

STUST Journal of Humanities and Social Sciences, September 2017

No. 17 pp.1-25

A Study on the Relationships among Serious Leisure, Recreation Specialization, and Leisure Benefits for Cyclists

*Chun-An Chen**

Abstract

The purpose of this study was to investigate the relationships among serious leisure, recreation specialization and leisure benefits for cyclists using Tainan's bikeways. The study used a questionnaire-based survey, drawing from a convenience sample of cyclists using bikeways in Tainan. A total of 446 valid questionnaires were collected. Descriptive statistics were compiled and structural equation modeling (SEM) employed for statistical analysis. The results showed a good fit for an overall model, with significant correlations being found among the variables, as follows: (1) Serious leisure had a significantly direct and positive influence on both recreation specialization and leisure benefits. (2) Recreation specialization had a significantly direct and positive influence on leisure benefits. According to these findings, it was concluded that after engaging in cycling activities, cyclists using Tainan's bikeways had more interest in cycling activities, gradually developed a deeper and more specialized interest cycling, and obtained the recreational benefits available from cycling. Based on the results, suggestions for future study and implications for managerial practice are provided.

Keywords: *cyclists, serious leisure, recreation specialization, leisure benefits*

*Chun-An Chen, Associate Professor, Physical Education Center, Southern Taiwan University of Science and Technology
E-mail: spring38@stust.edu.tw
Manuscript received: Jun. 14, 2017; Modified: Jul. 10, 2017; Accepted: Sept. 14, 2017.

