

# RESEARCHER OF THE MONTH

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**Dr. Joy Butler** is a Professor in the Department of Curriculum and Pedagogy at UBC, Vancouver. She is Chair of the Health, Outdoor and Physical Education (HOPE) programs at the undergraduate and graduate levels including two-year M.Ed Cohorts for Health, Outdoor and Physical Experiential Education (HOPE-Ed).

Joy's research and teaching have developed around constructivism, complexity thinking, situated ethics and community wellness. She is active in international scholarship, organization, and advocacy for Teaching Games for Understanding (TGfU). She has been invited to give presentations and workshops on TGfU in many different countries, including Finland, Singapore, Australia, Spain, Taiwan, Hong Kong, UK and Colombia. Dr. Butler's research interests and international work have translated into the expansion of graduate and undergraduate PE programs at UBC.



## Why is it important to be connected to the PHE Canada Research Council?

Constructivist educators believe that human beings learn best when they work with others on meaningful tasks and challenges, and this has been a guiding principle for my work. Even the most elite athletes are nurtured and informed by their teams, their coaching community, and their families. Schools offer students the chance to belong to various learning collectives, such as teams, groups, or classes. In scholarship, action research brings together teachers and researchers in joint investigation of both practical and theoretical questions. PHE Canada offers a forum for all these discussions as it brings teacher educators, researchers and graduate students together in an overarching community of practice.

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## Dr. Butler's most recent publications:

**Butler, J.** (2016). *Playing fair: Using inventing games to prevent bullying, teach democracy and promote social justice*. Champaign, IL: Human Kinetics. (Publication June 2016)

**Butler, J.** (2017). Feminist directions for Teaching Games for Understanding (TGfU) Movement (Editorial). *Cultura\_Ciencia\_Deporte*. DOI: 10.12800/ccd, 12(35), 87-88.

Memmert, D., Amond, L., Bunker, D., **Butler, J.**, Fasold, F., Griffin, L., Hillmann, W., Huettermann, S., Klein-Soetebier, T., König, S., Nopp, S., Schul, K., Schwab, S., Thorpe, R., & Furley, P. (2016). Top-10 Research Questions related to Teaching Games for Understanding. *Research Quarterly for Exercise & Sport*, 86:4, 347-359, DOI: 10.1080/02701367.2015.1087294[F = 1.261]

**Butler, J.** & Ovens, A. (2015). The TGfU governance networks: From conception to special interest group. *Agora for Physical Education and Sport*, 17(1) 77-92.

**Butler, J.** (2014). TGfU Would you know if you saw it? Benchmarks from the tacit knowledge of the founders. *European Physical Education Review*, 20(4) 444-464. (doi: 10.1177/1356336x14534356).

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