was appointed Chief Executive of Manchester Millennium Limited, the public/private sector Task Force set up by the Government and the City Council to oversee the redesign and rebuilding of the City Centre, a task successfully delivered to critical acclaim on time and on budget.</p> <p>Sir Howard is known for his business acumen; for forging partnerships with the City’s key players; and for successfully attracting millions of pounds into the City. He played a key role in the regeneration of Hulme, the first area in the UK to attract City Challenge status, and subsequent area regeneration initiatives, most recently in East Manchester; in major projects including The Bridgewater Hall, the Velodrome and the Arena, and the new International Convention Centre; the City of Manchester Stadium and SportCity Complex and City Art Gallery.</p> <p>Since the mid 1980’s, he has been Clerk to Greater Manchester Passenger Transport Authority and took a lead in introducing Metrolink, the UK’s first on-street public transport system which is currently being expanded further across the conurbation.</p>

	<p>He was involved in the establishment of Manchester Airport as a plc in the mid-1980's and has driven the expansion of the company into the next stage of commercial and physical development.</p> <p>Sir Howard was instrumental in securing Manchester as Host City for the XVII Commonwealth Games in 2002, which was the largest multi-sport event ever hosted by the UK and the most successful Games ever.</p> <p>Regular business surveys of the top 100 financial figures in the NW consistently rate him one of the most influential. Recognition of Sir Howard's contribution to Manchester includes being awarded an honorary degree by UMIST in 2003, Manchester University in 2004, Manchester Metropolitan University in 2005 and Mancunian of the Year also in 2003. Sir Howard was knighted for his services to Manchester in the New Year's Honours 2003. The Financial Times group FDI named Sir Howard as their European personality of the year 2004. Sir Howard was recognised with a Lifetime Achievement Award at the Regeneration and Renewal Awards in September 2008.</p> <p>Sir Howard took up appointment as Chairman of Blackpool URC in July 2008.</p>
<p>Mr Francois Carrard</p> <p>Chairman of World Academy of Sport International Advisory Board</p>	<p>From 1979 Francois Carrard undertook various missions and counsel mandates on behalf of the International Olympic Committee. In 1989 he was appointed as Director General of the IOC, a position he held until late 2003. Francois oversaw what is arguably the most influential and complex sporting organisation in the world as he contributed to a successful institutional change during this period. Since 2003, he is focusing on his practice on acting as arbitrator, mediator, negotiator and counsel in international matters as well as advising a number of international clients including the IOC.</p> <p>Francois is a key supporter of education in sport and works with the Academy at various levels.</p>
<p>Sir Philip Craven</p> <p>President International Paralympic Committee (IPC)</p>	<p>Sir Philip Craven is an International Sports Leader. He was re-elected President, International Paralympic Committee (IPC) in November 2009, for his third term of office, following the IPC General Assembly in Kuala Lumpur. He is a member of both the International Olympic Committee (IOC) and Executive Board member, British Olympic Association (2003-present).</p> <p>Sir Philip's sporting achievements are extremely wide. He was a five time Paralympian in Wheelchair Basketball (1972-1988) and Swimming (1972).</p> <p>Within his professional career Sir Philip was Performance Director, GB Men's Wheelchair Basketball Team (1998-2002), CEO, International Wheelchair Basketball Federation (1994-1998) and in earlier days a Company Secretary, British Coal Corporation (1986-1991)</p> <p>He attained a Bachelor of Arts in Geography (Honours), Manchester University (1969-1972).</p>

<p>Mr Gian Franco Kasper</p> <p>President</p> <p>International Ski Federation (FIS)</p>	<p>Born in St. Moritz, Switzerland</p> <p>Studied psychology, philosophy and journalism at the University of Zurich.</p> <p>From 1969 onwards he contributed to different newspapers and edited the "Courier de St. Moritz" in four languages.</p> <p>In 1974 he took charge of the management of the new Swiss Tourist Office in Montreal, CAN.</p> <p>Since 1979 he was Secretary General of the International Ski Federation and at the FIS Congress in May 1998 he was elected President.</p> <p>Moreover he is</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • IOC Member (elected 2000) • Member of the IOC TV Commission • Member of the General Association of International Olympic Winter Sports Federations (AIOWF) and • Member of the Council of the General Association of International Sports Federations (GAISF/AGFIS) <p>Although a skier and member of the Ski Club Alpina teams (both in cross-country and alpine skiing) he is equally adept at bobsleigh, skeleton bob, water skiing, riding and yachting.</p> <p>Before joining the FIS, he worked for ten years at the St. Moritz Tourist Office while at the same time belonging to the Organising Committee of several Skiing World Cups and the World Ski Championships 1974 in St. Moritz where he presided over the publicity press and public relations sections and of the World Championships in Bobsleigh or the European Championships in Yachting and Riding.</p> <p>Although he has little time for training, he still takes part in popular cross-country ski events and plays Golf.</p>
<p>Professor Alan Gilbert</p> <p>President and Vice-Chancellor</p> <p>The University of Manchester</p>	<p>Professor Alan Gilbert came to Manchester in February 2004 as President and Vice-Chancellor-elect to plan for the launch of the single University.</p> <p>He formally took up his duties as President and Vice-Chancellor on 1st October 2004. Professor Gilbert was Vice-Chancellor of The University of Melbourne, Australia's premier research intensive university from 1996 to February 2004. During his term at Melbourne, he initiated and, for the first four years led, Universitas 21, an incorporated association of international universities drawn from ten countries.</p>

	<p>Prior to his appointment at Melbourne, he was Vice-Chancellor of the University of Tasmania, where he oversaw a merger with that university's main competitor, the Tasmanian State Institute of Technology.</p>
<p>Mr Pat McQuaid</p> <p>President International Cycling Union (UCI)</p>	<p>Pat McQuaid became president of the UCI in 2005. Before this he was both President of the UCI Road Commission (1998-2005) and member of the UCI management committee on which he still sits.</p> <p>His career in sports administration became in 1981 when he became National Coach Irish Cycling Federation (1981-1984). He then progressed to be Board Member Irish Cycling Federation (1985-1994), President Irish Cycling Federation (1994-1998) and Vice-president and Member of the Council of ASOIF (2009-...)</p> <p>He attained his degree in Physical Education from the University of London and worked as a Physical Education teacher (1972-1985) and also as a Cycle Race Promoter (1985-2005)</p>
<p>Mr Mike Miller</p> <p>Chief Executive Officer International Rugby Board</p>	<p>Mike Miller joined the IRB in April 2002 and has over two decades of experience in the media and sports business.</p> <p>He has worked in newspapers, radio, television and the electronic media, becoming the Head of Sport at Channel 4 UK and then the Controller of Television Sport at the BBC. At both organisations he was responsible for all sports editorial output and for all sports rights negotiations. He was also a member of the European Broadcasting Union (EBU) Sports Group Executive Bureau.</p> <p>Mike's experience outside sport includes three years as Channel 4's Commissioning Editor for the Big Breakfast (their morning general entertainment and news programme) and three years as Channel 4's Commissioning Editor for the Internet.</p> <p>Mike is currently the IRB's CEO and the Managing Director of Rugby World Cup Limited. He heads a team of 66 based in Dublin.</p>
<p>Mrs Molly Rhone</p> <p>President International Federation of Netball Associations</p>	<p>Molly Rhone is President of the International Federation of Netball Associations (IFNA). She was elected to the post in 2003. She made sporting history that year as she became the first and only Jamaican female to head an international sporting body. She had already served as IFNA Vice President from 1999 to 2003.</p>

	<p>Molly attended Knox College in Spaldings, Manchester, where she was an outstanding all round track and field athlete but excelled in netball representing Jamaica at Under-21, Under-23 and Jamaica Reserves captain and vice captain of the national team to the fourth World Netball Championships in 1975</p> <p>In addition to receiving the National Honours - Order of Distinction (OD) in 1999 and Commander of the Order of Distinction (CD) in 2007 - Molly has received numerous other awards as a sports administrator and for her work in netball. They include the Gleaner Honour Award for the success of the 2003 World Netball Championships. In Canada, she obtained certificates from the Ontario government for contribution to sport in 1971, 1972 and 1973.</p> <p>She was a former president of the Jamaica Netball Association (JNA) for 10-years leading them during the hosting of the 2003 World Netball Championships.</p> <p>Molly is now retired after a 20 year career working for Air Jamaica but her retirement is pretty busy as besides her duties as IFNA President she also sits on the Boards of the Jamaican Anti Doping Commission (JADCO), the Jamaican National Olympic Committee, the Sports Development Foundation, the GC Foster College of Physical Education and Sport and the International University of the Caribbean.</p>
<p>Mr Chris Solly Director World Academy of Sport</p>	<p>Chris is Director of the World Academy of Sport Executive Centre, based in Manchester, as well as Managing Director of IF Education. IF Education is an education service provider, in partnership with a number of International Sporting Federations, establishing educational courses for athletes and sporting administrators.</p> <p>Chris is a board member of the joint venture between IF Education and the International Skiing Federation, known as the FIS Academy, based in Switzerland.</p> <p>In 1999 Chris was instrumental in the conception and creation of Olympic Games Knowledge Services (OGKS), a joint venture with the International Olympic Committee (IOC). Chris was a member of this company board until late 2004 when the IOC acquired the joint venture company shareholding which he represented.</p> <p>Prior to this Chris was the inaugural Chief Executive of the Australian Ski Institute as the forerunner to the Olympic Winter Institute of Australia, an internationally recognized high performance centre of athletic excellence.</p> <p>In addition, he has represented Australia at five Winter Universiades, on four occasions holding the position of Chief de Mission. He has also held prominent roles in the University sporting world on the board of directors of Australian University Sport for a number of years during his academic career.</p> <p>Based in Manchester, Chris holds a BSc (Hons) and is regularly</p>

	<p>working with many of the International Sporting Federations on their athlete and executive education programmes.</p> <p>He was an executive committee member of the 2004 Australian Prime Minister's Olympic Dinner Committee and has accepted to join this executive committee again for 2008.</p>
<p>Mr Hugh Whan</p> <p>Corporate Chairman World Academy of Sport</p>	<p>At its establishment in 1969 Cambridge Consulting Services was the first Executive Recruitment firm in Australasia. Hugh has been the Managing Director for its 36-year history and ensured its market leading position for much of this period.</p> <p>He has successfully conducted executive search assignments across a diverse range of private and public industry sectors including Information Technology, Sport, Communications, Major Events, Higher Education, Retailing, Sales and Marketing, Media, Banking and Engineering.</p> <p>Hugh was inaugural Director of the Institute of Personnel Consultants an, Australasian education body with over 1,200 members. He lead the design and development of the first Human Resources Consulting course in Australia.</p> <p>Having a long association with skiing, Hugh was appointed to the Board of Skiing Australia and Chaired the organisation from 1998 to 2002. During this time he has been instrumental in building a solid base of winter sports within Australia through Chairing the Organising Committee of the Mt Buller World Cup Aerials since 1998 and hosting the FIS Congress in 2000 (Federation of International Skiing world congress). He has also helped develop the athlete pathways which lead to Australia's first Winter Olympic gold medal at the 2002 Salt Lake Winter Olympics.</p> <p>Hugh remains Vice-President of Ski & Snowboard Australia and sits on the Executive Committee for the Prime Minister's Olympic Dinner.</p>

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