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The 2007 British Olympic Academy Session Carlo Farrugia (MLT)



I heard a lot of positive comments from my very dear friend Elizabeth Hanley about the annual session of the British Olympic Academy (BOA). Therefore, I was very happy when I received the invitation to attend this year's session. This year the session was held between February 23-25 in the picturesque village of Greenwich. The setting was ideal and the hotel was superb. The hotel staff was very courteous and helpful and, of course, Jan Paterson and Amy Terriere from the BOA were excellent hosts making sure that everything worked like clockwork.

The theme chosen for this year was London 2012 and the legacy that the Olympic Games would leave in London and the United Kingdom for future generations. The BOA managed to get a list of personalities that spoke with great passion about their work in the build-up for the London 2012. It was fantastic to listen them transmitting the passion and the spirit of the Games that are still so far away, almost five years in the future. Personalities like Lord Collin Moynihan, Chairman of the British Olympic Association, Mr. Paul Deighton, CEO of the London Organising Committee, Ms. Debbie Evans, Director of Sports of the London Organising Committee,

and Mr. John James, Chairman of the British Olympic Foundation found the time to come to the seminar and address the participants even if they were hard pressed by their busy schedule.

The ongoing preparations for the London 2012 were explained and participants were also taken on the site of the Games, where there is an enormous amount of activity going on in preparation for these Games. Speakers also explained how the UK prepares its athletes for the Olympic and Paralympics Games. During the seminar the participants were also divided into smaller groups to discuss various topics and these sessions proved to be a great success since participants had the time to get to know the others better and listen to the suggestions made by people coming from the UK and from other countries. It was incredible to meet people that had travelled all the way from Japan to be able to attend this session. This proves how important this session has become and how much people within the Olympic Movement love to participate and contribute to the BOA.

Olympic medallist Ms. Guin Batten

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Attend the 10th IOAPA Session

July 2-6, 2007 at the IOA!

Fill out the application form and send it to IOAPA's Vice-President Panos Vassilaras at panosv@ioapa.org

The registration form can be found at:

http://www.ioapa.org/doc/10th_IOAPA_Session_July2007_Application_Form.doc

We are looking forward sharing another exiting, enriching, and fun IOAPA Session with you!



Website News Héctor Argüelles (ESP)



Dear IOAPA members,

I would like to remind you about our Mail-group service, which allows members to share their Olympic news with all of us. Every member interested in distributing any piece of information with the IOAPA family is invited to send an e-mail to info@ioapa.org. If the content of the e-mail is suitable, it will be forwarded to the whole membership. Any generic Olympic information such as conferences, publications, events, projects as well as personal details regarding involvement with an Olympic organization, participation in events, etc. is welcome at the Mailgroup.

Should you have any comments, questions, suggestions, etc. please do not hesitate to contact me at hector@ioapa.org

Warm regards,

Héctor Argüelles

Important IOA dates

- | | |
|-----------------------------|---|
| May 7-12 | 11th International Session for Sport Journalists |
| June 1-8 | 9th International Session for Directors of NOAs |
| June 19-
July 3 | 47th International Session for Young Participants |
| July 5-
August 8 | 15th International Seminar on Olympic Studies for Graduate Students |
| July 25-30 | Seminar for Olympians |

Women and Sport Conference in Tashkent, Uzbekistan

Yulia Bredneva (UZB)



More than 50 young athletes and sports specialists from Chile, China, Chinese Taipei, Croatia, Guatemala, Iran, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Latvia, Malaysia, Myanmar, Tajikistan, and Uzbekistan, participated in the 2007 edition of the International Conference “Women and Sport” in Tashkent, Uzbekistan from April 23 to 25.

The main topic of the conference was “Women and Sport”, and the special topic was “Young Female Leaders in Sport Society”. Sports administrators, athletes, specialists in various disciplines, journalists, and representatives of international organizations took part in the Conference. They gathered in Tashkent to discuss how to promote sport among women and how to encourage young women to actively participate in sport and sports administration. The Conference aimed to give young leaders good opportunities to exchange their experience and ideas, to improve their skills, as well as to attract the attention of the public to the matter of women’s potential in sport and sport-related activities.

The Conference was organized by the National Olympic Committee of Uzbekistan in collaboration with Uzbekistan Women’s Committee, Special Olympics, Ministry of Culture and Sport Affairs, UNDP, UNSEF and UNESCO.

This year the Conference witnessed its second edition in Uzbekistan. The event started in 2005, however, back then it was held as a regional conference, while the 2007 edition was conducted according to its new status of an international conference.

The press conference took place on April 24 in the Museum of Olympic Glory of Uzbekistan. The Uzbekistani media took a particular interest in the conference’s main topic, “Women and Sport.” Media representatives actively participated in the conference bombarding participants and organizers with questions and interviews.

During the work of the conference, participants and guests made presentations, discussed several topics, and participated in various workshops. They discussed how to promote education, health, and peace through sport and paid special attention to cultural and traditional issues. With the intention to make their own contribution to the promotion of health, peace, and international tolerance through the development of sport, participants developed a common report with their recommendations on the matter and sent it out to the IOC, OCA, NOCs, sports federations, and other organizations.

Participant from Malaysia Tay Li Neo, who is a member of the National Olympic Academy of Malaysia, said: “The Conference was an experience in which all the participants, international and local alike, learned about and built cultural integration, friendship, and

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(silver medallist in rowing in Sydney 2000) gave a passionate account of her experiences, the true Olympic spirit could be felt in the room during her presentation. It was wonderful and emotional to listen her experiences and her work within the Olympic Movement. During the Saturday Gala Dinner Mr. Derek Redmond (world gold and silver medallist in athletics) recalled his experiences, sacrifices and successes. It was a fitting tribute to those athletes that sacrifice so much for Olympic glory with only a few managing to reach the pinnacle of success. I can proudly say that the seminar was a huge success and that the 120 mainly coming from the UK had a great time and took back with them another portion of Olympic spirit.

It is also important to note that IOAPA was very well represented during this seminar and that the four IOAPA Executive Board members present at the seminar took the opportunity to discuss the next summer session of the IOAPA that will be held between July 2-6 in Olympia. I hope that many of you will manage to make it to our session so that we will once again rekindle the Olympic spirit that binds us together even if we are so far apart from each other.

Carlo Farrugia



IOAPA members at the 2007 Session of the British Olympic Academy

Back row from left to right: Carlo Farrugia (MLT), Jeremy Cross (GBR), Iain Bates (GBR), Reelee Remmelkoo (EST), Héctor Argüelles (ESP), Ya-Ya Yamamoto (JPN), Yi Wen Chin (TPE)

Front row from left to right: Cesar R. Torres (ARG), Betz Hanley (USA), Ian Brittain (GBR)

Photographer: Philip Baker (GBR)

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most of all, gained a handful of knowledge from all the topics discussed. Although most of us come from different backgrounds, we all share the same passion and that is sports. For me, these three days of conference have definitely been a valuable knowledge asset to me and my NOC. Apart from that, I was able to meet and befriend talented and amazing people from all over the globe, exchanging ideas and ways to promote sports to all levels of society. All in all, I must say that the conference was very an unforgettable experience!”

Participant from Guatemala Nancita Ramos, decathlete, said: “This event opened my horizons in the way I saw sport and is the best experience I have ever had, and I will never forget it”.

Yulia Bredneva



SUSMAO's First Meeting

Marko Levovnik (SLO)



On February 20, 2007, an exceptionally interesting event took place under the sponsorship of the Slovenian Olympic Academy: the first gathering and official foundation of the Slovenian Group of Participants of Sessions of the International Olympic Academy in Ancient Olympia (SUSMAO).

The idea for this project was developed a year and a half earlier when Marko Levovnik, founder of the Slovenian Group of Participants of Sessions of the International Olympic Academy in Ancient Olympia, participated in the 13th International Seminar on Olympic Studies for Postgraduate Students in Greece. Soon after this experience, Marko joined IOAPA. Some months afterward he responded to an invitation and became IOAPA's representative in the Republic of Slovenia. He accepted the duties and obligations of this role and has more than effectively

Academy and winner of two gold and a bronze medal in the 1964 and 1968 Olympics. He expressed great joy that former participants of the educational seminars of the IOA were actively engaged with the Slovenian Olympic Academy. Cerar welcomed the formation of SUSMAO and said that all of its initiatives and projects would be connected to the Slovenian Olympic Academy.

The event continued with a presentation detailing four main topics. First, the IOA's goals and its relation to IOAPA were presented. Second, IOAPA was introduced and its history summarized. The third part of the presentation comprised the ideas as well as long- and short-term objectives of SUSMAO. Finally, opinions were shared, criticisms and questions were raised, and praise for the project was expressed. While still significant, this was the more relaxed part of the event.



met them.

SUSMAO was founded with a formal ceremony to recognize its significance. All the invited guests gathered in a room of the Faculty for Sport at the University of Ljubljana that was specially prepared for this occasion. The event began with a keynote address by Marko. The keynote address was followed by a short speech by Mr. Miroslav Cerar, president of the Slovenian Olympic

We have to emphasize that SUSMAO was created based on the principles and ideas of the IOA as well as IOAPA. SUSMAO's primary goal is to serve as an "active group" to help in the work and initiatives of the NOA. An interesting and noteworthy fact is that from 1993 to 2006, there has been 29 Slovenian who have taken part in different Sessions in Ancient Olympia. The first was Dr. Tomislav Koprivnjak, a participant in the 1st International Seminar on Olympic Studies for Postgraduate Students.

Dr. Koprivnjak has served as a mentor to Slovenian participants. At the inaugural event of SUSMAO he not only shared his interesting experiences from fourteen years ago but also showed support as well as a commitment for the future work of the group.

Participants of the event were introduced to the goals of SUSMAO. The objectives include: help in the selection of participants of the educational session in Ancient Olympia; introduce and invite participants to join IOAPA; participate in the organization of international seminars, conferences and round-tables on Olympism and sport-related topics; promote a higher level of recognition of the NOA in society; and help in the promotion of sport and Olympism in the educational system; prepare and implement Olympic education programs. The wish of SUSMAO is to inspire participation in sport with new values that will contribute to the wellbeing of our children.

At the end of the inaugural meeting, we arrived at the conclusion that the intellectual and working potential of this group is exceptional. With the motivation, ambition, momentum, and valuable experiences of these interested individuals, we can take big steps forward. To new successes, at home and in world!

Marko Levovnik

What Have They Been Doing? News from IOAPA Members

Silvia B. Dalotto (ARG) has informed us of her new e-mail address. Here it is: silviadalotto@gmail.com

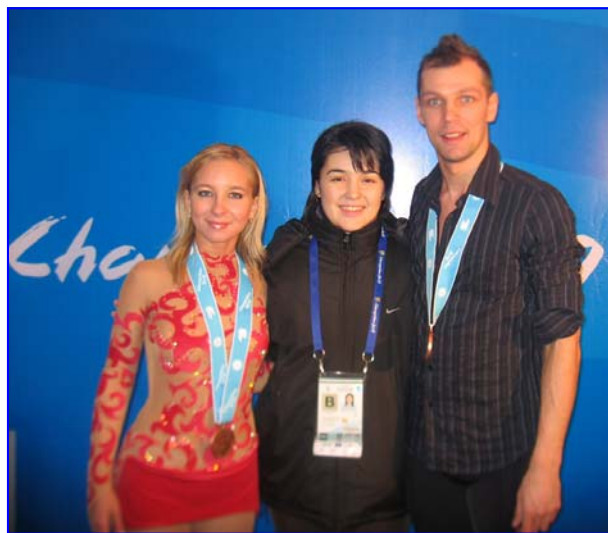
Last October, **Reele Remmelkoo** (EST) presented a paper at the 5th World Forum on Sport, Olympic Education and Culture in Beijing. Reele's presentation was entitled "Applying Olympic Education Through National Olympic Academies." Dean Kostas Georgiadis (GRE) was also a speaker at the event.



Reele delivering her presentation at the 5th World Forum on Sport, Olympic Education and Culture

Thierry G. Ntwali (RWA) has been designated Chef de Mission of the Rwandan Team for next year's Summer Olympic Games in Beijing. Congratulations!

Yulia Bredneva (UZB) was the Chef de Mission of the Uzbekistani Team that participated in the 6th Winter Asian Games that took place from January 28-February 4 in Changchun. Congratulations!



Yulia poses with volunteers (left) and between bronze medalists in pair figure skating Marina Aganina and Artyom Knyazev (right)

New job? New arrival in the family? Got an award? Participated in an Olympic-related event? Simply e-mail your news and notes to ctorres@ioapa.org and the editor will share your accomplishments in a future issue of Arete.

Did you know?

That the IOC's Olympic Studies Centre (OSC) has just launched the 2008 edition of the grant program aimed at young researchers engaged in scholarly research on the Olympic Movement, its history and values, and the impact of the Olympic Games on the various aspects of contemporary society and culture

Details of the program can be found at:

http://www.olympic.org:80/uk/news/olympic_news/newsletter_full_story_uk.asp?id=2153

The source of the information was the IOC web page: www.olympics.org