



Section 3 | Global policy, professional horizons, and developments in Psychomotricity

Annual Meeting of the Scientific Association of Psychomotricity and Motologie at University Ludwigsburg

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Under the theme "Future Topics in Psychomotricity and Motologie: Networking, Condensing, Linking and Moving", the annual conference of the Scientific Association for Psychomotricity and Motology (WVPM) e.V. took place on 18 January 2025 at the Ludwigsburg University of Education. The members met the evening before for the annual general meeting and then enjoyed a convivial exchange over dinner.

After the welcome by the board of the WVPM, the meeting began with an eventful introduction with shadow theatre. In the subsequent keynote lecture, the Ludwigsburg chair holder Prof. Dr. Martin Vetter presented the Ludwigsburg University of Education (PH) as a new location for Motologie and psychomotricity. In his lecture, Martin Vetter presented structural and research methodological outlooks and explained the special features and opportunities of the new location for the development of subject-specific study programs as well as for new research cooperations. From the point of view of the WVPM, it seems important to note that his appointment is of great importance for the subject, as the PH Ludwigsburg has the right to award doctorates and habilitations. Martin Vetter explained how motor knowledge and psychomotor ideas can enrich qualitative research.



Specifically, he illustrated this with two current pilot studies that he is conducting with Debora Yacoub and Yasmin Habaal: For those with a refugee migration background on the one hand and for young people with disabilities on the other, the movement-based approach impressively shows the gain in research data for typical steps of the qualitative research process. His remarks led to a lively discussion in the plenary.

Another highlight of the conference was the midday colloquium, at which various doctoral and research projects were presented through poster presentations. Nine doctoral students presented their projects in different "stages", from the initial considerations to completion. After a short presentation in the plenary session, the projects were presented and discussed in several rounds in front of changing small groups. The doctoral projects presented covered an impressive range of topics: Heike Einsiedler, who was unable to attend due to illness but provided her poster for the discussions, dealing with physical aspects of mathematics and examines how early childhood math learning takes place in movement and in the body. Stefania Ferraro is researching heart rates and exercise in outpatient psychotherapy and analyzes how these data could serve as indicators of psychophysiological health. In her project, Julieta Jacobi is developing a performance as a micro-city laboratory of different sensory appropriations of space with blind, visual

impaired and visually seeing actors. Josephine Schwery is investigating the graphomotor self-concept of first- and second-graders in German-speaking Switzerland. In a meta-study, Anja Solenthaler is analysing the effects of movement-oriented interventions on improving motor skills and mental health in children and adolescents. Debora Yacoub is researching the possibilities of access through movement to children who have experienced crises. Ellen Thuma is dealing with shame as a collective sensorium and examines the development of gender-related ways of feeling as well as the sensitization of the Kinaesthetic sense through the shame -effect in female biographies. Nina Holz presented the first frames of her doctoral thesis project with a preliminary focus on mindfulness in motor research.

In the afternoon, the conference participants were divided into three parallel working groups. The first group, moderated by Representative Prof. Dr. Stephan Berg, was dedicated to the topic of "Organizational Development and

Health Promotion". The second group, led by Dr. Judith Sägesser Wyss, dealt with "Psychomotor skills and school inclusion". In the third group, headed by Prof. Dr. Henrik Göhle, the focus was on the topic of "Empiricism – qualitative & quantitative data of intersubjectivity" with a pilot study on the synchronization of heart rates in four-handed piano playing. The intensive discussion and careful securing of results illustrated the great interest in jointly developing and deepening the topics presented in the professional community. The conference impressively showed that, despite limited resources in the small sector, in the field of motologie and psychomotricity, fruitful topics can not only be further developed within one's own community through networking and links, but can also be made visible to the outside world. The literary café in which the conference took place was filled with a special atmosphere by the helping students, especially by allowing them to talk in between short recitations of their own works and this way refining the scientific conference with art and literature.



The Board of WVPM (from left to right): Dr. Judith Sägesser, Prof. Dr. Martin Vetter, Dr. Stephan Berg and Prof. Dr. Henrik Göhle