

Danielle Peers

Faculty of Physical Education & Recreation
University of Alberta
Ph.D. Candidate
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EDUCATION:

Ph.D., Faculty of Physical Education & Recreation, University of Alberta, in process

Dissertation Topic: From Eugenics to Paralympics: Disability, Sport, and Social Justice Movements in Canada
Supervisor: Dr. Pirkko Markula

Master of Arts, Faculty of Physical Education & Recreation, University of Alberta, 2009

Thesis: Governing Bodies: A Foucaultian Critique of Paralympic Power Relations
Supervisor: Dr. Donna Goodwin
Grade Point Average: 3.9

Bachelor of Arts in Sociology, minor in History, University of Alberta, 2001

Grade Point Average: 8.9 (equivalent to 4.0)
Graduated with Distinction.

GRANTS, SCHOLARSHIPS AND AWARDS:

Awards and Scholarship

- 2011 Trudeau Foundation Scholarship, \$180,000
- 2009 Vanier Canada Graduate Scholarship, SSHRC, \$150,000
- 2009 President's Doctoral Prize of Distinction, \$10,000 (+4 years tuition and fees)
- 2008 Alumni Horizon Award, University of Alberta
- 2008 Distinguished Alumni Award, Grant MacEwan College
- 2008 Queen Elizabeth II Graduate Scholarship, University of Alberta, \$10,800
- 2008 Profiling Alberta's Graduate Students Award, Alberta Government, \$600
- 2000 Petro-Canada Olympic Torch Scholarship, \$3,000
- 1998 Academic All-Canadian Award
- 1998 Flannigan Family Scholarship, \$400
- 1998 Dean's List, Grant MacEwan College
- 1997 Jimmie Condon Academic Athletic Scholarship, \$1,500
- 1996 Jimmie Condon Academic Athletic Scholarship, \$1,500
- 1996 Alexander Rutherford Scholarship, \$1,500

Collaboration on Research Teams

- 2013- Alberta Committee of Citizens with Disabilities & University of Alberta Health Sciences Council joint project on barrier-free healthcare in Alberta.
- 2011- Team member: The Living Archives on Eugenics in Western Canada, a Community-University Research Alliance funded by SSHRC.
- 2008 Researcher: Sport Science Association of Alberta, \$3,690 (N. Spencer-Cavaliere & D. Peers). Exploring the perspectives of able-bodied athletes in wheelchair basketball.
- 2008 Team member: Canadian Institutes of Health Research two-year Catalyst Grant, \$40,561 (Sobsey, D & Janz, H, principals). Disability ethics: Beyond medical and social-construction models of disability.

Additional Recognitions

- 2012 Global Woman of Vision
- 2012 Muscular Dystrophy National Courage to Inspire Award
- 2011 Inducted into Wheelchair Basketball Canada's Hall of Fame
- 2010 Chosen to represent U of A as Olympic Torch Bearer
- 2010 National True Sport Award – Wheelchair Basketball Canada
- 2008 Alberta Sports Hall of Fame (team)
- 2007 Edmonton Sports Hall of Fame
- 2007 International Sportswoman of the Year: Finalist
- 2007 Basketball Canada's Outstanding Athlete of the Year
- 2006 World's Most Valuable Player: Wheelchair Basketball
- 2006 Gold Medal, Wheelchair Basketball World Championships
- 2006 Edmonton Pride Award for Outstanding Contribution to the LGBTQ Community
- 2004 Bronze Medal, Athens Paralympic Games

PUBLICATIONS:

Publications - Refereed

Peers, D. (forthcoming). From inhalation to inspiration: A genealogical auto-ethnography of a supercrip. In S. Tremain (Ed.), *Foucault and the government of disability*, 2nd Ed. Ann Arbor: University of Michigan Press.

Peers, D & Eales, L. (forthcoming). People, tools and this *thing* called disability. In M. Strickfaden & P. Devlieger (Eds.) *Materiality & Independence: Disability, Ability and the Built Environment*.

Peers, D (2012). Interrogating Disability: The (de)composition of a recovering Paralympian. *Qualitative Research in Sport and Exercise*, 4(2), 175-188. doi: 10.1080/2159676X.2012.685101

- Peers, D. (2012). Patients, athletes, freaks: Paralympism and the reproduction of disability. *Journal of Sport and Social Issues*, 36(3), 295-316. doi:10.1177/0193723512442201
- Peers, D., M. Brittain & R. McRuer (2012). Crip excess, art and politics: A conversation with Robert McRuer. *The Review of Education, Pedagogy and Cultural Studies*, 34(3/4), 148-155. doi: 10.1080/10714413.2012.687284
- Goodwin, D. & D. Peers (2011). Disability, sport and inclusion. In S. Dagkas & K. Armour (Eds.), *Inclusion and exclusion through youth sport* (pp. 186-202). Routledge.
- Spencer-Cavaliere, N. & D. Peers (2011). "What's the difference?" Wheelchair basketball, reverse integration and the question(ing) of disability. *Adapted Physical Activity Quarterly*, 28, 291-309. Retrieved from <http://search.ebscohost.com/login.aspx?direct=true&db=rzh&AN=2011305061&site=ehost-live&scope=site>
- Peers, D. (2009). (Dis)empowering Paralympic histories: Absent athletes and disabling discourses. *Disability & Society*, 24(5), 653-665. doi: 10.1080/09687590903011113
- Publications – Non Refereed
- Peers, D. (forthcoming). Marginal belonging. in L. Greaves, S. Kirby, M. Lay & G. Demers (Eds.) *Playing it Forward: 50 years of Women and Sport in Canada*. Toronto: Feminist History Society.
- Peers, D. (2012). Patients, athletes, freaks? *Social Science Space*. Sage. Retrieved from <http://www.socialsciencespace.com/2012/09/patients-athletes-freaks/>
- Peers, D. & L. Eales (2011). "Stand Up" for exclusion?: Queer pride, ableism and inequality. In M. Smith & F. Jaffer (eds.), *Beyond the queer alphabet: conversations on gender, sexuality & intersectionality* (pp. 39-41). Retrieved from https%3A%2F%2Fthemenace.s3.amazonaws.com/2Fuploads%2FBeyond_the_Queue_Alphabet_20March2012F.pdf&ei=qFOpUMDKcHUygG3v4HQAw&usg=AFQjCNGOpNU85KhFqVnzoKpBRz5EcLe1og
- Peers, D. (2009). Review of Steve Bailey's Athlete first: A history of the Paralympic movement. *Adapted Physical Activity Quarterly*, 26, 187-188. Retrieved at <http://search.ebscohost.com/login.aspx?direct=true&db=s3h&AN=37012161&site=ehost-live&scope=site>
- Spencer-Cavaliere, N., Peers, D. L., & Watkinson, E. J. (2008). Integrating able-bodied athletes in disability sport: Athletic identity and competitive/elite women's wheelchair basketball players. *Pulse*, 21(1), 9-10.
- Peers, D. (2008). My favorite myths about elite sport. *Prospect Magazine*, 1(1), 6-7.

Creative Publications and Alternative Media

- DeVal, J., Eales, L., Peers, D., & Ulanicki, R. (Producers & Directors). (Forthcoming). *New Constellations* [Motion picture]. Canada: iDance Edmonton.
- Eales, L. & Peers, D. (Producers & Directors). (2012). *Pieces of Us* [Motion picture]. Canada: iDance Edmonton.
- Peers, D., Brittain, M., & Mootoo, S. (Producers & Directors). (2009). *And the rest is drag* [Motion picture]. Canada: KingCrip Productions. (Available from Vtape, 401 Richmond Street West, Suite 452, Toronto, ON M5V 3A8) (Showings include: the Edmonton Exposure Festival, the Seattle Transgender Film Festival and the Vancouver Queer Film Festival)
- Peers, D., Brittain, M., Cowan, T.L., & Overend, A. (Producers & Directors). (2009). *Bill 44: Smaller classes, smaller minds* [Motion picture]. Canada: KingCrip Productions. (Available from <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=DRAI2eTTzQ0>).
- Peers, D. & Brittain, M. (Producers & Directors). (2008). *G.I.M.P. boot camp* [Motion picture]. Canada: KingCrip Productions. (Available from Vtape, 401 Richmond Street West, Suite 452, Toronto, ON M5V 3A8). (Showings include: Picture This International Disability Film Festival; Vancouver Queer Film Festival; Inside Out Toronto LGBT Film Festival; New York's DisTHIS! Film Series; and Frameline, San Francisco's LGBT Film Festival).
- Peers, D. (2000). Post-mortem. *4 Corners: A Feminist Review*, 3(1), 60.
- Peers, D. (1999). Engendered Species. *4 Corners: A Feminist Review*, 2(1), 72-73

PRESENTATIONS:

Presentations – Refereed Academic Conferences

- Peers, D (2013). Spectacular Tolerance: The cutting edge of supercrip 'activism'. Canadian Disability Studies Association National Conference. University of Victoria, Victoria, B.C.
- Peers, D. (2012). Desiring disability: Supercrips and revolting gimps. Presentation at (Dis)ability? Queer and Feminist Perspectives, University of Alberta, Edmonton, AB.
- Eales, L. & Peers, D. (2012). Moving materiality: People, tools and this *thing* called disability. Presented at Re-Con Graduate Student Conference, Canmore, AB.

Spencer-Cavaliere, N. & Peers, D. (October, 2011). Challenging understandings of disability through reverse integration in wheelchair basketball. Presented at the meeting of the Canadian Society for Psychomotor Learning and Sport Psychology (SCAPPS) in Winnipeg, Manitoba.

Peers, D. (2011) Screening “GIMP”: Academic engagement and dissemination through art. Re-Con Graduate Student Conference, Canmore, AB.

Peers, D., M. Brittain, & L. Erickson (2010). Disobedient Bodies: Video Artistry and Activism (Roundtable). Health, Embodiment & Visual Culture: Engaging Publics and Pedagogy, McMaster University, Hamilton, ON.

Spencer-Cavaliere, N., D. Peers, & E. J. Watkinson (2010). “What’s the difference?” Wheelchair basketball, reverse integration and the question(ing) of disability. North American Federation of Adapted Physical Activity Conference, Riverside, CA.

Peers, D. (2009). Paralympians, patients and freaks: Re-conceptualizing Paralympic progress narratives. North American Society for the Sociology of Sport Conference, University of Ottawa in Ottawa, ON.

Peers, D. (2008). Pity and pedestals: Expert discourses about athletes with disabilities. To Remember is to Resist: 40 Years of Sport and Social Change International Conference, University of Toronto in Toronto, ON.

Peers, D. (2008). Producing the Paralympian: A genealogy in progress. York Critical Disability Studies Graduate Student Conference, York University in Toronto, ON.

Peers, D. (2008). Historical (re)productions of the heroic Paralympian. Eighth Annual Round Table (Open for Action: Socio-cultural Research and Change in Sport, Health and Physical Activity), University of Alberta in Edmonton, AB.

Peers, D. (2007). Super-gimps and wannabe-crips: Mobilizing the mobility-impaired. On Mobilities Graduate Conference, University of Alberta in Edmonton, AB.

Presentations – Academic Keynotes, Lectures and Panels

Peers, D. & Eales, L. (2013). Crippin’ the crutch: Body-tools in motion. Differential Mobilities International Conference. Concordia University, Montreal, QC.

Peers, D. (2012). Invited panelist: Human Rights for Queer and Sexual Minorities. The Gall Conference: The State of Human Rights in Alberta, Edmonton, AB.

Peers, D. (2012). Interrogating disability: The de-composition of a recovering Paralympian. Invited Public Lecture at University of Lethbridge, Lethbridge, AB.

- Peers, D. & Eales, L. (2012). Moving materiality: People, tools and this *thing* called disability. Invited keynote lecture at Materiality & Independence: Disability, Ability and the Built Environment Symposium, Edmonton, AB.
- Peers, D. (2011). Seeking out failure in Graduate School and beyond. Keynote lecture at Re-Con Graduate Student Conference, Canmore, AB.
- Peers, D., I. Erickson, & L. Crawford (2010), *FemmeGimp and QueerCrip Sidekicks: Adventures in the land of the benevolent normates* (panel organizer and presenter). presented by the Alberta Public Interest Research Group, University of Alberta in Edmonton, AB.
- Peers, D. (2010). Breaking the silence: Ethical challenges to the who, what and how of adapted physical activity (panel co-organizer and presenter). Faculty of Physical Education and Recreation Speaker Series, University of Alberta in Edmonton, AB.
- Peers, D. (2010). Representations of Disability and the Arts (invited panel member). University of Alberta in Edmonton, AB.
- Peers, D., E. Clare, M. Brittain, & L. Crawford (2008). *Transformative Stories: Crip and Queer Art as Activism* (panel co-organizer and presenter). Alberta Public Interest Research Group, University of Alberta in Edmonton, AB.
- Peers, D. (2007). Transgressing boundaries of (dis)ability. Inside/OUT Speaker Series (invited lecturer). University of Alberta in Edmonton, AB.
- Peers, D. (2007). Tomboys and the able-disabled: Subversive ability or hegemonic identity? Woman Scholars Speaker Series (invited lecturer). University of Lethbridge in Lethbridge, AB.
- Peers, D. (2006). Disabling stereotypes, enabling action (bilingual- invited lecturer). Faculté St. Jean in Edmonton, AB.

Presentations –Invited Keynote Lectures at Public and Professional Conferences

- Eales, L. & Peers, D. (2013). Disability Arts as Activism. Next Up Edmonton: A leadership program for young people committed to social and environmental justice. Edmonton, AB.
- Peers, D & Eales, L. (2012). *The Art of Failure*. Invited feature lecturer at the North Central Teacher's Convention in Edmonton, AB.
- Peers, D & Eales, L. (2012). *L'art et L'échec*. Invited feature lecturer at the North Central Teacher's Convention in Edmonton, AB.

- Peers, D., Eales, L. & Gordan, I. (2012). These stairs are out of order! Activist solutions to the “problem” of disability. Featured lecture-workshop at Youth In Action Muscular Dystrophy Canada Conference, Calgary, AB.
- Peers, D. (2010). Learning to passionately fail: Revisiting the second language success story. Invited lecture at Institute for Innovation in Second Language Education Conference in Edmonton, AB.
- Peers, D. (2009). Making a difference? Invited lecture at B.C. and Yukon Fire Fighter Conference in Vancouver, BC.
- Peers, D. (2008). The process of initiating social change. Invited lecture at the Alberta Registrar’s Conference in Edmonton, AB.
- Peers, D. (2008). Disability, failure and other malleable stories. Invited lecture at the World Conference of Women’s Shelters in Edmonton, AB.
- Peers, D. (2008). Failure and success: Rethinking the athlete’s story. Invited lecture at Calgary City Teacher’s Convention in Calgary, AB.
- Peers, D. (2007). La pédagogie du présent. Invited lecture at Alberta Francophone Teacher’s Conference in Edmonton, AB.
- Peers, D. (2007). Learning through failure. Invited lecture at Alberta Health and Physical Educators Conference, Edmonton, AB.
- Peers, D. (2006). Sport, nationalism and difference. Invited lecture at United Nations “Sport in a Box” Gala, Edmonton, AB.
- Peers, D. (2006). Inclusion by design. Invited lecture at National Fire Fighter's Conference, Toronto, ON.
- Peers, D. (2005). Undoing disability. Invited lecture at National Muscular Dystrophy Canada Conference, Vancouver, BC.

TEACHING EXPERIENCE:

Primary Instructor - University of Manitoba

2012 PERS 4200 - Disability, Sport & Culture

Co-Instructor - University of Alberta

2013 OCCTH 543/596 – Social Justice in Occupational Therapy

Teaching Assistant - University of Alberta

2006– 2007 SOC 333 - Theorizing the Subject

Guest Lecturer, University of Alberta

2013 WST 498/PHIL 372 Philosophy of sex
2013 WST 201 Introduction to Women Studies
2013 HPS 508 Psycho-social perspectives on health (public health)
2013 PERLS 370 Assessment and service delivery in Adapted Physical
Activity and Recreation Therapy
2012 HECOL 661 Material culture in the home & community
2012 WST 498/PHIL 372 Philosophy of Sex
2011 SOC 492 Queer Theory
2010 SOC 492 Queer Theory
2010 WST 470 Feminism and Queer & Transgender Theories
2010 ENG 220 Reading Politics: Sex and Gender
2009 PERLS 427 Topics in Physical Activity and Disability
2006 - 2008 SOC 333 Theorizing the Subject
2005 - 2008 PERLS 207 Physical Activity and Leisure for Special Populations
2007 ENG 220 Reading Politics: Sex and Gender
2005 PERLS 304 Sport and Leisure in Canadian Society: Sociological
Perspectives

Guest Lecturer, University of Lethbridge

2012 KNES 3850 The Modern Olympic Movement
2012 WGST 2600 Activism & Advocacy
2012 SOCI 2410 Sociology of Gender
2007 Kinesiology 4640 – Applied Ethics in Sport

PEER REVIEWING FOR ACADEMIC JOURNALS:

Qualitative Research in Sport and Exercise
Disability Studies Quarterly Journal
Journal of Sport and Social Issues
Journal of Disability, Community & Rehabilitation
Sport (<http://www.mdpi.com/journal/sports>)

EVENT ORGANIZING AND CURATING

Lead Organizer or Curator:

(Dis)ability?: Queer and Feminist Perspectives (October, 18 & 19, 2012). Featuring Robert McRuer, Alexis Shotwell, Shelley Tremain, Catherine Clune-Taylor and Danielle Peers. Edmonton, AB.

Crip Tease: An Evening of Irreverent Art (October, 18, 2012). Edmonton, AB. A disability-themed art event featuring sixteen artists from North America & Europe.

Disability, Sport and Ableism Speaker Series (February 14 & 15, 2012). Featuring David P. Howe, Gregor Wolbring, David Greig, Jean Laroche. Edmonton, AB.

FemmeGimp and QueerCrip Sidekicks: Adventures in the land of the benevolent normates (2010). Featuring Peers, D., I. Erickson, & L. Crawford. Presented by the Alberta Public Interest Research Group. Edmonton, AB.

Organizing Committee Member:

Communicating Otherwise: A Trudeau Foundation Public Interaction Program Event (2012). An evening of artistic and alternative research presentations, and a daylong workshop on alternative ways of representing research. Montreal, QB.

Peers, D. Breaking the silence: Ethical challenges to the who, what and how of adapted physical activity (2010). Faculty of Physical Education and Recreation Speaker Series, University of Alberta in Edmonton, AB.

Transformative Stories: Crip and Queer Art as Activism (2008). Featuring Peers, D., E. Clare, M. Brittain, & L. Crawford. Alberta Public Interest Research Group, Edmonton, AB.

SERVICE AND CITIZENSHIP:

- 2012 - Beyond Access – Working Group Member
I was one of a dozen Canadian artists invited to Canmore for a week-long workshop to assess and develop national disability art funding policies in relation both to equity and to artistic merit.
- 2012 National Roundtable on Disability and Human Rights – Lead Moderator
As lead moderator, I worked with the John Humphrey Centre for Peace and Human Rights in creating a national questionnaire, identifying key organizations and advocates, and finally, moderating a nation-wide conversation on strategies for educating about human rights and disability.
- 2009 - The SPACE Project – Founder and Chair
SPACE seeks to enable more sustainable and accessible artistic, activist and recreational communities and activities in the Edmonton area. We begin with venue audits and are working on an event hosting package. See <http://spaceedmonton.blogspot.com> for more info.
- 2005 - Muscular Dystrophy Canada – National Ambassador

I represent MDC at media and public events, and work with clients, families, fundraisers, and healthcare professionals to raise awareness and facilitate communication.

2010 - 2012 Wheelchair Basketball Canada – National Women: Program Coach

As a program coach, I am a volunteer member of a coaching team that selects, teaches, trains and coaches Canadian national senior women's program athletes. I participate in select Canadian training camps and international competitions, as well as training local program athletes on a weekly basis.

2010 - 2012 Inferno Wheelchair Basketball Society – Head Coach

As the head coach of the Edmonton Inferno's Women's team, I train a group of 15 female athletes three times a week in order to prepare them for National Championships. As a player and coaching staff member, I have helped the Inferno earn 6 national championships in seven years.

2006 - 2012 Canadian Association for the Advancement of Women and Sport – Committee Member & Champion

I helped develop, pilot and present a workshop on homophobia in Canadian Sport for CAAWS. The workshop was presented to the administrators and policy-makers of National Sport Organizations, as well as to athletes. I was then selected as one of two original "Champions" of the cause in the national campaign to eradicate homophobia in sport.

2005 - 2012 Alberta Northern Lights Wheelchair Basketball Association – Director

I help make financial, strategic, and operational decisions in order to help steer the organization in a more inclusive direction.

2008 - 2008 Canadian Francophone Games – Spokesperson

I acted as spokesperson and as the youth mentor for both the athletic and leadership components of the Francophone games. I also delivered a keynote speech to the youth of the leadership division. All of these duties were performed entirely in French.

2005 - 2007 Canadian Wheelchair Basketball Association – Women's Commissioner

In this elected position, I acted as the chair of the Canadian women's league and was a voting member of the CWBA domestic committee. My job was to improve women's opportunities and experiences within wheelchair basketball.

2005 - 2007 Canadian Wheelchair Basketball Association – Athlete's Representative

I was elected by the national women's wheelchair basketball team to represent their interests to the board of CWBA. As athlete representative, I also represented my team's interests at the gatherings of AthletesCAN, the national athlete's association of Canada.

2002-2005 Inferno Wheelchair Basketball Association – Chairperson & Founder
I was a co-founder of the first women's wheelchair basketball club in Northern & Central Alberta. In the elected position of chairperson, I have applied successfully for grants, established and maintained administrative and budgetary systems, and helped recruit, build and administer the most successful women's wheelchair basketball club in Canadian history.

OTHER EXPERIENCE/ EMPLOYMENT:

2003 - Public Speaking

I am actively involved both professionally and on a volunteer basis as a public speaker. Aside from the many academic talks listed above, I have been the keynote speaker for national sporting events, for University of Alberta donation ceremonies, as well as countless fundraisers, sports organizations, businesses, and media events.

2003 – 2008 Paralympic Athlete

I have played in men's and women's wheelchair basketball leagues in Canada, the United States and France, and have won a number of major championships, including: a World Championship (2006), a Paralympic Bronze medal (2004), four national championships (2004-2007), and a USA men's championship (2005). Individual successes include: World's Most Valuable Player (2006), Basketball Canada's Athlete of the Year (2007), and a finalist for the International Sportswoman of the Year (2007). I have been a recipient of all of the most prestigious athletic grants, including: Hbc Own the Podium fund (2007), Team Investor's Group Bursary (2005,2007), and See You in Beijing Fund (2007).

2000 – 2004 H.M.E. Evans and Company – Investor Relations Manager

I managed the investor affairs for six related ethical investment portfolios. This involved extensive training and experience in accounting, budgeting, communications, and administrative organization.

1998 – 2000 Grant MacEwan College – Assistant Coach, Women's Team

I helped run practices, determine game strategies, and manage the team's budget. I also organized and coached youth basketball clinics, and coached an inner-city youth team in MacEwan's off-season spring league.

1993-1994 Lendrum Elementary School – Classroom assistant

In this work experience program, I assisted with hard of hearing and deaf children between the ages of 8 and 12. This was ideal practical experience to complement my level 1 training in American Sign Language.

PROFICIENCIES:

Languages: Fully bilingual English/French
Introductory levels in American Sign Language & Spanish

Software: Both PC and Apple platforms & full Microsoft Office suite
Web design software: Dreamweaver
Video editing software: Final Cut Pro and imovie
Statistical Software: SPSS and SAS