



Illinois Wesleyan University
Digital Commons @ IWU

John Wesley Powell Student Research
Conference

2012, 23rd Annual JWP Conference

Apr 14th, 9:00 AM - 10:00 AM

Nature Vs. Nuture: Athletic Ability

Chen Hon Wang
Illinois Wesleyan University

Darryl Brown, Faculty Advisor
Illinois Wesleyan University

Follow this and additional works at: <https://digitalcommons.iwu.edu/jwprc>

Wang, Chen Hon and Brown, Faculty Advisor, Darryl, "Nature Vs. Nuture: Athletic Ability" (2012). *John Wesley Powell Student Research Conference*. 20.
<https://digitalcommons.iwu.edu/jwprc/2012/posters/20>

This Event is protected by copyright and/or related rights. It has been brought to you by Digital Commons @ IWU with permission from the rights-holder(s). You are free to use this material in any way that is permitted by the copyright and related rights legislation that applies to your use. For other uses you need to obtain permission from the rights-holder(s) directly, unless additional rights are indicated by a Creative Commons license in the record and/ or on the work itself. This material has been accepted for inclusion by faculty at Illinois Wesleyan University. For more information, please contact digitalcommons@iwu.edu.

©Copyright is owned by the author of this document.

Poster Presentation P39

NATURE VS. NURTURE: ATHLETIC ABILITY

Chen Hon Wang and Darryl Brown*

Business Administration Department, Illinois Wesleyan University

Athletes in the world are the best at what they do, whether it's basketball, football, soccer, or volleyball. They are the best at it. But why is that? Why can't everyone who desires achieve this level of performance? This debate and question has puzzled researchers for centuries. It is the debate of nature versus nurture. Those on the side of nature believe that the genes that a person possesses, is the sole reason why they are who they are. And the believers of nurture think that the environment in which a person grows up in is what makes them who they are. There is not a definite answer to this debate. A person's athleticism is based off of both their genes and also the kind of environment that he/she grew up in. Drawing on recent research in sports performance and evolutionary psychology, this essay takes a position in the middle and show evidence of why athleticism cannot be determined by just nature or just nurture.