

2026 Activity Report

January 2026



Contents

Introduction	3
1. Name of the centre	4
2. General information	4
3. Resources/collaboration	5
4. Activity report	7
4.1 General overview of all Olympic-related activities/projects organised in 2025	7
4.2 Teaching	8
4.3 Thesis supervision	9
4.4 Research	9
4.5 Publications and articles	9
4.6 Organisation of conferences, lectures and/or talks	10
4.7 Presentations in conferences/seminars	10
5. Other activities organised in 2025	12
6. General assessment and comments concerning the activities organised in 2025 and the plans for 2026	12
7. Additional terms of the OFCH privacy policy – Privacy notice	14

Introduction

As per the “[Guidelines for the academic Olympic Studies and Research Centres](#)”, Olympic Studies and Research Centres (OSCR) must send an annual activity report with a summary of the activities organised during the previous academic year together with a programme of activities for the following academic year.

In order to meet this requirement, we kindly ask you to complete this form and return it to us by 13 March 2026, together with any documents illustrating your centre's activities. All documents are submitted exclusively via the [OSC portal](#).

1. Name of the centre

1.1 Name of the OSRC, as listed in the [webpage dedicated to the OSRC network](#):
Olympic and Paralympic Research Centre

1.2 University and country: **Victoria University, Australia**

2. General information

(To be completed only if changes are requested or new information is provided)

No changes

3.3 Did your centre collaborate in 2025, or plan to collaborate in 2026, with other OSCRs, academic institutions and/or sports/Olympic Movement organisations on specific projects/activities? (yes/no) **Yes**

- If yes, complete the following list with the main projects/activities.

Name of the partner	Project/activity	Period of collaboration
COPS Univ. of Queensland	Regular online meetings, media activities, articles	2025 and 2026
ACOSS UTS Sydney	Regular online meetings, media activities, articles	2025 and 2026
AOC in Sydney	Regular online meetings, joint Olympic Day event	2026
Tri-Centre hosting	Visit of Prof. Andy Spalding, University of Richmond	2026

4. Activity report

4.1 General overview of all Olympic-related activities/projects organised in 2025

(based on the detailed information provided in 4.2 to 4.7)

	Yes	No
Teaching		X
Thesis supervision		X
Research projects		X
Dissemination activities (publications, conferences, lectures/talks)	X	
Other activities (Media interviews, etc.)	X	

4.2 Teaching

List below any course, seminar or module with Olympic content. If necessary, add lines to the tables below in order to include all initiatives.

4.2.1 Undergraduate course(s): Same as in previous annual activity reports

Name	Keywords describing the Olympic content	Organised in 2025	Organised in 2026
		Nil	Nil

Approximate total number of students enrolled in the above courses:

Approximate total number of teaching hours with Olympic content:

4.2.2 Postgraduate course(s): Same as in previous annual activity reports

Name	Keywords describing the Olympic content	Organised in 2025	Organised in 2026
		Nil	Nil

Approximate total number of students enrolled in the above courses:

Approximate total number of teaching hours with Olympic content:

4.2.3 Other course(s)/Continuing education: Same as in previous annual activity reports

Name	Keywords describing the Olympic content	Organised in 2025	Organised in 2026
		Nil	Nil

Approximate total number of students/participants enrolled in the above course and their profile in brackets if they are not students of the university: **Nil**

Approximate total number of teaching hours with Olympic content: **Nil**

4.3 Thesis supervision

In 2025, have the professors/researchers collaborating with the centre supervised, or are they currently supervising, Olympic-related master's or PhD thesis? (yes/no) **No**

If so, list the thesis titles and the start/end dates: **Not applicable**

4.4 Research

List any Olympic-related research project(s) conducted in 2025, or being conducted, by/involving professor(s)/researcher(s) collaborating with the OSRC. If there is more than one project, copy/paste the questions below in blue. **No external research collaborations, apart from regular contact and on-going collaborations with other OSRCs in Australia.**

Name:

Main researcher(s) and university(ies) involved:

Start/end date:

4.5 Publications and articles

List any Olympic-related publication and/or article written in 2025 by professor(s)/researcher(s) collaborating with the OSRC. If there is more than one publication/article, copy/paste the questions below in blue.

“How will the history-making new Olympic boss shape sports worldwide and in Australia?”

Author(s): Dr Richard Baka, Dr Rob Hess and Professor Tracy Taylor

Publisher/Journal: **The Conversation**

Date of publication: March 21, 2025

Link to the publication/article (if available):

<https://theconversation.com/how-will-the-history-making-new-olympics-boss-shape-sports-worldwide-and-in-australia-252623>

“Not just the Stadium: what Brisbane Olympic organisers are planning for,”

Author(s): Dr Richard Baka and Bjorn Galjaardt

Publisher/Journal: **The Conversation**

Date of publication: March 27, 2025

Link to the publication/article (if available):

<https://theconversation.com/not-just-the-stadium-what-brisbane-olympic-organisers-are-planning-for-251247>

“Women’s sports are fighting an uphill battle against our social media norms”

Author(s): Professor Hans Westerbeek

Publisher/Journal: **The Conversation**

Date of publication: May 8, 2025

Link to the publication/article (if available):

<https://theconversation.com/womens-sports-are-fighting-an-uphill-battle-against-our-social-media-algorithms-255001>

“Australia and the Olympic Games: An Outline of participation and Games hosting” chapter in book **Events and Economic Development: Bridging Theory and Practice**, edited by Dr Michael Duignan

Author(s): Dr Richard Baka and Professor Tracy Taylor
Publisher/Journal: Routledge: Taylor and Francis Group
Date of publication: June 20, 2025
Link to the publication/article (if available):
<https://www.routledge.com/Events-and-Economic-Development-Bridging-Theory-and-Practice/Duignan/p/book/9781032790558>

“Some say Australia’s sporting axis has shifted. Does one city really reign supreme?”
Author(s): Dr Rob Hess interviewed by Joe Hinchliffe
Publisher/Journal: **The Guardian**
Date of publication: October 9, 2025
Link to the publication/article (if available):
<https://www.theguardian.com/sport/2025/oct/09/some-say-australias-sporting-axis-has-shifted-does-one-city-really-reign-supreme>

Media Activities:

Dr Richard Baka. “Are the Brisbane 2032 Olympics on the right track?” ABC News radio interview, May 22, 2025.

Dr. Richard Baka. “Will Sheep Shearing get into the 2032 Brisbane Olympics,” Interview with Rosemary Murphy, ABC TV News and online article, September 29 and October 6, 2025.

Dr. Richard Baka. “How do New Sports get into the Olympics?” ABC Newcastle, Jenny Marchant Drive Show, October 10, 2025.

4.6 Organisation of conferences, lectures and/or talks

List those initiatives with Olympic-related content organised/hosted in 2025 by the OSCR/university or planned for 2026. If there is more than one initiative, copy/paste the questions below in blue.

Name: “Olympic Issues Keynote Address, Media Engagement and Victoria University Olympic Initiatives”
Dates: March 16, 2026
Number of participants and profile (e.g. academics, general public, sports and Olympic Movement representatives, etc.): 25
Link to the conference website (if available) – see PDF of flyer embedded below



Olympic and
Paralympic Research

4.7 Presentations in conferences/seminars

List any presentation on Olympic-related topic given in 2025 in conferences/seminars organised by third parties (other faculties/departments, universities, associations, organisations,...). If there is more than one presentation, copy/paste the questions below in blue.

Title:

Name of the speaker(s):

Dates:

Number of participants and profile (e.g. academics, general public, sports and Olympic Movement representatives, etc):

Link to the presentation website (if available):

5. Other activities organised in 2025

Professor Tracy Taylor, one of the Co-Directors of the OPRC, had a number of Olympic-related roles in 2025:

- Executive Masters in Olympic Organisations Management – Professor of Human Resource Management and Leadership and tutor
- Advanced Sport Management Course – Program Director training and development
- Olympic Studies Centre – Research Grant Awards committee member – PhD and Early Career Researcher + Advanced Olympic Research Grant Program

6. General assessment and comments concerning the activities organised in 2025 and the plans for 2026

It was a quieter year in 2025 for the OPRC as it was a non-Olympic Summer or Winter Games period with not as many conferences and other Olympic-related events. Nonetheless, there were still several significant publications and media activities in 2025.

The three Australian OPRCs held regular online meetings to share information, knowledge and activities. After a change in leadership of the National Olympic Committee, a joint introduction session was held in early 2026 with the Australian Olympic Committee to share information across the three Centres with the recently appointed AOC senior managers and to make plans to work together collegially in the future.

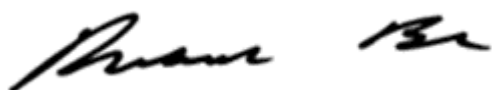
7. Activities related to upcoming editions of Olympic events.

List any activity you have organized or plan to organize in relation to the upcoming Olympic events (Olympic Games, Youth Olympic Games) that you have not listed in one of the sections above. This can be in 2025, 2026 or plans for upcoming years, already in preparation.

By signing this form, I hereby confirm (i) that the information that I provided is true and accurate; (ii) that I have read and understood the Privacy Notice and the OFCH [Privacy Policy](#); (iii) that I have informed the people identified in this form that their data will be processed by the OFCH in accordance with the Privacy Notice and its [Privacy Policy](#); and that I have obtained their prior consent.

Name of the director or main contact of the academic Olympic Studies and Research Centre:
Dr Richard Baka

.....



Signature:

Date:**March 27, 2026**.....

[Click here](#) to send this form and any attachment to the IOC Olympic Studies Centre.

8. Additional terms of the OFCH privacy policy – Privacy notice

The information you provide through this form, including any information relating to an identified or identifiable person (“**Personal Data**”), will be managed and processed jointly by the IOC Olympic Studies Centre (OSC), which is part of the Olympic Foundation for Culture and Heritage (the “**OFCH**”) and the International Olympic Committee (the “**IOC**”) (hereafter referred to as “**we**”, “**us**”, “**our**”), as data controllers for the following purposes:

1. To ensure that all academic Olympic Studies and Research Centres (the “**OSRCs**”) referenced by the [IOC Olympic Studies Centre](#) are complying with the Guidelines for the academic Olympic Studies and Research Centres (the “**Guidelines**”).
2. To decide on the inclusion of the OSRC in [the list of academic Olympic Studies and Research Centres](#), at our own discretion.
3. To be informed of the current and future Olympic-related academic activities organised by the IOC OSC.
4. To include the director/main contact of the OSRC on our mailing list and keep him/her informed about the IOC Olympic Studies Centre’s and Olympic Studies network’s activities.

The Personal Data we process can be categorised as follows:

- Names, signatures, email addresses and telephone numbers of the director/main contact of the OSRCs;
- Names, university and areas of expertise of professors/researchers regularly working with the OSRCs;
- Names of authors of Olympic-related publications and researchers involved in research projects.

We do not transfer Personal Data outside Switzerland. We do not share Personal Data with third parties without the written authorisation of the people concerned.

Our processing of Personal Data is based on our legitimate interest to fulfil the above-mentioned purposes.

Personal Data collected through this form will be kept for no longer than necessary, for the purposes for which it has been collected.

Technical and organisational measures have been undertaken to protect Personal Data from any risk of damage, destruction, loss or unauthorised access, in accordance with the applicable laws and regulations.

To exercise your data subjects’ rights, notably to request access, restrict such processing, delete or correct any erroneous or incomplete data, or to object to the processing of your information on grounds relating to your particular situation, please fill in the form accessible [here](#).