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clean competition

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IS NOT IMPORTANT EXCEPT
IMPACT IT HAS ON OTHER LIVES.
JACKIE ROBINSON

UPDATE: APPLICATION DEADLINE

Pre-Applications Due: **February 1, 2024**

Full Applications Due: **March 1, 2024**

The Partnership for Clean Competition's primary objective is funding novel and innovative research projects to further anti-doping science. We recognize that our applicants give a generous amount of their time and attention to detail when drafting their grant applications, and we strive to match those efforts after the applications have been submitted. To make more efficient use of both applicants' and reviewers' time, in 2024 the PCC will be moving from three grant cycles per year to **two** grant cycles per year. We feel that this decision will help us move applications through our system with greater efficiency, which will allow us to send responses and feedback to applicants in a timelier manner. The deadline for the next round of pre-applications will be February 1st, followed by the deadline for the full applications on March 1st. Round two preapplications will be due on August 1st, followed by the full application deadline on September 1st. There will **not be** a November 1st and December 1st deadline in 2023.

Pre-Applications Due: **August 1, 2024**

Full Applications Due: **September 1, 2024**

APPLICATION
CENTER

NEW: UPDATED RESEARCH PRIORITIES

The PCC has supported world-class research since 2008, funding over \$35.6 million to support novel anti-doping scientific research. Research through grants, fellowships, micro-grants, and project working groups are the foundation of the PCC and translating research outcomes into improvements in doping detection and deterrence are the focus of everyday business activity. Be sure to visit our [website](#) to review the full updated list of the areas of investigation that are top priorities for the PCC.

Emphasis
on original work that
focuses on improving
existing analytical
methods for
detecting prohibited
substances and
methods

Discovering
cost-effective
and more
athlete-friendly
approaches for
testing

Developing
new analytical
methods to test for
substances and
methods not
currently
detectable

#PCC 2023

Impact of Global Anti-Doping Scientific Research: Innovation & Advancement

After a four year hiatus, the Partnership for Clean Competition hosted its sixth conference at Major league Baseball Headquarters in New York City, USA! Both virtual and in-person guests had the opportunity to learn more about areas of future growth and evolution within anti-



Evan Bates OLY & Madison Chock OLY

doping research across 1.5 days of programming. Keynote speakers and U.S. Olympic ice dancers Evan Bates and Madison Chock started off the first session. They shared how after more than a decade of competing together and overcoming many highs and lows, one of the most important moments of their careers was taken from them due to the doping violations of a competitor. Their presentation was followed by the ***Investing in Anti-Doping Research: Reflecting on 15 Years of PCC Excellence and Beyond*** presentation. Panelists Mr. Kevin Manara, Ms. Kacie Wallace, Dr. David Howman, and moderator Mr. Travis Tygart

highlighted some of the important accomplishments of the PCC and emphasized the need for continued efforts in anti-doping research.

The second session of the day began with the ***Translational Research Impact - Blood Detection of Human Growth Hormone: Advancements & Hurdles*** panel featuring Dr. Andrew Hoofnagle, Dr. Geoff Miller, Dr. Martin Bidlingmaier, and moderated by Dr. James Dalton. Next the audience learned more about the fellowship program in the panel titled ***Building Anti-Doping Careers: Perspectives from PCC Fellows***. Moderated by former PCC fellow Dr. Laura Lewis, Dr. Sarah Solheim, Dr. Jenna Goodrum, and Dr. Federico Ponzetto shared how they became interested in anti-doping research and how the fellowship program will benefit their careers.



Dr. Federico Ponzetto



Dr. Amy Eichner

Following the PCC Fellows panel, the audience heard from Dr. Amy Eichner, Mr. John Travis, Mr. Dave Ellis, and moderator Dr. Lori Bestervelt as they discussed ***Understanding the Dangers of Contamination from Food and Dietary Supplements - Raw Ingredients to Off-the-Shelf Products***. Through their presentations, they shared the certification process for dietary supplements, the ways in which the pandemic disrupted distribution systems making it more difficult for athletes to find clean products, and how athletes can go about finding clean products.

The third session on day one began with **Lab Director Perspectives: Evolving Research Needs for Labs in 2023** panel. Dr. Henrique Marcelo Gualberto Pereira, Dr. Daniel Eichner, Dr. Yvette Dehnes, and moderator Dr. Gary Green shared some of the recent work of their labs and gave some insight into what we can expect to see from labs going forward. Next Dr. Mario Thevis discussed the need for further research on positive tests due to doping and contamination in his presentation titled **Research Supporting Results Management Decisions: Administration Studies to Elucidate Doping v. Contamination Scenarios**. Dr. Matthew Fedoruk and Mr. Jonathan Coyles closed out day one by sharing their organizations' work in improving anti-doping efforts in a presentation titled **Adoption of DBS into Routine Doping Control: Perspectives from MLB and USADA Programs for Athletes**.



Dr. Henrique Pereira



Dr. Tiia Kuuranne

Day two began with the **Rapid Research Update: Tackling Blood Doping** panel with Dr. Michael Sawka, Dr. Nikolai Nordsborg, Dr. Jean Francois Naud, and moderated by Dr. Steven Elliott. They highlighted the way blood doping has evolved and shed light on the fact that it is not an isolated problem found only in certain sports. After a short break the audience heard from Dr. Tiia Kuuranne, Dr. Brian Ahrens, and moderator Dr. Daniel Eichner in the panel titled **A Peek Under the Hood: Urinalysis Advancements and Complexities Inside an Anti-Doping Laboratory**. The panel gave an inside look at routine analytical procedures used when testing urine samples as well as the challenges this kind of testing has overcome throughout the years.

The next presentation was the largest panel of the conference, titled **Anti-Doping Innovation: What's New on the Horizon & Why is Continued Innovation Important?** Panelists included Dr. Erwin Berthier, Mr. David Weiss, Mr. Gabe Baida, Mr. Andy Levinson, Dr. Edward Goucher, and moderated by Dr. Matthew Fedoruk. This panel utilized a mix of scientific innovator and professional league perspectives on anti-doping. The panelists shared some of the recent and exciting changes in anti-doping technology, such as the implementation of dried blood spot (DBS) testing, and how those changes have benefited the testing process for both labs and athletes.



Mr. Gabe Baida, Dr. Edward Goucher & Dr. Erwin Berthier



Mr. Tim Brown & Mr. Michael Teevan

The final presentation of the conference was titled **Communicating & Covering Doping Issues in Sports** featuring New York Times bestselling author and award-winning journalist Tim Brown. Mr. Brown has been reporting on baseball for over 30 years. He and moderator Mr. Michael Teevan gave the audience an inside look at the ways the media has impacted the narrative surrounding doping scandals, as well as how the media's role in communicating doping scandals has changed over the last two decades.

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WITHOUT YOUR CONTINUED SUPPORT



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CDT

Comprehensive Drug Testing

Proskauer >>

INNOVERO
Securing Global Athlete Trust

Drug Free Sport
INTERNATIONAL™

 Tasso



 Unfold
Productions



15 YEARS OF FUNDING RESEARCH

On April 18th, the PCC published its 100th episode of the Anti-Doping Podcast featuring Travis Tygart. Travis has been the Chief Executive Officer of the U.S. Anti-Doping Agency (USADA) since 2007, and was a founding member of the PCC Board of Governors when the organization was founded in 2008. In his episode, Travis shared some insights on USADA's history, as well as the origins and impacts of the PCC.

This episode is part of a series of episodes featuring guests from the PCC's founding members to celebrate the PCC's 15th year as an organization. U.S. Olympic and Paralympic Committee (USOPC) CEO Sarah Hirschland also shared her thoughts on the future of the anti-doping movement and its importance in Olympic sport in episode 101 of the Anti-Doping Podcast.

Be on the look out for episodes featuring guests from Major League Baseball (MLB) and the National Football League (NFL) coming later this year. Be sure to check out the other podcast episodes available on our website!



"Bringing together an independent organization, it was absolutely paramount to our founding that research and science stay one of our fundamental principles going forward."



"As we think about the basics and the foundations of what makes good sport, clean sport is on the top of the list."



ENVIRONMENTAL & EXERCISE PHYSIOLOGY SECTION PARTNERSHIP FOR CLEAN COMPETITION ANTI-DOPING PRE/POSTDOCTORAL RESEARCH AWARD

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The Partnership for Clean Competition (PCC) and the American Physiological Society (APS) have a shared tradition of recognizing excellence in basic and clinical anti-doping research within the fields of exercise and applied physiology. In support of this shared mission, the APS Environmental and Exercise Physiology Section hosts the PCC Pre/Postdoctoral Anti-Doping Research Awards to provide a platform to spotlight impactful anti-doping research. These awards presented to graduate students and postdoctoral researchers with exceptional research in environmental, exercise, thermal, or applied physiology that is associated with ergogenics and detection of performance enhancing drugs and procedures or impact of training/environmental stress on hematological profiles. This year, the PCC and APS are thrilled to recognize two predoctoral graduate students who have displayed outstanding research abilities in the fields of physiology and anti-doping.

Read more about this year's scholarship recipients below. We encourage researchers conducting physiological work to apply. If you are interested in learning more or applying for the 2024 scholarship awards, more information can be found on [APS's Environmental and Exercise Physiology Section Award page](#). Applications are due by December 15, 2023.



Frank Wojan

PhD, Exercise Physiology

The first recipient of the Environment & Exercise Physiology Section Partnership for Clean Competition Anti-Doping Research Award is Dr. Frank Wojan. Dr. Wojan completed his Doctoral Degree in Exercise Physiology at the University of Texas at Austin (UT Austin). Prior to this, he worked as a Clinical Project Manager for Exercise Nutritionally, LLC where he spent his time investigating the ergogenic effects of several nutraceuticals for sports performance and clinical populations.

Dr. Wojan credits his time at UT Austin for sparking his interest in his field of research. He worked on the creation of a novel hypoxic protocol, which is defined as intermittent hypoxia, or exposure to altitude. He was focused on the erythropoietic outcomes to this exposure in populations of older adults and patients with type 2 diabetes (Wojan 2023b). Although his work was not specific to athletes, it does have implications for those athletes looking to learn more about the effects of altitude training.

"What excites me most about this hypoxic approach is the cross-protective benefits that intermittent hypoxia may offer," Dr. Wojan said.

Dr. Wojan hopes to continue working in the world of research going forward, potentially continuing his investigation on the outcomes of intermittent hypoxia. He believes it is imperative for experts in the fields of Exercise Physiology and Anti-Doping to continue working together to keep up with the athletes who will always be looking for new ways to dope. Be sure to visit the News Feed on the PCC's website to read the [full article](#) and learn more about Dr. Wojan and his research, and be on the look out for his episode of the Anti-Doping Podcast coming in October.



Francesco Loria

Biomedical Science

The second recipient of the Environment & Exercise Physiology Section Partnership for Clean Competition Anti-Doping Research Award is Francesco Loria. Loria completed his Master of Science in Medical Biology at the University of Lausanne where he was first exposed to anti-doping and learned of the opportunity to complete his degree at their laboratory. He is currently working on his PhD at the University of Geneva and the Swiss Laboratory for Doping Analysis. He stated that the field of anti-doping allows him to combine his passion for sport and his passion for biology, and he enjoys the process of discovering and putting an end to new methods of doping.

"It is a race between laboratories and athletes who search for new ways to dope and to hide their doping," Loria said.

The main objective of his work is to improve the hematological module of the Athlete Biological Passport (ABP), making it more specific and sensitive to fight against blood doping. He stated that both Exercise Physiology and Anti-Doping are linked by sport and work in different ways to ensure athletes' integrity. In the future Loria would like to bring more anti-doping content to APS because it would create opportunities to build more links across the two fields.

Loria said this project has taught him a lot about conducting high-quality research and he hopes to make useful contributions to anti-doping going forward. He would like to improve doping detection methods and strengthen the ties between anti-doping and exercise physiology. Be sure to visit the News Feed on the PCC's website to read the [full article](#) and learn more about Francesco and his research, and be on the lookout for his episode of the Anti-Doping Podcast coming in October.