

Arete

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NEWSLETTER OF THE INTERNATIONAL OLYMPIC ACADEMY
PARTICIPANTS ASSOCIATION



Meet the New IOAPA Executive



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Letter from the Editor:

I'd like to take this opportunity to thank my predecessor Rusty Wilson for his years as Newsletter Editor. I hope that my term as Editor lives up to the standard he has set for Arete. Thanks Rusty!

President's Message

By: Hector Arguelles (Spain)



Dear IOAPA members,

A stream of Olympic news came recently. Rio was elected as host of the Olympic Games in 2016; the celebration of the Olympic Congress in Copenhagen; the addition of golf and rugby to the Olympic Program; and the award to the IOC of UN observer status.

Similarly, from the IOAPA we are bringing to you many updates and news. The 11th IOAPA session that marked our 20th anniversary was celebrated in Olympia. The works of the session evaluated the achievements of the last term and set the goals for the future. The proposed way forward was to keep all the valuable current activities, to further engage the membership with the association, and to strengthen the ties with the IOA and the IOC. In this regard it is stimulating to see the disposition of the new IOA leadership to work closely together with IOAPA.

It has been a pleasure to work with the IOAPA Executive Committee 2007-2009—an amazingly capable and committed team. I would like to mention specially Rusty Wilson and Carlo Farrugia who had served the IOAPA for many years and made a difference in the Association through their dedication and knowledge. We have now a good combination of experienced and new people in the new Committee and I am sure we will be able to reach and even surpass the achievements of the previous Committee.

As an example of the works that the new Committee is undertaking, here you can enjoy the completely new design of Arete. This large edition features the recent sessions at the IOA, including news about the IOA master's program, and news and updates from fellow IOAPA members all around the world.

Vancouver 2010 is approaching and the IOAPA will organise the traditional reunion for IOA participants. We will keep you informed about the event and hope to see many of you there.

On a personal note, I have recently left my job in Germany and moved to the US to go back to school. I am currently pursuing an MBA (Masters of Business Administration) at Tuck School of Business at Dartmouth. The life here has some similarities with the IOA, the camaraderie among students; almost isolated from the rest of the world exception made of the 240 classmates; and in a beautiful natural surrounding.

Finally, I would like to make a call to the membership to keep engaged with the association. Share with us your Olympic news, projects and activities. You will enjoy and benefit the contact and feedback from your fellow members and at the same time you will be helping the IOAPA to grow.

All the best,

Hector



11th IOAPA Conference

By: Carolin Bischof (Germany)

When I participated in the Postgraduate Session in July 2008 and had the best time in my life, I already promised myself that I would come back to this special place in Ancient Olympia. That I would be back after just

buildings. I was very happy to finally meet my roommate Ruotao from the Postgraduate Seminar again. She stayed at the Academy after working as a coordinator at the Young Participant session that just ended.



one year I did not dare to dream about.

To be honest, the main reason I signed up for the IOAPA session was to have the chance to see some of the friends I made during the Postgraduate Seminar. Amazingly, eight of us from the Postgrad session found our way back to the IOA. However, I was also looking forward to meeting new people from the "IOA family."

The 11th IOAPA session took place from June 23rd to July 1st and had 28 participants from (for the first time) all 5 continents! When I arrived in Athens, almost all the other participants had already met at the roof of our very nice hotel in the centre of Athens. Some of the coordinators and lecturers from the Young Participants Session joined them, as they just arrived back in Athens from their session. We went out for a nice informal Greek dinner in the Plaka to get to know each other, talk about Olympic experiences, and celebrate our reunion.

The following morning we began our bus trip to Olympia with a stop in Korinth, where we had the chance to visit the Ancient site. When we arrived in Olympia later that day, some of us could not avoid some tears of joy when we saw the pool and the Academy

After a late lunch, and freshening up we met at the Old Lecture hall for the Opening Ceremony. The executive committee gave their reports from the work they did over the past two years. Dean Georgiadis was also there and gave us a welcoming speech. Dean Georgiadis led us in the traditional opening of the session at the Coubertin Site.

The first day at the IOA ended with welcoming another two participants from Greece and South Africa, both from the 2008 Postgraduate Seminar and with talks about our precious Olympic experiences. The next day we heard presentations about the IOAPA, how it is organised and which tasks the different members have. After dinner we had a little birthday party for our Chinese friend Ruotao, during which we also were taught Latvian and Greek dances.

On Thursday we had the chance to visit the Ancient site of Olympia again and almost everyone of the participants took the opportunity to get in touch with the spirit of the Olympic Games once more. The IOAPA even made it possible to get free entrance to the archaeological site. (continued on pg 4)



In the afternoon we met again for discussions and presentations by the participants, which were very interesting and a great contribution to the IOAPA session. This was followed by sporting activities and going out to the IOA participants' favourite bar Zorbas!

The election of the new executive committee was the main thing to do on the next day. At night the IOAPA executive committee organised a pool party and although it was a little bit cold it was a full success and we sat by the pool until the early morning hours.

Sunday morning was free and many of us spent some hours going to Olympia to have a coffee, buy souvenirs or spend some time at the wonderful pool back at the IOA. Like the previous day, we spent the afternoon discussing what we want to keep, improve or change at the IOAPA and everyone contributed to it enthusiastically. After a long Zorbas night we became aware of the

fact that it was already our last day at the International Olympic Academy and we would have to say goodbye soon.

We spent some time at the pool and for me, it was also time to get sentimental when I went for a walk inside the academy to see "our" rooms from the Postgraduate Seminar. In the evening a "social night" was organised. We had Latvian dances which we already rehearsed the previous nights plus a Latvian drink, a Hula dance from Hawaii, flip cup (drinking game) from the Virgin Islands, Laughing Yoga, Iranian games and an Italian story which made the last

night of the IOAPA session a huge success.

Of course there were also sporting activities in the early evenings of the every day, which brought a lot of fun for both the athletes and the spectators. For example, Lone from Denmark introduced us to the great game of Bumball and Helmut, from Austria, taught us Ultimate Frisbee. Volleyball and basketball were also offered, as well as an early morning walk up to Kronos hill. The next morning started very early as we had to take the bus to be back in Athens on time as some of us had to catch their flights home in the evening. Saying goodbye to all these great people was emotional like the year before. I hope that I will see them all again in the next IOAPA session in 2011. I was lucky to spend some more days with my friends in Athens and on the island of Agistri.

I want to thank all the 11th IOAPA session participants for making this week a great experience for me and giving me new inspiration to work further in the field of the Olympics. I even became an IOAPA country representative for Germany. Although it was a very different experience from the Postgraduate Seminar I attended the year before, it was

wonderful to meet new people who already have a lot of experience with the IOAPA or IOA respectively. From many people who have been to the IOA you hear that it has been a life changing experience. So, the IOAPA is a great chance for everyone to come back, meet great people from all over the world who all share the same passion and get new inspiration and encouragement to work for Olympism in their home countries. I wish the IOAPA good luck in the future and keep up the great work!!!!

(continued on page 5)





Olympic Fire

By: Daniele Nati (Italy)



With this title, anybody would expect a text on the Olympic Torch Relay, the related passion and commitment to Olympic Ideals. Well, it is partially true. When I first came to Ancient Olympia in 2003 as a young student, after the hot, chaotic and colourful experience of Athens, I remember being impressed by the beauty of the nature. Even when entering the gate of the Academy I had the impression of being in another world. After putting the luggage in the dorm, I had walked around the Academy. The lush green of the premises was overwhelming: it felt like being in the Garden of Eden. The cypresses watching over the Academy from Kronos Hill reminded me of the stories of Pausanias. The smell and the quietness of the old trees gave me the impression that the area had been looking like that since the first Olympic Games in 776 BC. Furthermore I thought this idyllic scene would last forever.

Only a few years later I was taught the opposite. I remember the shock of the TV news in 2007. The fire seriously threatened Ancient Olympia. Greece as a whole was hit hard, as everybody knows.

In June 2009, I came back to the Academy for the first time since 2003 for the IOAPA Session. Of course we were fewer than during the Young Participants Session, and so it was quieter. The buildings hadn't changed that much, but the nature had. Kronos Hill was completely naked compared to 2003. Only few trees had survived – most with evident traces of the fire. The smell was different and the Academy itself was sort of naked.

On the first day of our session we paid respect to the stèle of Baron de Coubertin. Around the monument we saw many different small trees. The reforestation had already begun, with the help of many people around the world. Dean Kostas explained to us that many different kinds of trees were planted to guarantee diversity. A huge effort was undertaken by the Olympic Family and its friends to start the program and the effects were already visible. I see the chance of having a new Kronos Hill in the next decades and to smell the trees of Olympia as strong as some years ago in the close future.

Sport in History: Promises and Problems

11th Congress of the International Society for the History of Physical Education and Sport (ISHPES), 14th to 18th of July 2009, Stirling/Scotland

By: Sandra Heck

In combination with the annual meeting of the *British Society of Sport History* (BSSH), the 11th Congress of the International Society for the History of Physical Education and Sport (ISHPES) took place in Stirling from the 14th to the 18th of July 2009.

Bringing together more than 120 participants – young scholars as well as experienced researchers from all over the world –, the meeting was a great chance to exchange and create new ideas, subsumed under the main topic of "Sport in History: Promises and Problems." The presenters came from all five continents. Most of them were sports historians but the panels also included experts from other fields like cultural research, anthropology, and sociology.

Elections were organised during the congress: After eight years of presidency Thierry Terret (University of Lyon, France) did not candidate again and handed over his position to Annette Hofmann (PH Ludwigsburg, Germany). Professor Mike Higgins from Cumbria University was nominated as the *ISHPES Award* winner 2009 and gave a

remarkable keynote speech: "Fame, Fans and Fatality: The Memorialisation of Sporting Heroes". Furthermore, each year ISHPES awards the *ISHPES Junior Scholar Award*. During the general assembly vice-president and head of the scientific committee Patricia Vertinsky presented three young scholars with the award: Evelyn Mertin (German Sport University of Cologne) for her paper "West Berlin: A Bone of Contention in the Soviet-West-German Relations," Kai Reinhart (University of Münster) for "Skateboarding in a Socialistic Society," and Sandra Heck (Ruhr-University Bochum) for "When Workmen Shoot, Fence and Ride – Modern Pentathlon and the Promise of Social Integration at the Beginning of the 20th Century." The papers of the Junior Award winners are going to be published in the journal *Stadion*.

Besides the scientific focus, the congress gave an insight into the cultural and historical heritage of Scotland. Excursions to a whisky distillery, to the Scottish Football Museum or the British Golf Museum as well as an evening of 'Sporting Folk Songs' and traditional Scottish folk dancing should prove the participants' skills in sports practise.

Personally, this year's ISHPES congress was also a great memory as it gave the chance of a reunion with a good IOA friend. Thus, I hope to meet more of you in Israel next year!

17th International Seminar on Olympic Studies for Postgraduate Students

By: Helen Curtis (Great Britain)

The 17th International Seminar on Olympic Studies for Postgraduate Students 1 – 30 July 2009 was unique experience for so many reasons. Combining my passion for academic study of the Olympics and sport generally, the academy offered a unique arena in which to learn about Olympic related issues both in and outside of the seminar room. As one of the thirty-eight postgraduate students who came together from all over the world, I was privileged and excited to be part of the seminar. After introductions in Athens, the first few days involved unforgettable visits to sites of Greek antiquity (Acropolis, Temple of Athena Nike etc), with the visiting professors providing informative explanations throughout. Upon arriving at the International Olympic Academy in Olympia, and attending the official opening ceremony, we also visited the archaeological site and the archeological museum of Olympia. These experiences really contextualised the Olympic Games, whilst giving all participants a chance to interact with one another before the seminar sessions started.

During the seminars, different theories concerning the origins of the ancient Olympic Games were debated with parallels made between the ancient and the modern Olympics. Ethical and value-laden issues surrounding the Olympic Games also formed thought provoking lessons and discussions. The ideological premise of Olympism, the Olympic Games and the Olympic movement was debated; ranging from Kant's philosophy, of man as a being that is valued as an end in himself; the youth Olympic Games; drugs in sport; the dilemmas of technological advances in sport and the impact of the digital revolution.



These opportunities became an important arena for discussion, raising interesting issues from various cultural and academic perspectives. Taken for granted assumptions were challenged as concepts and definitions were debated. (continued on page 8)

The final seminars focused on the Olympic Congress, youth and the relationship between the Olympic Charter and issues within Olympic Education. It also fostered different research methodologies, as well as thought provoking issues regarding the legitimacy and value of research. This was very relevant for postgraduates who are developing their own research.

The social activities were equally invaluable experiences, offering opportunities to discuss issues outside of the class room and exchange cultural experiences. The social evenings involved presentations, dance classes, singing, and food tasting from all over the world. These really brought the group together, providing a fun and informative way of appreciating and sharing each other's cultures. The unique surroundings even spurred on a special proposal from one of the participants (congratulations Ioannis!). Activities also ventured further afield with a weekend trip to the island of Zakynthos, adding to the Greek experience and providing a fresh opportunity for sun and sea.

Throughout the academy, our fantastic co-ordinator Vagelis organised numerous activities for us, which really made the most of our time. There were numerous sports tournaments which mixed participation with competition and involved participants and professors alike, adding to the comradery. I played football and basketball, though my abilities didn't always match my competitive streak! Myself and Natalie helped organise the Water-polo where the fun and competition took priority of rules. There were also various informal sports activities due to the fantastic surroundings, including running, swimming and so on. Sometimes we even managed early morning circuits/jogs before the morning song/alarm. On one occasion we had Olympian *Frances Houghton* join in when she was attending the Olympic athlete's session. To speak to such an inspirational athlete was amazing though I could not keep up on the track at all! These opportunities contributed to great social interactions and the fostering of valued friendships. It also went some way to balance the healthy body, healthy mind ethos, whilst still enjoying the Greek desserts.

The diverse range of activities, topics presented and interactive discussions, offered the opportunity for all participants to engage in a unique scholarly and social experience, considering our own research and role in the Olympic community. During my time at the academy, I made some wonderful memories and great friends. It also created new and unique opportunities to collaborate on Olympic related research, which I have continued since leaving. I would like to take this opportunity to thank all those involved in the International Olympic Academy for such a fantastic experience. I look forward to being involved in future activities with the IOA and IOAPA.



Reflecting on the 2009 Young Participants Session

Vagelis Alexandrakis (Greece)



Tuesday night, 9/6/2009...I am lying in my bed unable to sleep. The excitement is that I can't. I am thinking about tomorrow!! A new terrific experience is about to am going to meet some good friends from last year, I am going to meet new friends and I am definitely going to have a new lifetime experience! Also I am kind of anxious...I will be an IOA coordinator for first time without knowing exactly what I am supposed to do. However, I am certain that everything will be great.

so high start. I



Wednesday finally arrives....I need to get ready, there is a suitcase to be prepared...the hours fly by. Time to go to the hotel...and in a while there I am!!! Oh my God, I can't believe it!! The hotel lounge is full of young people. Among them I can see some very good friends of mine from last year!! We have so much to catch up on!! And there are so many new friends that I am about to make!! I feel so happy and excited! First Dinner all together!! I am meeting people all the time!! It's so cool!! And what's better than a walk in the streets of Athens with all these new friends??

Next day! In the morning we have the coordinators' meeting. I meet all the other coordinators and they are all such cool people! The IOA Dean Kostas Georgiadis speaks to us and gives us some general instructions.

18.00. The glamorous opening ceremony on the hill of Pnyx! Just Wow!! So many important people there!! And later the first party in a beautiful beach club in Athens!! 200 happy people dancing! I am meeting people all the time and we are beginning to become friends.

And of course, there are the cultural evenings! What a spectacular event!! Is there any better way to get to know things about a country? I am learning new dances, new songs, and even new languages, all the while sharing these people from all days go by discussion groups, sional films, many talks and times that I However, I don't don't want to



experience with 200 over the world. The quickly. Lectures, dis-social evenings, occa-dancing at Zorbas and discussions. There are feel extremely tired. want to go to bed! I miss a thing!

Saturday and the hard work begins. The day begins with the coordinator's meeting. And then the show begins! In the morning there are interesting lectures given by professors and specialists in the field. There are many interesting discussions and questions! The discussions go on in the discussion groups. I am so happy with my group! They are so smart, nice and happy people!! Later, there are sports activities and tournaments and then hanging out with everyone at the IOA premises or at Zorbas.

There are some moments that can never be forgotten. One is when my discussion group presents our conclusions. I am standing breathless. I have taken so many exams in my member my heart fore. The partici-great - I was sure is a new feeling for whelmed with pride people in my group. (continued on page 10)



life but I can't re-beating louder be-pants of our group do all along!! But there me! I feel so over-and happiness for

At some point the session reaches its end-just like everything nice in this life. Closing ceremony, last party in Zorbas, our way back to Athens and last lunch all together in the hotel. It was time for me to say goodbye!! 200 goodbyes, 200 hugs to 200 amazing people. A strange feeling again. I feel there and to new friends. to miss mean it! I get you people sharing this me!



I am really going to miss them and I will never forget! Thanks for experience with

Today, 23 September 2009...

Somewhere in Brussels, I am writing this note on my laptop! It's like living every second again! And the same feelings come back to me! A smile appears in my face just like each time I connect with anyone from the IOA. And I still believe this: I will never forget the IOA YP session 2009!

IOAPA Members Organize Costa Rica Kayak Race By: Vigdis Vatshaug (Norway)

The current and strong sun made for a challenging kayak race for the amateur competitors at the 1st Bahia Rica amateur sea kayak competition in Costa Rica.

Sea kayaking is not very common in Costa Rica although the climate and water around here is perfect for the activity. Roberto Machado from Costa Rica and I, Vigdis Vatshaug from Norway, are both IOAPA members and met at one of the IOAPA winter sessions in Austria. And as you all have experienced, IOAPA people share the same mindset and ideas on a lot of things. Roberto is a triathlete and I run a tourist business in Costa Rica that offers sea kayak tours, amongst other things. This event was the first joint venture but we are very happy with the competition and are already starting preparing for next year's event.



We hope this annual event will create more awareness and interest in sea kayaking. In addition, it will be a boost for the Paquera area. This part of Costa Rica is especially well suited for sea kayaking. The gulf is scattered with various island, and provides great scenery and strong currents. In addition these kinds of events are not common in Costa Rica, and Roberto as a Costarican sportsman is very excited with our contribution to the sports events in the country.

On Saturday the 19th of September, 7 men and 3 women stood at the starting line at Playa Nicoyana awaiting the starting whistle. The calm water and sunny weather had all the competitors geared up for an exciting race. The current was strong and proved to be a vital factor in determining the winners. The event on Sunday featured five 2 person teams on a relay around Isla Jesusita which is approximately 3,5 km.

To read more about the event check our web page: www.bahiarica.com. It was great for Roberto and I as IOAPA friends to organize this event together and we hope this turns out to be an annual kayak fest in the Paquera area. With participants from four different countries in the first competition, Germany, UK, USA and Costa Rica the outlook is good. Maybe next year we will have some fellow IOAPA friends coming and entering the competition??



Olympic Humanitarianism

By: Ana Adi (Romania)



2008 was an important year in Olympic history, as it saw the Summer Games being organized in Asia for the third time. Beijing 2008 also achieved the highest ever audiences, the highest numbers of broadcast hours ever produced both online and offline, and the highest figure for TV rights revenue. Yet, 2008 also brought, as President Jacques Rogge (Jacobs, 2008) called it, an Olympic crisis when the international leg of the Torch Relay was transformed into an arena of protest around China's role as Olympic host. The protests were reminiscent of Beijing's previous bid for the 2000 Games. Moreover, the way in which the discourse was played out in the media reminded of the Cold War, when the ideological dispute between East and West was transformed into a boycott of the Games themselves. However, the rhetoric in 2008 was considerably different, as were the politics surrounding the Games. Advocates of Beijing 2008 would refer to the cases of the 1988 Seoul Olympic Summer Games and that of anti-apartheid campaigns around South Africa when the Olympic Movement has acted as a catalyst for positive social and political change. On such a view, locating the Olympic Games in a country that would give rise to controversy can be seen as a mechanism to advance social causes. Alternatively, anti-Beijing voices argued that the high values promoted through the fundamental principles of Olympism - listed in the Olympic Charter - are incompatible with China's human rights record.

Since advocates from each side of the argument appeal to the Olympic Charter to make their case, I have recently undertaken a qualitative study analyzing the changes of the fundamental principles of Olympism ever since the Olympic

Charter's first edition was published in 1908. This research was possible thanks to an IOC Olympic Studies Centre grant I obtained in 2008/9 which enabled me to access the archives of the Olympic Museum in Lausanne including the previous editions of the Charter, the minutes of the IOC Executive Board Meeting from 1921 until 1975 and the minutes of the IOC Sessions from 1894 until 2000.

In the 113-year history of the modern Olympic Games the charter numbers fifty editions, with yearly updates to rules and by-laws being done almost every year since the mid 70s. However, the fundamental principles have gone through only three major changes and, on each occasion, the alteration has broadened the goals of Olympism. Moreover, this extension of their aspirations has led to them overlapping, in parts, with those of human rights promotion. For example, the Charter's first equality clause was introduced in 1923. Also, shortly after the Universal Declaration of Human Rights was passed, the Olympic Charter included its first non-discrimination article in 1948. Finally, in 1996 the Olympic Charter recognized participation in sport as a human right. In this context, the claims of human rights advocacy groups and opponents of the Beijing Games might appear to be well founded: that (continued on page 12)

the Olympic ideals turned into a commitment through the fundamental principles of the charter, aiming to promote a peaceful and better world concerned with the preservation of human dignity is incompatible with China's reported human rights abuses. However, their argument requires evaluating in the context of the broad range ways in which the Olympic Movement undertakes its work, either through the formal programmes of the IOC or through informal, but nevertheless organized structures, such as the National Olympic Academies and the International Olympic Academy.

For the charter to be amended, a very lengthy and highly bureaucratic process takes place within the IOC. First, a suggestion or request for change needs to be registered in one of the IOC Session meetings. Subsequently, a proposal must be submitted by the promoters of the change which will be evaluated by a designated IOC structure. Depending on the change requested, this might be a specially appointed commission or committee within the IOC. Their feedback and recommendations are then passed on to the International Federations, National Olympic Committees and, sometimes, even to the members of the Olympic family at large. All their feedback is collected and a new proposal for incorporation is drafted, which is then sent to the IOC Executive Board. With these final recommendations, the changes are submitted to the analysis of the upcoming IOC Session, which will pass the change providing a minimum of two thirds of the IOC agree, which would make it effective.

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Before their most recent change in 2004, the principles underwent significant revision in 1996 when article eight, inspired by UNESCO's 1978 International Charter of Physical Education and Sport, defining sport as a human right, was introduced. The 1996 version of the charter reflected a common agreement within the IOC that sport, and therefore both the Olympic Games as well as the programs funded by the IOC, can provide a positive example and therefore promote values like friendship, fair-play and equality, all a reflection of a peaceful society where human rights are inherently respected. The current version of the charter, published in 2007 includes no variation in the (continued on page 13)

The 38th annual convention of the North American Society for Sport History (NASSH) will be held at the **Coronado Springs Resort & Convention Center, Walt Disney World, Florida, May 28-31, 2010**. Information about the convention site, registration and accommodations can be found at the official NASSH 2010 convention website (NASSH2010.ORG).

The Program Committee encourages all IOAPA members and others interested in sport history or related disciplines to think about research presentation possibilities for the convention. Abstracts may be submitted for individual papers or for complete sessions.

All submissions will be evaluated by the Program Committee according to their individual merit, contribution to the field, and potential contribution as components of the total program. The deadline for the submission of proposals is December 1, 2009. Please contact **Catriona Parratt, Program Chair**, with any questions at catriona-parratt@uiowa.edu or visit NASSH2010.ORG for more information.

fundamental principles compared with the 2004 version. It is perhaps the most idealized form that the fundamental principles have ever made given by the use of concepts like "philosophy of life", "educational value of good example," "respect for universal fundamental ethical principles", "preservation of human dignity", "peaceful society", "sport is a human right". Furthermore, this version of the Charter articulates the Olympic Movement's non-discrimination philosophy two ways. First, it states that discrimination is incompatible with the Olympic spirit and second, it emphasizes UNESCO's vision without, however, making any reference to the institution, that every individual must have the possibility of practicing sport without discrimination of any kind.

In a world where corporate social responsibility is in high demand and when the public and media alike expect all groups, be they governmental or non-governmental, commercial or not-for-profit, to do their best to translate their vision into practice, it might be a good time for the fundamental principles to be reviewed and the Olympic Movement to spend some time not only on defining its mission, but communicating better how its system is organized and where its boundaries of influence end. This requires even more transparency from the IOC together with increased communication efforts emphasizing its related activities in non-Games times.

Presently, there is a disconnection between the highly philosophical fundamental principles of the Olympism and the highly pragmatic, professionalized and legal formulation of all the other chapters of the charter. For example, the Olympic Movement's fundamental principle to promote access to sport without discrimination is mirrored in the mission of the IOC, in the IOC admission ceremony of new members as well as into the mission and role of NOCs. Similar actions that aim to translate into practice and enforce the other fundamental principles will need to be taken as well. This requires, among other things, more transparency from the IOC and an active dialogue with critics and supporters of the Olympic Movement alike. In this respect, significant steps were recently taken during the IOC's XIII Congress in Copenhagen. Inviting feedback from the public via the virtual congress certainly contributed towards furthering transparency and an active dialogue, as did setting up a YouTube channel as well as having live webcast from the congress.

With regards to human rights, this year's IOC congress is historical in the sense that it not only restored IOC's humanitarian discourse but also made the IOC publicly assume its mission while also acknowledging its limits:

We are going to study what the best way is how to handle this important aspect where we have the responsibility to work for the respect of human dignity within the sphere of sport. We cannot be held responsible for everything that happens in the world, but when it comes within the sphere of sport, of course we have that responsibility. And we are going to see how first of all we can get the best possible objective unbiased information. The IOC is not expert in human rights. We will rely on the advice of human rights organizations. It can be Amnesty International. It can be Human Rights Watch. It can be others. It can be the United Nations Human Rights Council. And we want to gather information from these organizations, and we are going to see how we can best act upon that within the organization. (Rogge, 2009)

If you're interested in Ana's research please visit her website:
<http://anaadi.wordpress.com>

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Olympic Fun Day Photo Diary ~ Gontse Primary School, Soshanguve, South Africa

PROGRAMME

Parade of Countries:

- 1 GREECE
- 2 BOTSWANA
- 3 BRAZIL (Con Fed)
- 4 DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF THE CONGO
- 5 EGYPT (Con Fed)
- 6 GHANA
- 7 IRAQ (Con Fed)
- 8 ITALY (Con Fed)
- 9 MALAWI
- 10 MOZAMBIQUE
- 11 NEW ZEALAND (Con Fed)
- 12 SOMALIA
- 13 SPAIN (Con Fed)
- 14 UNITED STATES OF AMERICA (Con Fed)
- 15 ZAMBIA
- 16 SOUTH AFRICA (Con Fed)



**Team
Representing
Spain**

Parade of Athletes



**YOUTH SPORT
FORUM**

DATE: 26 June 2009

HOST: Youth Sport Forum

MISSION

To have an Olympic Fun Day promoting Olympic Values, researching other cultures and countries and uniting through the Confederation Cup

GOALS

1. To unite all countries in friendship, peace, fair play and respect
2. To create trust among all nationalities
3. To introduce the values of the Olympic symbols and traditions
4. Getting to know other countries in uniting during the Confed Cup
5. Addressing xenophobia violence through respect and friendship
6. 6 To have a fun filled sport day

PARTICIPANTS:

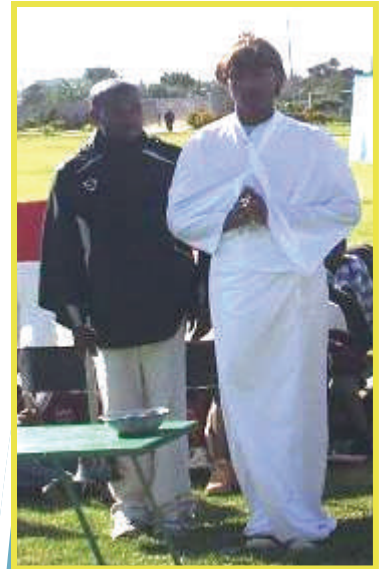
192 male, 206 female = 398



"Head of State" proclaims the games open!

Olympic anthem is played and Olympic flag hoisted.

The "sun's rays" ignites the flame through a parabolic mirror and the Priestess hands over the torch to the first runner.



Relay runners bring in the torch and the Olympic flame is lit

Judge's and participant's oaths are read



ACTIVITIES



Soccer



Basketball



Egg and Spoon Race



Broomball



Sack Race

IOA Master's Program

The Department of Sports Organization and Management of the Faculty of Human Movement and Quality of Life Sciences of the University of Peloponnese in collaboration with the International Olympic Academy will organize for the first time for the Academic year of 2009-2010 a Program of Postgraduate Studies with the title "Olympic Studies, Olympic Education, Organization and Management of Olympic Events."

The Postgraduate Program for Olympic Studies constitutes an innovation in the Olympic Movement at an international level. The educational program is based on the three pillars of the Olympic Movement: Education, Sports, and Culture, which constitute the foundation for Olympism and Olympic Pedagogy.

The philosophy of the program is consistent with the values of the Olympic movement for the diffusion of the Olympic ideal worldwide, the promotion of knowledge and research in Olympic issues and global participation.

The subjects for the first semester are:

- 1) The birth of sports. The history and philosophy of sport in Antiquity
- 2) The modern Olympic Games (revival, historic development of the Summer and Winter Olympic Games – social, political and cultural aspects of the Olympic Games – Olympic Institutions – Olympic Law)
- 3) Olympic Pedagogy I: Development and implementation of Olympic Education programs in school.
- 4) Sport and Ethics-Olympic Philosophy

Profiles of the three IOAPA members enrolled in the Master's Programme



**Kostas
Vasileiou**

(Greece)

Kostas is from Thessaloniki Greece where he works as a physical education teacher. He has a Bachelor's degree from the Aristotle University of Thessaloniki in Physical Education. He also has a Master's degree from the same university in Physical activity for people with special needs. His Master's thesis is about the Olympic Games in Athens 2004.

Kostas worked for the Athens Olympics Organising Committee for the Olympic and Paralympic Games. He has also participated in international congresses, and has published articles related to Physical Education and Olympic studies. Kostas has participated in three IOA sessions—the 2008 Postgraduate session, the 2009 Young Participants session and the IOAPA 2009 session.

Kostas says that the IOA Master's program is a great chance for him to enrich his knowledge in Olympic Studies and meet people with the same interests.

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Akhry Ameer (Sri Lanka)

Akhry is an avid sportsman who is interested in diving, swimming, motor racing, and theatre. Having retired prematurely from competitive diving due to a sporting injury, he has been involved in administration of aquatic sports ever since. Currently he serves as the Director for Swimming and Synchronized Swimming of the Sri Lanka Aquatic Sports Union in a voluntary capacity, while also coaching diving.

In the corporate world, Akhry is a qualified all-round professional with over 10 years of collective experience in the fields of broadcasting, journalism, public relations, teaching, sports coaching, event management, and theatre. Specific education applicable to various fields combined with a Masters in Business Administration has developed his ability to learn and deliver in any project/venture.

Akhry views the IOA Master's program as a value-addition that will help him place emphasis on a knowledge-based approach to sporting administration in his country.



Julien Buhajezuk (France)

As a man passionate about sport, Julien has experimented in almost all of them, but has finally settled on tennis. He now works as a tennis player, teacher and referee in France. Julien has studied adapted physical activity, and is vice-president of the French University Sport Federation (FFSU) and a member of the European University Sport Association (EUSA) student commission.

Julien's studies focused on ways of practicing sport with different groups of people including children and disabled people.

Julien views the IOA Master's as a way of increasing his knowledge about Olympism, with the intention of educating others, especially children. He also thinks that it is a great chance to meet people from all around the world and learn from other cultures.



MEMBER NEWS

Juan Antonio Morales (Cuba)

In 1991, the President of the IOC, Juan Antonio Samaranch, visited Cuba and founded the Cuban Olympic Academy. Since that time, I have been a member of the COA and in 1994 I became the General Secretary. In 1997, I had the opportunity to participate in the Session for Young Participants at the IOA as a member of Cuban delegation. At that time, my life changed forever. To learn about different cultures, to discuss International Olympism, and to increase my spectrum of knowledge about this subject was beyond my dreams. With my return to the IOA, in 1998, as a Group Coordinator, my vision of Olympic Ideals reached its highest point. I could develop a project teaching Cuban young people who love Olympism, its ideals and ethical values.

Being General Secretary of the Cuban Olympic Academy and a Professor of Olympism in the Sport University, I developed a project to educate children—which was also my Doctoral dissertation—using the Principles of Olympic Philosophy introduced by Pierre de Coubertin. However, due to some difficulties I could not finish my dissertation. For this and other reasons I decided to leave Cuba in 2003. It was a hard decision, to leave my wife and kids, but the decision was made.

After six years living in the United States, I feel that it is my second country. In 2005, I graduated as a Massage and Physical therapist with the Board of NCBTMB, and now work as a Physical Therapist.

This year has been very special for me as my 16 year old son, Johan, came from Cuba. I am now waiting for my wife and other son, Roberto Antonio. I became a U.S. Citizen, and also found old friends who are members of the IOAPA. My dreams have started to become true!!

Axel Bammer (Austria) got married this summer at the lake "Traunsee" in Upper Austria. A few IOAPA members, like Hector Arguelles and Jeremy (former president) joined them.

Axel's new wife, Monika, knows many IOAPA members and took part in the 4th IOAPA Winter-Session.



Congratulations Axel and Monika!

Discussion

What do you think about Rio being awarded the 2016 Olympic Games? How will this affect Brazil and South America?

How do you think the inclusion of golf and Rugby Sevens in the 2016 Games will affect each sport?

WE WANT TO HEAR FROM YOU!
Let us know what you think and we'll publish your comments in the next newsletter. Contact Anne at anne@ioapa.org

New Book by IOAPA member Alexandre Miguel Mestre (Portugal)

The Law of the Olympic Games

This book examines, from a legal perspective, the numerous developments in the rules and institutions of the Olympic Games from antiquity to the modern day. It offers a well-informed and insightful explanation of the Lex Olympica, and analyses the legal and institutional aspects that arise in the Olympic Movement (OM), such as its definition, composition and general organisation, its three principal constituents, its three satellite organisations and its organs. Furthermore, it addresses contemporary legal questions and inherent consequences the OM encounters, such as eligibility criteria, legal protection of the Olympic symbol, protection of the environment, advertising and ambush marketing, athletes' freedom of expression and Olympic boycotts.

□ Analysis of the main legal and institutional aspects of the Olympic Games allows readers to learn about the legal challenges it faces. It examines the numerous developments which have taken place in the regulation of the Olympic Games, allowing readers to view the Olympic Charter in its historical perspective. The documentation section contains full basic texts on the Olympic Games, such as the Olympic Charter, allowing readers to study such texts in connection with the analysis

Contents:

1. Introduction; 2. Law and the Olympic Games; 3. Legal and institutional aspects of the Olympic Movement; 4. Legal problems of the contemporary Olympic Movement; 5. Conclusion; Bibliography; Appendix I: Olympic Charter; Appendix II: OC Code of Ethics; Appendix III: Nairobi Treaty on the Protection of the Olympic Symbol; Appendix IV: United Nations, General Assembly, Resolution on the Olympic Truce.

WE WANT TO HEAR
FROM YOU!!

Is anything interesting related to
sport happening in your country?

Has something exciting happening
in your life that you would like to
share with your IOAPA friends?

**If you are interesting in contributing
to the IOAPA newsletter we would
love to hear from you!**

**Please contact the newsletter editor,
Anne, at anne@ioapa.org if you're in-
terested.**