

Editorial

Bridging different gaps for elite sport in Switzerland.

We are pleased to introduce this issue of *SportMedizin und Sporttraumatologie* as an example and final outcome of a fruitful collaboration between three different institutions located in Switzerland, focusing on sport performance, sport sciences and sport medicine: two academic institutes (ISSUL, Institute of Sport Sciences of the University of Lausanne, FISM, Federal Institute of Sport Magglingen), and an international federation (ITU, International Triathlon Union). The diversity and World quality of such institutions is without any doubt an opportunity for the Swiss elite sport.

On the 7–9 February 2013, the 2nd science + Triathlon Worldconference was co-organized in Magglingen/Macolin and the theme “*reflect on the past – design the future*” raised a large interest in the attendants from 30 countries. This theme is probably also perfectly appropriate at the national level for designing the future in elite sport.

Bridging gaps between scientists and coaches is one of the directions to be followed. Bridging gaps between academics and practitioners as well as between academic (universities, polytechnic and high schools) and sports (Swiss Olympic, Federal Office of Sport, national federations) institutions is not easy since everybody has to learn to better communicate on targets, aims, means and methods. Bridging gaps between medics and scientists is another challenge, especially in the sport area.

But we believe that such collaborative bridges are the future for our elite performance system.

Enjoy this issue!

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