

# Arete

Volume 7, Issue 2

www.ioapa.org

Summer 2002

*"...the Athenian Games will be held once more, and the world will again turn towards that immortal Hellas whose cult is inseparable from any ennobling aspiration."*

Pierre de COUBERTIN 1908

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## 42nd IOA General Session: Olympism in Action

By Carlos Manzur (Ecuador)



The topic of the 42nd International Session for Young Participants was "Olympism", with the special theme: "The Cultural Olympiads and the Olympic Movement."

These two themes were interestingly covered by such notable lecturers as Gianna ANGELOPOULOS-DASKALAKI (GRE), "The 2004 Olympic Games in Athens" Denis OSWALD (SUI), "International Federations and ASOIF"; John McALOON (USA), "Olympic Torch Relay Symbolism and Multicultural Mission"; and Nicole GIRARD-SAVOY (SUI), "IOC Olympic Solidarity."

Approximately 170 Participants from 89 countries gathered for the 16 days of the session. Everything went so well that IOA President Filaretos said that it was one of the best sessions ever.

In general, everything ran easily in all administrative and organizational matters. The at-

tendance at the daily lectures was outstanding considering the prolonged "talks" of the previous night.

It was the special involvement of this year's participants that made a very good session. A mature and well-focused group they participated in all discussions and activities.

In sports we had track and field competitions for the first time in many years and a very interesting swimming gala with teams formed within discussion groups. This evoked a team

spirit that helped increase the competition and spectators' participation.

This year's session represented a big challenge for the coordinators because of the absence of George Vassilaras and Jan Patterson, who consolidated the group reports for many years. Other coordinators assumed that responsibility. Laurel Brassey Iversen took on this new activity and did an outstanding job!

*Carlos Manzur*



# PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

By Laurel Brassey Iversen (USA)



I hope that everyone is busy with work and life and I also hope that you are able to find some time to keep in touch with your IOAPA friends and work on projects concerning Olympism. I have heard some good news here in the USA in regards to the re-establishment of an Education Department of the USOC and a new NOA.

The 42nd IOA Session for Young Participants was one of the best in terms of academic level and cohesion among the participants. It was a great group and the session ran very smoothly in spite of four solid days of rain at the beginning of the session. It was really fantastic to see such weather in Olympia. Many IOAPA members served as coordinators this year. They were Penelope Amelidou, Panagiota Apostolopoulou, Panos Vassilaras, Evi Salepi, Youla Pipilis, Stamatia Giorga, and Ageliki Diki-yannoulaki (GRE), Cyrille Boulongne and Catherine Monnin (FRA), Ian Brittain, (GBR), Jorg Brokamp (GER), Michael Croes (ARU), Andri Iacovidou (CYP), Kemo Keimbou (CAM), Carlos Manzur (ECU), Tomasz Kosek (POL), Fenella NG (HK), Cesar Torres (ARG), Shamala Subramaniam (MAL), and Alfred Otula (KEN). So it was quite a group.

The IOAPA was popular with the participants and 20 new members joined and I m sure more will join when they return home. You can read more about the session in the report by Carlos Manzur in this newsletter.

Mr. Filaretos said that the Ephoria is receiving many requests to use the academy now and therefore the decisions will be made in November. I will request dates at the beginning of November at try very hard to get dates before or after the main session which usually falls in late July. We will let you know as soon as we know something.

I would like to propose that the IOAPA organize a reunion for the Athens 2004 Games for all past IOA participants. Everyone please think about it and we can work on it at our session next summer. Many of us believe it will be a very big session for us.

Sincerely,

*Laurel Brassey Iversen*

## ATTENTION!!!! ARETE MOVES INTO THE 21st CENTURY

As you notice, beginning with this issue, *Arete* is being delivered via e-mail to those that have given up their e-mail addresses. This will allow us to get IOAPA news to you quickly, save on escalating mail charges, allow you to view the newsletter in color, print a better quality hardcopy than a photocopy and will allow you to archive the newsletter on your computer. The newsletter is being sent in .pdf format and all you will need to view it is Adobe Acrobat Reader, which can be downloaded for free at:

<http://www.adobe.com/products/acrobat/readstep2.html>

Since the file contains graphics it will take a few seconds to download as an e-mail attachment. Please be patient, we believe it will be worth it and that you will be pleasantly surprised with the outcome. So to take advantage of this new feature please make sure we have a current e-mail address.

### Calling all IOA participants!!

As part of our drive to update our database files we have begun sending out a regular *e-Circular* to all those email addresses we have in our lists. You may have received one or both of these. If you have – GREAT!! If not it is because we do not have an email address for you, or in the case of over 100 people, a current address. If you have not received the *e-Circular* please contact our Secretary, Alastair Cameron via email at oz.nomad@bigpond.net.au.

The *e-Circular* is to give all members a brief update of happenings in between editions of *ARETE*, circulate dates for IOAPA Conferences and other news. It is also being used as a tool to try and locate as many past participants as we can and get more people involved in the organization.

You can assist by contacting any fellow participants from your IOA year, or country, that you keep in contact with. Urge them to contact Alastair so we can at least send them information about the IOAPA and get them involved .

If nothing else we will get a database that is useful for reconnecting people that may be looking for each other. We look forward to your help in connecting us with our missing friends!!

# Olympic Education in Canada: by Joy Fera (Canada)

## **BC OLYMPIANS**

Since my retirement after the 1980 Moscow Olympic Games' boycott, I have spoken to many school groups, sharing my Olympic memories. In my youth I had several sport role models, so hopefully, even as a master athlete now, I am able to inspire some of them!

Being that the 2002 Salt Lake City Olympics would be the last Olympic Winter Games prior to the 2010 bid decision, I felt this would be just one small part I could play in reaching young people to get them excited about the possibility of Vancouver-Whistler hosting such a great international sporting event. If we can get the youth passionate about this opportunity, then perhaps they can get their parents excited too!

My contacts at the eight schools and one church were friends of mine. Each was most delighted to have an Olympic athlete [it didn't matter if I was a summer Olympian] speak to their youth and glad I had made the contact. Grades varied from primary to intermediate to secondary school. TV coverage of the Games brings knowledge and interest in even the newest Olympic sport that youth would not otherwise be aware.

I wore my Montreal Olympic blazer and took along my framed World Championship medals, clothing from a variety of countries, a few photos, the new Vancouver 2010 logo and not enough 2010 pins! I spoke of my multi-sport background from a young age emphasizing transfer of skills from one sport to another [my most successful being alpine skiing, ice hockey & rowing], challenging them to dream big because most were not old enough to know what might become their favourite.

I spoke about setting goals, the hard work necessary to reach those goals, the importance of great coaching, equipment, nutrition, team work, increased opportunities for women, and fair play. I told them it was frustrating competing against athletes on performance enhancing drugs, and challenged them not to cheat in whatever their endeavours. In addition to mentioning what countries travel with the National Team took me, I shared the joy of representing Canada, the highs of victories and the agonies of defeat, including the 1980 boycott. One teacher asked me to explain to the children what a boycott was!

It was exciting to see the audiences' positive response when I asked each to imagine themselves in eight years time. Might they be an athlete, volunteer or employed if Vancouver hosts the Olympic Winter Games in 2010? Maybe their parents would be involved. Perhaps they would be singing or dancing in the Opening or Closing Ceremonies. I promoted the 2010 website as well.

The highlights for me are always the questions I get asked. Did I ever feel like quitting?! After saying, "in a nutshell" to condense an answer, one child asked, "What do you mean, 'in a nutshell'?" How much money I made when I won the World Championship bronze medals?! Because most children have lots of questions, and the entire school wanted to attend, on occasion, I suggested that I speak twice to smaller groups. At the secondary level, the teacher could not believe that a certain male student sat focused for one hour, something never before exhibited and that she was sorry another teacher was unable to witness that.

The Olympic education kits are used by keen teachers. At one school two classes combined to have a 'Breakfast of Champions', with some parents volunteering. Each student had made a flag of a country, the classes paraded through the hallways at recess, and they coloured placemats they had drawn, before enjoying pancakes. Many asked me to autograph their placemat!

As publicity increases for the Vancouver 2010 bid, lets help make it a gold medal result. I experienced the home country, Canadian advantage in Montreal. I encourage all Olympians, between now and July 2003, to contact a school, perhaps even one you used to attend, and volunteer to appear, whether it is at a sports day, tournament or awards banquet. It is fun and the youth will be inspired indeed. No matter what your sport or the year[s] you competed, you are a LegaciesNow golden moment! Pass the torch!

### **Westbank Elementary School BC's Canadian Olympic School**

I had the privilege to travel to Westbank BC on June 20, 2002 and present, on behalf of the Canadian Olympic Committee, a banner and framed certificate to the staff and students at Westbank Elementary School. All 350 students and staff were present to receive the much deserved awards for their time and effort

put into studying the Canadian Olympic values of peace, respect, fairness, human development, fun, leadership, and excellence.

As the local newspaper, the Daily Courier, described, "Under the guidance of teacher Michelle Apps, it was quite a large undertaking. During the Salt Lake City Olympic Winter Games in February, Westbank Elementary held opening and closing ceremonies and a mock Winter Olympics.

Students were divided into different countries, carried their own flags and competed in bobsled [on mini-skate boards], hockey, figure skating and other winter sports. Some of the 350 students even painted their faces to reflect their adopted country. A Japanese festival was held in conjunction with the Olympics to fulfill the requirement for world art. Seven classes were selected to study the seven Canadian Olympic values, one per class. The class studying peace sculpted a peace monument out of clay. The class working on respect wrote letters of thanks to people who had affected their lives. A class studying fairness explored the challenges facing athletes trying to make it to the Olympics. A class focused on environmental awareness entered the I Know environmental competition at Orchard Park mall."

Prior to the award assembly, I was able to see a photo album documenting all these special projects. In my opinion, Michelle Apps deserved a gold medal for the time and effort to complete a twelve page application form for consideration by the COC! A representative from the school district, as well as the principal, congratulated the students and staff for their accomplishment. I presented the school with the new Vancouver 2010 poster and a pin for each student, challenging them all to continue to be the best that they can be in all walks of life. Vancouver 2010 Bid Committee also donated four draw prizes. I asked each one to visualize themselves in eight years...as an athlete, volunteer or employee if Vancouver, BC and Canada is successful in their bid to host the 2010 Olympic Winter Games. CBC TV covered the events on their evening newscast.

Every school in Canada will receive a similar challenge from the Canadian Olympic Committee focused around the 2004 Olympic Games in Athens, Greece.



# IOAPA at the 2002 Commonwealth Games in Manchester, England

by Rowland Jack (Great Britain)

At the end of July I went to Manchester to enjoy the Commonwealth Games. The Commonwealth is a peculiar institution as it consists mainly of countries that long ago formed the British Empire. Now times have moved on and there are good relations between most of the member countries. They range from the very big (India, Canada) to the very small (Nauru, St Kitts and Nevis) and they come together every four years for the Commonwealth Games.

In 2002 it was Manchester's turn. Over 4,000 athletes from 72 countries and territories descended on the city to take part in 17 sports. The atmosphere was rather more relaxed than at the Olympic Games. Everybody knew that Australia would end up on top and that England and Canada would be strong in many sports. Nevertheless there was some amazing competition and great performances. India and New Zealand were among countries that produced their best ever results and countless heroes were born from as far afield as Fiji and Cameroon.

A major innovation in Manchester was incorporating disabled events in the main competition. It was only a selection of disciplines in a few sports but nevertheless it marked an important step forward. Natalie du Toit of South Africa created history by winning 2 golds in the swimming for elite athletes with a disability then reaching the final of the open 800m freestyle. When already an international swimmer she lost part of her leg in a road accident. After rehabilitation and dedicated training she made her way back into the South African squad and could

well qualify for both the Olympic and Paralympic Games in Athens – a great story.

One of my favourite events was Rugby 7s. This lung-bursting sport is played on the same pitch as the regular 15-a-side game but there are only 7 in a team and the matches are much shorter. It's fast and furious with spectacular skills and crunching tackles. In November the IOC will decide whether to add it to the Olympic programme for 2008.

All in all the Commonwealth Games were great fun with a little less of the stresses and strains of the Olympic Games. I met loads of people and even had time for a drink with Alastair Cameron, Secretary of IOAPA!

Rowland Jack  
IOA 1999  
[jack@isu.ch](mailto:jack@isu.ch)



Rowland Jack and IOAPA Secretary Alastair Cameron (Australia) at the "Blue Roo" with the Australian delegation.

## IOA Participants Active with WADA by Ted Polglaze (Australia)

Four IOA participants – Stacy Spletzer (USA, 1998), Kerri Tepper (AUS, 1998), Linda Olofsson (SWE, 2000) and Ted Polglaze (AUS, 2000) - were in Beijing, China for the World University Games. The four were part of the World Anti-Doping Agency (WADA) 'Awareness Team', which was at the Games to educate athletes about the moral and ethical issues surrounding doping, as well as the health risks.

Each of the four has taken an active role in anti-doping since their time in Olympia and sees it as a key factor in the promotion of fair-play and the Olympic ideals. Stacy was in fact the coordinator for the program, as part of her job of Project Manager at WADA. Kerri, Linda and Ted were there as 'Athlete Role Models', having competed in the Olympics for Table Tennis, Swimming and Bobsleigh respectively. The combination of Olympic Games and Olympic Academy ex-

perience meant they were able to provide a balanced perspective to budding Olympians on achieving their goals whilst upholding the spirit of fair-play.

The Awareness Team had a booth in the main dining hall of the Athlete's Village, where athletes were able to test their knowledge on anti-doping quizzes and sign their name and put their photo on a world map as a pledge to drug-free sport. By the end of the Games, it was difficult to see the different countries though all the faces and signatures, including that of new IOC President Jacques Rogge, who made a special visit to the booth.

The team continued their work at future events, including the Salt Lake City Winter Olympics where both Stacy and Ted were in attendance. The WADA booth was in the International Zone of the Athlete's Village.



WADA Awareness Team (from left) Ted Polglaze, Linda Olofsson, Stacy Spletzer and Kerri Tepper at the World University Games Athlete's Village in Beijing.

## ATTENTION 2003 IOAPA Conference News!!!

The IOA will inform us of the dates for the 2003 IOAPA Conference in November. Please remember that we do not have free use of the IOA anymore and that some expenses will have to be paid by those attending. When planning your trip to Olympia next summer please keep this in mind. As soon as we learn of the dates you will be immediately notified by e-mail, or by one of your IOAPA colleagues or regional representatives. (Another reason to supply us with an e-mail address!) Spaces cannot be reserved and will be assigned on a first come first serve basis. Once a registration fee and procedure is decided you will be informed. Only IOAPA members will be allowed to attend, no friends, spouses or significant others will be allowed to attend the conference or stay at the Academy. We appreciate your patience and understanding.



# BOA 2002: INFORMATION TO INSPIRATION!

by Elizabeth Hanley (USA)



It was another “winner” for British Olympic Foundation Director, Jan Paterson. An IOA regular for many years (Discussion Group Coordinator), Jan has been the creative force behind the British Olympic Academy meetings since the early 1990s. BOA 2002 emerged as another brilliant combination of informational lectures, energizing discussion groups, and inspirational words from a lively Olympic athletes’ panel.

BOA 2002 was held from 26-28 April at the Manchester Conference Center in Manchester, England. The 100+ attendees included British Olympic Foundation officers and trustees, university students and lecturers, physical education teachers, devotees of the Olympic Movement, and several former IOA participants and/or IOAPA members: Philip Barker GBR, Ian Brittain GBR, Dikaia Chatziefstathiou GR, Peter Dawson GBR, Elizabeth Hanley USA, Igor Lanzoni ITA, Lisa McLaren GBR, Jim Parry GBR, Cesar Torres ARG, and Kevin Whitney GBR.

The BOA was opened by Mr. John James, esteemed Chairman of the British Olympic Foundation. A perennial favorite and BOF trustee, Dr. Don Anthony, gave the opening address – Don is noted for his “interesting stories and quick wit” – always eliciting smiles and laughter! The highlight of the opening session was a panel of three British Olympic athletes: Ms. Alex Coomber, 2002 SLC bronze medallist in skeleton; Ms. Nicola Gautier, heptathlete in the 2000 World University Games and bobsleigh competitor in 2002 SLC; and Mr. Nicky Gooch, 1998 Nagano bronze medallist in short

track speed skating. Their relaxed, unrehearsed answers to poignant questions were greatly appreciated by the attentive audience. Ms. Gill Clark, MBE, and a championship badminton player, was the perfect moderator for this elite panel!

Other lectures throughout the weekend included “Salt Lake City – Sociological Observations” by Prof. Joe McGuire of Loughborough University; “The Olympic Movement 2002 – A New Chapter?” by IOA personality, Cesar Torres, now a professor at Brockport State University in New York; “Getting Online with Olympic Studies” by Andy Miah and Beatriz Garcia (if you subscribe to their Olympism news, you can appreciate vicariously their presentation!); [www.ioa-session.org](http://www.ioa-session.org) by IOAPA member, Ian Brittain; “International Olympic Academy” by IOA 2001 Great Britain participants (Laura Boulty, Graeme Dell, James Macallister); and “Team England 2002 – Home Games Advantage” by Don Parker, Sports Liaison Official, Commonwealth Games Council for England.

In addition to these and other lectures throughout the weekend, discussion groups provided for lively interaction each time we met. Attempting to solve our assigned “problems of the IOC” culminated in creative expressions by each discussion group on Sunday – acted out in subtle and not-so-subtle ways in front of an appreciative audience!

Lest you think that all we did was attend meetings and contribute to discussion groups, let me add that the final banquet, complete with

live band for dancing, on Saturday night was the “icing on the cake” – everyone enjoyed camaraderie in the true spirit of Olympism – the dance floor was crowded with all ages – people sat and chatted with old friends and new-found friends – and the night continued...

From “information to inspiration,” the BOA accomplished so much more. Ideas on how to work in sport, art, and the Olympic Movement were shared with others, and those in attendance already began to talk about meeting again for BOA 2003 in Edinburgh, Scotland. Leaving the BOA, as at the IOA, is a bitter-sweet time...but the prospect of reuniting with friends keeps the flame alive!

Elizabeth A. Hanley, IOAPA  
Associate Prof. of Kinesiology  
Penn State University

(NOTE: Elizabeth would like everyone to know that she has been very active spreading Olympism in her life. Besides being invited to the British Olympic Academy, she attended the North American Society for Sport History [NASSH] conference in French Lick, Indiana, USA last May where she presented a paper entitled ADDING NEW SPORTS TO THE OLYMPIC GAMES: IS MORE BETTER?. In case you did not receive her personal e-mail offer, you can receive a copy of the abstract or paper by contacting her at [eah3@psu.edu](mailto:eah3@psu.edu). This October she will attend the Olympic Symposium at the University of Western Ontario in London, Ontario, Canada where she will chair a panel on SELLING SEX: THE EARLY OLYMPICS)



## *What Have We Been Doing?* Updates from IOAPA Members

*A few words from former IOAPA President Ingolfur Hannesson (Iceland).*

I have moved to Geneva to take up a new job at the European Broadcasting Union as a Manager for Winter and Indoor Sports. On behalf of 70 Public Service Broadcasters around Europe I will basically be responsible for the coordination of contacts with a vast number of international sporting federations, making sure that the contracts that we have with those are fully respected. I will therefore travel around, mainly in Central Europe.

I see that our IOAPA is moving forward slowly, but surely. The news letter is now being distributed via email and that is a great step.

I hope that this mail finds you and yours in good health.

Best regards,  
Ingolfur

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Philip Barker (Great Britain) has been named an associate editor of the Journal of Olympic History, the official publication of the International Society of Olympic Historians

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### WEDDING NEWS FROM ATHENS!!!

On September 7th Katerina Protekdikou (Greece) married Kostas, whom many of you met in the Plaka before the last conference.

On October 5th dear friend of the IOAPA and life member Athanasios Kritsinelis will celebrate the wedding of his son Akis and his fiancé Zoe.

We wish both couples all the love and happiness in the world!



Canadian rowing Olympian (1976, 1980), and IOAPA member, Joy Fera, with Patrick and Meghan Burns of Ladner, British Columbia, Canada. Please read Joy's article about Olympians in the schools of British Columbia (page 4). Should you have any questions for Joy you can contact her at: fera@acncanada.net

# Arete

THE NEWSLETTER OF THE INTERNATIONAL  
OLYMPIC ACADEMY PARTICIPANTS' ASSOCIATION

DEADLINE FOR NEXT ISSUE:  
**I December 2002**

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**IOAPA APPLICATION FORM:** For a two year membership please send the following information, along with a check for \$30.00 (US), €30.00, or the equivalent in your currency, made out to the **IOAPA** to:

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E-mail: pauldacchino@yahoo.com  
(please print or type all information clearly)

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IOA SESSION(S) ATTENDED: \_\_\_\_\_

**(you MUST have attended an IOA Session to join the IOAPA and this information MUST be supplied!!!!)**

IOAPA Conferences Attended: \_\_\_\_\_

## IMPORTANT MEMBERSHIP INFORMATION!!!!!!!!!!!!

On the mailing label is a number after your name. This number is the year your IOAPA membership expires. If you do not renew by the end of that year you will be dropped from the IOAPA roster and will not receive the newsletter or be allowed to attend the IOAPA Conference. Those with "life memberships" will have (L) after their names and do not need to renew their memberships. For example, **if your number is (02) your membership ends on December 31, 2002**— if you do not renew your membership this will be your last issue of **Arete** and you will not be eligible for future IOAPA conferences and activities. In order to renew, immediately send a check or money order, made out to the **IOAPA**, for \$30 (US), €30.00, or the equivalent in your currency, for a two year membership to:

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*We hope you choose to remain a member of the IOAPA and renew your membership!*