Using Sport Based Life skills Programs to Enhance Entrepreneurship and Academic Outcomes in Youth  
Leapetswe Malete, PhD  
Department of Kinesiology

i. Summary of Project
Despite the rapid growth of African economies, significant youth development challenges persist. These include high rates of unemployment (estimated at 35.6%; ILO, 2017), stressed education systems, socioeconomic disparities, and unsustainable patterns of internal, regional, and global migration. Nonetheless, young Africans have demonstrated that they have the tenacity to thrive under these challenging circumstances. The youths’ capacities to optimize the digital revolution, sports, and other artistic endeavors are excellent indicators of their potential to transform themselves and their communities. Yet this potential remains largely untapped, less appreciated, and less developed.

To this end, the life skills through sport and youth entrepreneurship project seeks to enhance the youth potential through sport-based positive youth development (PYD) programs. The project has four aims: 1) leverage soft skills from sports to nurture life skills and entrepreneurial mindsets the youth could use to thrive and create novel economic pathways for themselves; 2) improve physical and socio-emotional wellbeing and academic outcomes among underserved youth; 3) propose and test a PYD framework that is relevant to Africa and other development contexts; and 4) create physical and virtual coworking spaces for youth innovation and entrepreneurship in collaboration with youth development partners from the civil society, public, and private sectors. The project uses a structured curriculum with blended activities. It has been piloted in Botswana, Ghana, and Tanzania. A part of the project involving underserved youth in Michigan began in March 2019 and is being done in partnership with The First Tee of Mid-Michigan. Expansion of these project is projected to start in 2019/2020 depending on funding. Therefore, the project is looking for a talented, self-driven female postdoc with passion for youth development issues from any of AAP’s African consortium institutions.

ii. Skills and Competencies
Preference will be given to candidates with demonstrated training and research interests in psychosocial aspects of youth development from any of these disciplinary areas: sport and exercise sciences, psychology, physical activity, health sciences, education, and research methods. The candidate must demonstrate interest in doing research, various aspects of academic writing.

iii. Projected Development Activities
Based in the department of Kinesiology at MSU and working in collaboration with the faculty mentor, the postdoc is expected to carry out the following activities:

1. Work on manuscript writing to publish existing data and build their writing skills.
2. Participate in at least 3 grant proposal writing activities including the National Science Foundation and the Spencer Foundation. Make use of grant writing development resources available at MSU.
3. Enhance their skills on how to use online resources and other research related digital platforms.
4. Take part in various professional development activities including guest lectures, seminars, workshops and conferences.
5. Take part in ongoing research to improve data collection techniques, project management skills, and how to work with multidisciplinary research teams.
1.0 PERSONAL DETAILS

Full Name: Leapetswe Malete

Country of Birth: Botswana

Gender: Male

Address: Department of Kinesiology, 308 West Circle Dr, IM Circle Room 203, East Lansing, MI 48824

Tel: (517) 342-5385; Mobile: (517) 388-9848; Fa: (517) 353-2944

Email: maletele@msu.edu; lepsmalete@gamil.com

2.0 EDUCATION:

- PhD (Sport Psychology) Michigan State University, Michigan, USA (1997 – 2000)
  Thesis: Psychological correlates of sport and leisure physical activity participation among Botswana youths. (Advisor – Professor Deborah Feltz)

  Thesis: The effect of a program for athletics coaches education on coaching efficacy. (Advisor – Professor Deborah Feltz)

- Post Graduate Diploma in Education, University of Botswana, Gaborone Botswana (1990-1991)

- B.A. (Humanities) University of Botswana, Gaborone, Botswana (1986-1990)
  Dissertation: The Life and Career of Bathoen II (Seepapitso Gaseitsiwe) of Bangwaketse (Advisor, Professor, L. D. Ngcongco)

3.0 WORK EXPERIENCE:

Michigan State University, East Lansing, August 2016 – Present
Associate Professor, Sport Psychology Exercise Psychology

- Teaching, research and outreach in Sport Psychology and Exercise Psychology,
- Supervisor of Masters & Phd Students in Sport Psychology
- Coordinator of Global Initiatives
- Service

University of Botswana, Gaborone, Botswana June 2014 – Present
Associate Professor, Sport Psychology

- Teaching Graduate and Undergraduate Courses in Sport Psychology and Research Methods
- Supervisor of Masters Students in Sport Psychology and undergraduate research projects
• External Reviewer of undergraduate and graduate programs for local colleges for the Botswana Qualification Authority (August 2014 – May 2015)
• Member of the Task Force for the Review of the UB Graduate Programs (2013/2014 academic year)
• Member of the Team Reviewing the Undergraduate Programme in Physical Education, Health & Recreation (July 2015- present)
• Member of the Faculty of Education Appointments and Promotions Committee
• Botswana Country Contact - Global Observatory for Physical Activity - GoPA!

University of Botswana, Gaborone, Botswana Jan 2010 – May 2014
Director, International Education & Partnerships
& Associate Professor, Sport Psychology

• Chief International Education Officer and Member of the Senior Management Team
• Chaired the review of the University of Botswana internationalization policy and strategic planning project working in collaboration with an external panel from the International Association of Universities
• Provided strategic leadership on University-wide international partnerships including study abroad
• Member of statutory committees: Senate, Academic Affairs Divisional Management Team, University Research Committee, Academic Programmes Review and Planning Committee, University Enrolment Planning and Management Committee, Academic Affairs Division Appointments and Promotion Committee
• Taught graduate courses, graduate student supervision and research in sport psychology, youth, and health
• Board Member of the Southern African Nordic Centre (SANORD)
• Member of the Advisory Board of the Confucius Institute at the University of Botswana (A partnership with Shanghai Normal University)
• Member of the management committee of the Portuguese Language programme
• Acting Deputy Vice Chancellor, Academic Affairs (Provost), 21-25 February 2011)
• Member of the Africa-China Research Group
• Representative of the Vice-Chancellor of the University of Botswana in the National Sector Committee for the Development of the Education Sector Strategy for the National Development Plan (2014)
• Facilitated the University of Botswana and Michigan State University (MSU) Partnership aimed at increasing the participation of students from Botswana in the MasterCard foundation scholarships at MSU.

University of Botswana, Gaborone, Botswana Dec 2006 – Jan 2010
Deputy Director & Senior Lecturer, International Education & Partnerships

• Assisted the Director with strategic leadership and management of international programs
• Facilitated University-wide partnerships
• Directed Study Abroad Programs
• Taught undergraduate and graduate courses, student supervision and research in sport psychology, youth sport and health
• Served as Acting Director of International Programs for 6 months in each year
• Member of statutory committees: University Enrolment Planning and Management Committee; Academic Affairs Division Appointments and Promotion Committee

University of Botswana, Gaborone, Botswana
Lecturer and Senior Lecturer, Department of Physical Education, Health & Recreation

• Taught undergraduate and graduate courses, student supervision and research in sport psychology, youth sport and health
• Member of the Task Group for the Development of a Policy on Articulation and Credit Transfer (2008-2010)
• External Examiner and Moderator, Botswana Colleges of Education Programs (2003 – 2006)
• Coordinator and Tutor - Research Project Seminar for Final Year Students (2003-2006)
• Joint Coordinator of the Development of the Masters Physical Education Program (2003)
• Acting Head, Department of Physical Education, Health & Recreation: Jul-Aug 2003; Feb-Jun 2002
• Coordinator of the conversion of the Physical Education Bachelors Program from a year-long program into a semester program (2001/2002)

University of the West Indies, Mona Campus, Jamaica
Post-Doctoral Fellow, Department of Psychology, Sociology & Social Work
Aug 2001 – July 2002

• Research on a national study on psychological correlates for the involvement of Jamaican youths in sport and physical activity
• Guest lecturer in Social Psychology and Developmental Psychology
• Provided Sports Psychology services to the Jamaican Junior swimming team preparing for the Caribbean and Latin American games

High School Teacher, Maru-a-Pula School, Gaborone Secondary School and Moeding College Botswana
May 1990 – July 1994

4.0 UNIVERSITY TEACHING EXPERIENCE:

University of Botswana (2001 – to Present)

• PHR 713: Psychological Basis of Physical Activity
• PHR738: Stress Management in Sport
• PHR600: Contemporary Issues in Physical Education, Sport, Recreation, & Leisure
• PHR422: Sociology of Sport
• PHR418: Psychological Issues in Sport and Physical Activity
Projects Funded

1. Applying positive youth development through sport to nurture youth entrepreneurship. Pilot Project involving Botswana, Ghana, and Tanzania funded by the Michigan State University Alliance for African Partnerships, for 18 months (June 2017-November 2018) $200,000. I am the PI.

2. The Relation of Physical Activity and Nutrition to Cognitive Function in HIV-infected Adolescents in Botswana. A multidisciplinary research project with project team members from the University of Botswana, University of Botswana, Botswana-Baylor Children’s Clinical Centre of Excellence, University of Pennsylvania, University of North Carolina at Greensboro, with funding from USAID. I am the PI.

3. TRECCA Africa II (Intra-ACP Mobility Scheme): The project is funded by the European Commission for Euro 2.5 million over 5 years from 2014 and focuses on Masters and Doctoral training, mobility of researchers and students at partner Universities. Focal disciplines are Environment, Energy and Sustainability. This is higher education partnership involving a consortium of 6 institutions from 6 countries (Botswana, South Africa, Kenya, Tanzania, and Nigeria). The project led by Stellenbosch University. I was the Botswana Project Leader and contact.


10. EarthWatch Institute Research Program: Changing Health and Nutritional Patterns in Rural and Urban Communities in Botswana: US$80,000 (2 yrs). (Co-Principal Investigator; Approved 2004).


6.0 RESEARCH AND PUBLICATIONS:

Book Chapters, Encyclopedia Entry & Conference Proceedings


Refereed Journal Articles


**Technical Reports**

1. Strategies for the Internationalization of the University of Ghana and cape Coast: An Internationalization Strategies Advisory Service Project supported by the International Association of Universities (IAU) with funding from Sida. (May 2015). I served as Chair of the International Expert Panel.


**Selected Refereed Journal Abstracts**


Selected Presentations in International Higher Education


7.0 AWARDS AND RECOGNITION:

- Henry P David Award, American Psychological Association (2005)
- Global Young Scholars Award, Office of International Programs and Scholars Michigan State University (1999)
- Kinesiology Endowed Scholarship, Michigan State University (1999)
- Kinesiology Student Presentation Award, Michigan State University (1999)

Countries of Professional Work and International Education Partnership Experience:

- **Africa** - Botswana, Cameroon, South Africa, Tanzania, Uganda, Ghana, Kenya, Malawi, Mozambique, Namibia, Nigeria, Zimbabwe, Lesotho and Swaziland
- **Asia** – China, Japan and South Korea
- **Australia**
- **Caribbean** – Jamaica and St Vincent and the Grenadines
- **Europe** – UK, Sweden, Germany, France, Finland, Norway and Switzerland
- **North America** – USA and Canada
- **South America** - Brazil