Department of Physical Education and Sport Sciences

Proposals for Attracting Non-EU Students

University of Limerick

EHS non-EU PhD Opportunities 2017/18

PHD TITLE

Irish Rugby Injury Surveillance (IRIS-sc): Irish Rugby Football Union Injury Surveillance And Prevention Programme- Schools, age-grade and Community.

EHS RESEARCH THEME

Physical Activity and Human Performance

PROJECT OUTLINE

With increased participation in Rugby Union, the prevalence of Rugby related injuries in young players is a growing concern (Chadwick et al., 2010; O'Rourke et al., 2007; Palmer-Green et al., 2013). The overall incidence of injuries in underage English Rugby Union is 26.7 per 1000 player hours (Freitag et al. 2015). Little is known about the patterns of injuries occurring in amateur Irish Rugby Union. Data regarding the incidence, type, severity and nature of previous and current Rugby-related injuries is needed from players involved in all levels of Rugby across Ireland.

This PhD project will be part of the established IRIS (Irish Rugby Injury Surveillance) research team at UL, funded by the Irish Rugby Football Union 2016-2022 IRIS . Comprising over 10 interdisciplinary academics across biomechanics, physiotherapy, psychology and statistics, the team are currently focussed on establishing monitoring systems for injury and wellness in the amateur club game in Ireland. This PhD project will expand this remit to monitor injury within 1)schools, 2)underage and 3)community (tag) Rugby.

The PhD candidate will:

- **Examine all available research to develop a systematic review with meta-analysis to add to the current literature in the field;**
- **Recruit schools from the Irish provinces for inclusion in our newly-developed injury monitoring system;**
- **Expand and augment the design of the injury monitoring system to include more elements of physical, psychological and social/societal factors for analysis that may contribute to Rugby-related injuries in the schools, underage and community game.**

This project will provide evidence-based, best practice preventative measures designed to reduce injury incidence and risk and thereby enhance player welfare.

Enquiries contact Dr. Ian Kenny ian.kenny@ul.ie or Dr. Tom Comyns tom.comyns@ul.ie .

SUPERVISOR(S)

Dr Ian Kenny
Principal Investigator
Lecturer in biomechanics
ian.kenny@ul.ie

Profile: https://www.researchgate.net/profile/Ian_Kenny

Dr Tom Comyns
Principal Investigator
Lecturer in human movement science (S&C)
tom.comyns@ul.ie

Profile: https://www.researchgate.net/profile/Tom_Comyns

Dr Ross Anderson
Co-supervisor
Senior lecturer in biomechanics
ross.anderson@ul.ie

Profile: https://www.researchgate.net/profile/Ross_Anderson13

Dr Mark Campbell
Co-supervisor
Lecturer in Sport, Exercise and Performance Psychology
mark.campbell@ul.ie

Profile: https://www.researchgate.net/profile/Mark_Campbell8