

**David Gwodzik, Ed.M., Boston University
Counseling Psychologist
Mühlenstrasse 37 – A
13187 Berlin**

Telephone: 0176 24105597

E-mail: davidgwodzik@yahoo.com

**To: Dr. Wedigo de Vivanco, Elke Löschorh
Head, International Office**

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RE: Inquiry, Doctoral Program, Freie University – David Gwodzik , Sports Psychology

Subject: Thesis Subjects – Sports Psychology, Motivation & Performance

Comparative Research - Inter-Cultural Factors Enabling Athletes, Coaches and Organizations/Management in Sustaining Optimal Motivation and Performance Levels

Supporting Athletes, Coaches and Organization/Management in Utilizing Mental Training Applications in Observing / Coaching Foreign Athletes in Cross-Cultural / Multi-Cultural Environments

Sustaining Optimal Performance Levels Based on Cultural - Inherent Customs, Traditions Designing the Athlete's Personality and Psychological Processes

Dear

I am highly interested in Freie University's Ph.D. program in Sports Psychology. To apply for a Ph.D. at Freie University it is required that you have the individual support of a professor of the university to serve as a faculty advisor.

The purpose behind my inquiry is to seek your support in initiating my application.

Based on the subject matter outlined above, I hope this introduction will allow me to further explore the opportunities of becoming a graduate student and expand on a subject that is becoming more prevalent and important in the field of Sports Psychology – meeting the needs of athletes, coaches and organizations/management in inter-cultural /cross-cultural/multi-cultural environments who require innovative learning tools – methodologies to sustain maximum motivation and performance levels.

Every major sport and organization is challenged by an inter-cultural mix of athletes and how to work effectively with each individual and the team as a whole.

Sports organizations are hard pressed to offer coaches and athletes additional training – psychological training – support solutions to sustain the ambitions of the club and at the same time integrate their investment into the club’s ambitious plans.

Sustained results with optimal methodologies provided by Sports Psychologists who understand diverse inter-cultural/cross-cultural personality traits will best serve the organization in bridging personal and group growth/learning.

Having researched and written on the subject of motivation and performance („Game Time – Strategies on Winning“ – see www.lulu.com, for a free download of the copy), I have provided psychological support – mental training / coaching for athletes and organizations in Europe, Middle East, Asia and the United States.

I have also applied my sports management methodologies in the arts field, as well. Artists/entertainers and athletes are very similar – both groups are challenged by being the best in sustaining performance levels -results. My work is entitled, „A Phenomenological Exploration of an Entertainer’s/Artist’s Reciprocity in Self-Growth“. The research demonstrates the parallels both the athlete and artist have in common – the journey is an inward-personal search in gaining mental power/confidence in achieving ultimate results. The learning process – or reciprocal act is balanced with the support of a Sports Psychologist.

The research I hope to continue exploring as a Ph.D. candidate at Freie University focuses on Motivation/Performance in Inter-Cultural Coaching: The I-Complex, Cultural Identity/Cultural Mix-Inherent Qualities, Environment & Development – Integration(Race, Religion and Culture), Child–Adult Processes in Sports Development/Training, Decision Making-Results-Achievement/Targets, Methods – Game Time – Strategies on Winning, Personality Types - Analysis – Athlete, Coach and Organization, video samples, statistical evidence, etc.

In closing, a brief overview of my own personal experience in sport and sports psychology/management:

Participated in youth sports - USA, Italy, Germany, Austria - Baseball, Soccer, Basketball, Football, Skiing, Tennis

Munich American High School – Football, Basketball, Soccer, Track& Field

Achievements – Most Valuable Player European Basketball Championships, All Conference Honors Football & Basketball

Received 4-Year Football Scholarship, Tampa University, Tampa, Florida USA

University – Soccer, University of Maryland, College Park, USA

Professional Experience – Director of Sports , University of Maryland, Munich Campus, Head Coach – Football, Basketball, Soccer

Undergraduate Physical Education Instructor – University of Maryland – Munich Campus

Basketball Championship Team – Player, Dhahran, Saudi Arabia

Camp Gold Medalist – Track& Field, Saudi Arabia

Head Football Coach, Starnberg Argonauts, German-American Football – Zweite Bundesliga – Regional League

Counseling Psychologist – Chief of Family Support and Youth Development Programs / Sports, Bad Aibling, Germany

Asdjunct Instructor, Psychology – American University in Dubai

Psychological Consultant – Sports, Athlete – Advisor, Mental Trainer, Marketing and Promotion – Dubai, United Arab Emirates

Sports Journalist, Weltexpress, Berlin, Germany

I sincerely look forward to your reply and the eventual opportunity to meet you. It would be a pleasure to further discuss my candidacy in the Ph.D. program – Sports Psychology, Freie University.

Kind regards,

David Gwodzik, Ed.M., Boston University