



FIFA MASTER CONFERENCES

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Presentation of dissertations 2026



Thursday, 23rd July 2026, 12:30 to 17:30

University of Neuchâtel
Aula des Jeunes-Rives
Espace Tilo-Frey 1
2000 Neuchâtel

12:30 **Doors Open**

13:00 **Welcome** - PROF. Thomas PROBST, FIFA Master Scientific Committee President

13:15 **Built for the World Stage: Insights into the Developmental Profiles of the 21st century FIFA World Cup Quarterfinalists** - Ian AGOSTINI (Brazil & Portugal), Rita EL IDRISSEI SEMMALI (Morocco & USA), Robert LOKAU (Switzerland), Ashley PINEDA SALGADO (USA & Mexico)

13:45 **More Than Marquee Signings: How Foreign-Player Recruitment and League Governance Intersect. A Comparative Study of MLS, SPL, CSL and A-League** - Amr ADEL (Egypt), Xavier CORDIER (Australia & France), Luca FUHRMANN (Germany), Zheng WANG (China)

14:15 **After the Flame: What Happens to Individual Summer Para Sports Between Paralympic Games** - Léonie DOLÉAC (France), Bianca FAES BELGRADO (Italy), Eliú RODRIGUEZ OCHOA (Mexico & USA), Daniel THEVENDERAN (Malaysia)

14:45 **Coffee Break**

15:00 **From the Pitch to the Next Chapter: A Comparative Study of Women Footballers' Preparation Strategies for a Successful Post-Career Transition in England, Spain, Papua New Guinea, and Liberia** - Nathaniel Lepani (Papua New Guinea & USA), Martin MARECHAL (France), K. Jlayteh SAYOR (Liberia)

15:30 **Women Leading, Women Succeeding: The Correlation Between Representation and Football Development** - Zackary GILMORE (Canada), Ho Yan (Kenny) LAM (Hong Kong, China), Antonia LANDGRAF (Germany), Lalaina Auriel NY ANDRIANTSOA (Madagascar)

16:00 **Coffee Break**

16:15 **Launched From the Top, Judged From Below: A Cross-Continental Study of Fan Perceptions of the FIFA Club World Cup** - Guillermo ALVEZ (Uruguay), Abdel Malik Koudizé (Niger), Alessandro PADULA (Italy), Tomoyuki TAMURA (Japan)

16:45 **Watching Football Online: The Impact of OTT Platforms on Fan Engagement and Viewing Behaviour** - Omar Yasser AHMED (Egypt), Paolo DAL POZZO (Italy), Alwin KOMOLONG (Papua New Guinea & Germany), Yuto KUROSU (Japan)

17:15 **Closing Remarks** - PROF. Thomas PROBST, FIFA Master Scientific Committee President