

Curriculum Vitae Dr. Stephan Zahno

Date of birth: 3 February 1993

Place of birth: Fribourg/Switzerland

Professional History

- 01/2023–present Postdoctoral researcher
Movement and Exercise Science Department, Institute of Sport Science
University of Bern/Switzerland
- 09/2019–12/2022 PhD student and scientific assistant
Movement and Exercise Science Department, Institute of Sport Science
University of Bern/Switzerland
- 06/2018–08/2019 Student research assistant
Movement and Exercise Science Department, Institute of Sport Science
University of Bern/Switzerland
- 05/2017–07/2017 Intern in football coaching & performance diagnostics
CEF Jugadores Libres, Buenos Aires/Argentina
- 05/2017–07/2017 Volunteer as PE teacher
Colegio Buen Consejo, Buenos Aires/Argentina
- 08/2016–02/2017 Intern as data analyst
Adidas, Herzogenaurach/Germany
- 04/2015–06/2016 Student research assistant
Sport Psychology Department, Institute of Sport Science
University of Bern/Switzerland
- 01/2015–04/2015 Intern as PE teacher
Collège Sainte Croix, Fribourg/Switzerland
- 07/2014–08/2014 Intern in youth rehabilitation
Swiss Paraplegic Centre, Notwil/Switzerland

Education

- 2019–2022 Dr. phil. (PhD) in Sport Science, University of Bern (*summa cum laude*)
Dissertation title: “Creative actions in team sports: The role of divergent thinking and sensorimotor skills”
Supervisor: Prof. Dr. Ernst Joachim Hossner, University of Bern
2nd examiner: Prof. Dr. John van der Kamp, Vrije Universiteit Amsterdam
- 2017–2019 Master of Science in Sport Science Research, University of Bern
Grade: 6.0 (*summa cum laude*)
- 2013–2016 Bachelor of Science in Sport Science, University of Bern

Research Visits

- 04/2024–09/2024 Vrije University Amsterdam/Netherlands
Ass. Prof. Dr. Robert van Beers (Department of Human Movement Science)
- 06/2023–07/2023 Dalhousie University, Halifax/Canada
Prof. Dr. Heather Neyedli (School of Health and Human Performance)
- 05/2023–06/2023 University of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia/USA
Prof. Dr. Konrad Körding (Department of Neuroscience)
- 01/2023 Technical University of Darmstadt, Darmstadt/Germany
Prof. Dr. Constantin Rothkopf (Centre for Cognitive Science)

Scientific Awards

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| 2023 | Young Researchers Award of the International Society of Motor Control (ISMC) (1 st prize; category: basic science), awarded for the poster contribution “Risk optimisation during ongoing movements” at the Progress in Motor Control conference in Rome/Italy |
| 2022 | Young Researchers Award of the European Federation of Sports Psychology (FEPSAC) (2 nd prize), awarded for the oral contribution “Creativity in team sports: Enhancing players’ motor skills rather than divergent thinking fosters creative actions” at the FEPSAC conference in Padova/Italy |
| 2022 | Young Investigator Award of the Swiss Society of Sport Science (SGS) (3 rd prize), awarded for the oral contribution “Creativity in elite youth football: Enhancing players’ motor skills rather than a divergent thinking ability fosters creative actions” at the SGS conference in Lausanne/Switzerland |
| 2020 | Alumni Award for the year’s best MSc thesis of the Institute of Sport Science, University of Bern/Switzerland |
| 2019 | Young Investigator Award of the Football Commission of the German Society of Sport Science (dvs) (1 st prize), awarded for the oral contribution “Kreativitätstraining verbessert Kreativitätstestresultate – funktionales Techniktraining verbessert Kreativität im Spiel” at the annual conference in Karlsruhe/Germany |
| 2019 | Finalist at the “Swiss Olympic Science Award” at the national coaches’ conference of the Swiss Federal Office of Sport (BASPO) in Magglingen/Switzerland |

Memberships in Scientific Societies

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| 2023–present | Arbeitsgemeinschaft für Sportpsychologie (asp) |
| 2023–present | International Society of Motor Control (ISMC) |
| 2022–present | European Federation of Sport Psychology (FEPSAC) |

Institutional Responsibilities

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| 2023–present | Co-supervision PhD student |
| 2022–present | Organization of biweekly research colloquia of the department |
| 2022–present | Coordination and supervision of student research assistants and internships at the department |
| 2022–present | Organization of the department’s annual research workshop (“Winter Academy”) with external guests |
| 2020–present | Supervision of, in total, 10 BSc and 5 MSc theses |

Engagements in Sports Practice

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| 2023–present | BSC Young Boys, assistant coach of the under-14 team |
| 2022–present | Swiss Football Association, active member of Research & Development expert group |

Funded Projects

- 2024 UniBE fund for profiling projects in digitalization, "Human behavioral control in virtual worlds: Barriers and impact factors of transfer of virtual experiences" (Applicants: PD Dr. Matthias Ertl & Dr. Stephan Zahno), total funding 500'000 CHF; proportionate funding (1/2) = **250'000 CHF**
- SNSF (Swiss National Science Foundation) Scientific Exchanges, "Adapting to increased movement variance in complex sensorimotor tasks" for a 5-month research visit, **15'460 CHF**
- 2023 HORIZON.1.2/Marie Skłodowska-Curie Actions/Doctoral Network "Translational research network in motor disorder rehabilitation: Advancing understanding of variability in motor control and learning to enhance clinical practice" (<https://cordis.europa.eu/project/id/101119878>); EU project partners: University of Münster, Aix-Marseille University, Jönköping University, KU Leuven, Radboud University, Tel Aviv University; Associated project partners: University of Bern, King's College London; EU contribution = 2'462'968 EUR; Matching fund by Swiss State Secretariat for Education, Research and Innovation for the Bern group (Prof. Dr. Ernst-Joachim Hossner [PI], Dr. Ralf Kredel, Dr. Stephan Zahno) = 298'800 CHF; proportionate funding (1/3) = **99'600 CHF**
- 2023 UniBE Funding Program, Short Travel Grants for (Post)Docs, **7'220 CHF**
- 2023 Fund for the Promotion of Young Researchers (University of Bern) for the workshop "Sensorimotor uncertainty and functional variability" (Main applicant: Dr. Stephan Zahno, Co-Applicant: Damian Beck), total = 4'836 CHF; proportionate funding (1/2) = **2'418 CHF**
- 2022 Swiss Olympic Research Grant, "Development of game intelligence in youth football" (Cooperation with the Swiss Federal Institute of Sport and the Swiss Football Association), total funding = 92'000 CHF; proportionate funding (1/3) = **30'666 CHF**
- 2022 UEFA Research Grant, "Developing creativity in football: the role of motor skills and idea generation in top-level players", **14'452 CHF**
- 2022 Research support for (post)doctoral researchers from the Faculty of Human Sciences (University of Bern), **8'430 CHF**
- 2021 Promotion of Innovative Teaching (University of Bern), "New conception of an interdisciplinary and problem-oriented seminar 'teaching and learning movements', **16'860 CHF**
- 2021 Bern University Research Foundation, "Creative decision-making in young sports athletes: Towards a natural interactivity in virtual reality" (Main applicant: Dr. Christian Vater, Co-applicant: Stephan Zahno), total = 12'151 CHF; proportionate funding (1/2) = **6'075 CHF**
- 2021 Fund for the Promotion of Young Researchers (University of Bern) for the workshop "Cognition and motor action: an interdisciplinary and problem-based workshop for young scientists" (Main applicant: Stephan Zahno, Co-applicant: Dr. Christian Vater), total = 4'984 CHF; proportionate funding (1/2) = **2'492 CHF**
- 2020 FIFA Research Scholarship for the project "Performing Creative Actions in Football: The Mutual Link to Motor and Perceptual Skills" (Main applicant: Stephan Zahno, Co-applicant: Dr. Christian Vater), total = 13'366 CHF; proportionate funding (1/2) = **6'683 CHF**
- 2019 Promotion of Innovative Teaching (University of Bern), "Development of the Lecture 'Problem-oriented Sport Science'" (Main applicant: Prof. Dr. Ernst-Joachim Hossner, Co-applicants: PD Dr. André Klostermann & Stephan Zahno), total funding = 33'720 CHF; proportionate funding (1/3) = **11'240 CHF**

Invited Talks

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| 01/2024 | Justus-Liebig-Universität Giessen/Germany, Title of the talk: "Sensorimotor uncertainty in complex tasks" |
| 10/2023 | Finnish Football Association, Annual Coaches' Workshop, Helsinki/Finland (online contribution in a hybrid event). Title of the talk: "Creativity in football" |
| 06/2023 | Dalhousie University, Halifax/Canada. Title of the talk: "Handling sensorimotor uncertainty in complex tasks" |
| 05/2023 | University of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia/USA. Title of the talk: "Bayesian integration in tennis" |
| 04/2023 | Karlsruhe Institute of Technology, Karlsruhe/Germany. Title of the talk: "Dealing with uncertainty in sensorimotor control & learning" |
| 04/2023 | Swiss Football Association, Talent Manager Meeting/Basel. Title of the talk: "Developing creativity in top-level players" |
| 03/2023 | University of Bern/Switzerland, Interfaculty Focus Group on Extended Reality, Title of the talk: "Complex sensorimotor control under uncertainty" |
| 03/2023 | Swiss Football Association, Annual Research & Development Meeting, Muri bei Bern/Switzerland. Title of the talk: "Developing creativity in top-level players" |
| 11/2022 | Friedrich Schiller University Jena/Germany. Title of the talk: "Creativity in team sports / Gaze and movement behaviour under risk" |
| 04/2022 | Vrije University Amsterdam/Netherlands. Title of the talk: "Creativity in team sports" |
| 09/2021 | Swiss Diving, Annual Coaches' Workshop, Magglingen/Switzerland. Title of the talk: "Coordination and motor learning" |