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**Dissertation topic:** Identity transition to life after sport.

**Primary fields of interest:** The personal and athletic development of amateur and professional athletes with a primary interest in the transition to life after sport.

**Committee Chair:** Dr. Michael Sagas

**Courses taught:**

- Ethical Issues in Sport (SPM 3204) – Fall 2014
- Sport and Society (SPM 3012) – Spring 2015
- Sport and Society (SPM 3012) – Fall 2016
- Ethical Issues in Sport (SPM 3204) – Spring 2017

**Biography:**

Elodie Wendling is a Graduate Research Assistant in the Department of Tourism, Recreation and Sport Management at the University of Florida completing her final year of her Ph.D. in Sport Management. Wendling also serves as the Director of *The Liminars Project*, a research and training program devoted to athlete transitions that is housed in the UF Laboratory for Athletes & Athlete Development Research (LAADR) at UF. Her research focuses on the personal and athletic development of amateur and professional athletes with a primary interest in the transition to life after sport. Through this research agenda, she has studied concepts and constructs such as academic-athletic role conflict, sport enjoyment at the youth level, relative age effects, and more importantly career planning, sport career transition, identity development, psychosocial functioning, eudaimonic identity, narrative identity, and liminality. She is also interested in developing and evaluating interventions and policies designed to assist players' personal and athletic development and has worked with Dr. Brian Mills on evaluating a tennis-related policy using econometric models. She has published in *Quest*, the *Social Science Quarterly*, the *International Journal of Sports Science & Coaching*, and the *Journal of Amateur Sport*.

Originally from France, she moved in South Florida in 2005 to play college tennis for the Owls at Florida Atlantic University and pursue a degree in economics. She then pursued a Master of Science in Sport Management at Barry University in Miami. She came to UF with over three years of experience in career counseling, specifically advising student-athletes and sport management students regarding career related issues and teaching a Career Readiness course for senior business students. While at UF, she was the Instructor for Ethical Issues in Sport course and Sport and Society course for two years and has presented her research at numerous national and international refereed conferences. She is a member of the North American Society for Sport Management (NASSM) and the Professional Association of Athlete Development Specialists (PAADS).

She is currently working with Dr. Sagas on developing an integrated identity transition model designed to help former elite athletes make psychosocial adjustments once they leave the high-level competitive sport landscape. The overarching goal is to examine identity reformation processes that enhance current and former elite athletes' well-being and promote optimal psychosocial functioning in order to facilitate their adjustments to life without competitive sport. They are approaching this work through partnerships with the athletic department here at UF and athlete development practitioners throughout North America and are currently developing an innovative educational and coaching course that aim at facilitating adaptive identity development and bettering the transition to life after sport of current and former athletes.