

ARETE NEWSLETTER

FALL 2015 ISSUE



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Editorial

By: Vagelis Alexandrakis (GRE)



Dear Readers,

Welcome to the Fall 2015 Issue of the Arete Newsletter!

Give a warm welcome to the newly elected IOAPA Executive Committee! As this is the first issue of the term 2015–2017, we introduce the Executive Committee Members and we take the opportunity to discuss in depth with the newly elected IOAPA President, Richard Koo about his priorities and ambitions in his new role.

An exciting IOAPA session was organised last August and it's now time to look back and reflect over it. Thanks to the Hans Van Haute Fund, an IOAPA Member received support to attend the session and we take this opportunity to provide you some further info about the Hans Van Haute Fund.

The Country Coordinators' network has always been a significant part of the IOAPA and in this edition you can find a best practice example of its implementation: an IOAPA reunion in Canada that took place last summer during the Pan-American Games. We also bring you some information about a relevant event that took place in Naples during the summer: the ISOLympia, which was also attended by the Mayor of Olympia.

25 September was a significant date for sport and the Olympic movement as sport was included in the Development Agenda 2030 and we include a commentary on this matter. Unfortunately, a very active Member of the Olympic and IOA family, Monique Berlioux, passed away recently. Find out some more information about her life and involvement in the Olympic movement and the IOA:

Lastly, as always we include some relevant news and opportunities within the sport and Olympic movement!

Enjoy your reading!

Vagelis

Arete Newsletter Editor

Meet the new IOAPA Executive Committtee!

President

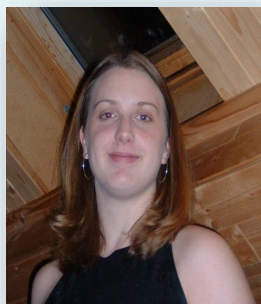
Richard Koo (Canada)



Richard is a media professional in Canada, and is currently the head of TV and Digital Media measurement at the [Canada Media Fund](#). Previously he spent five years at CBC Sports, working on major broadcast properties including Hockey Night in Canada and the Olympic Games. He represented Canada at the IOA Young Participants session in 2007, and was a mission staff member with the Canadian team at the Beijing Olympics. He is a national umpire with Rowing Canada, and recently completed his 12th marathon. Richard holds a B.A. from The University of British Columbia, a Masters Degree in Urban Planning from the University of Toronto, is fluent in English and French, and has a working knowledge of Mandarin.

Vice-President

Helen Curtis (UK)



Helen is a Sociology of Sport lecturer and researcher, with a life-long commitment to academic and voluntary aspects of sport. Her doctoral research examines intersections of identities in the media representation and consumption of the Olympic Games. Helen is also a swimming and water polo coach. Her volunteer experiences include Athens 2004 and London 2012 Olympic and Paralympic Games. She has published work regarding Volunteering and the Olympic Games. Having participated in the IOA postgraduate session 2009, she is keen to support the IOA and the Olympic movement

Secretary

Sandy Stathopoulou (Greece)



For over a decade now Sandy has been a practicing lawyer specialized in civil and commercial law in Athens. She has also obtained a degree in translation studies. After a short term as a member of the IOA staff, she returned as a participant at the YP session in 2004. Since then she has been a proud member of the IOAPA, and has been happy to provide her legal services, pro bono, to the organization. Sandy practices the principles of Olympism in her everyday life by making the effort to better herself and also by sharing, participating and never giving up. Sandy joined the IOAPA Executive Committee in 2011

Treasurer

Daniele Nati (Italy)



With a degree in Political Economics and Business Administration, Daniele is based in Germany working as Executive Director for a non profit association.

He participated in the YP session of 2003, and in 2005–2006 he worked for the Turin 2006 Organising Committee as NOC/NPC Services Centre Manager. He joined the IOAPA Board in 2009.

NewsLetter Editor

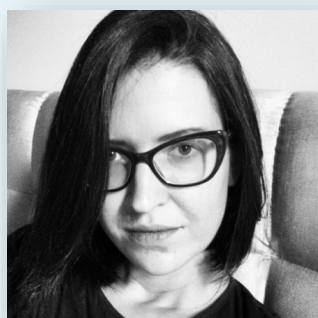
Vagelis Alexandrakis (GRE)



Vagelis is a sports lawyer, currently working with the European Lotteries Association (EL) in Lausanne. He participated in the IOA post- graduate session 2008. In 2009 he went back as the coordinator of the postgraduate session. He was also a coordinator in the YP sessions 2009–2012, being the chief coordinator in 2012. Holding the conviction that past IOA participants should stay connected, he joined the IOAPA Board in 2009.

Head of Country Coordinators

Vita Balsyte (Lithuania)



Vita is currently working as the Head of Olympic Education programmes at the National Olympic Committee of Lithuania. She is also a Board Member of the Lithuanian Olympic Academy and the Secretary General of the Lithuanian Fair Play Committee. With a Bachelor's degree in Economics and a long experience in volunteering for local and international sport events, Vita became the first Lithuanian to take part in the IOA Masters programme (2010–2011). She was also a coordinator in the 2011 YP session and attended the 2013 IOA Directors' session. Vita joined the IOAPA Board in 2013.

Internet Coordinator
Caroline Bujold (Canada)



Caroline is an event manager, currently working for the Fédération de la jeunesse canadienne-française on the Canadian Francophones Games. She attended the 43rd IOA Session for Young Participants in 2003. Caroline has been volunteering for multisport events since 1999. Her first international event was the 2004 Paralympic Games in Athens. Since then, she was able to be part of the 2010 Vancouver Olympic Winter Games and the 2015 Pan American Games in Toronto, CAN. In her spare time, Caroline enjoys writing her blog about organizing and simplifying life. She joined the IOAPA Board in 2015.

Marketing Officer
Glen Sefcik (USA)



Glen has been a lecturer, higher education advocate, author and athletics coach. He currently teaches and is the Lead Faculty Area Chair for the Humanities Department at the University of Phoenix. In addition, he is a certified Executive Leadership Coach for the True Growth Academy (TGA) and has been active as a leadership coach for the Pre-Command Course for the United States Army, as well as an executive coach for numerous companies and government agencies. In 1996, Glen was selected by the U.S. Olympic Committee as chief of the U.S. delegation to the International Olympic Academy in Greece. He joined the IOAPA Board in 2013.

Research Officer
Hugh Dugan (USA)



Hugh Dugan served as a career diplomat for thirty-two years representing the United States overseas and at the United Nations. He collaborated with the IOC in the revival of the Olympic Truce for the modern era. He established the Truce Foundation of the USA and teaches as professor of diplomacy at Seton Hall University (USA). Hugh joined the IOAPA Board in 2015.

IOA Liaison Officer

Anfisa Kasyanova (Belarus)

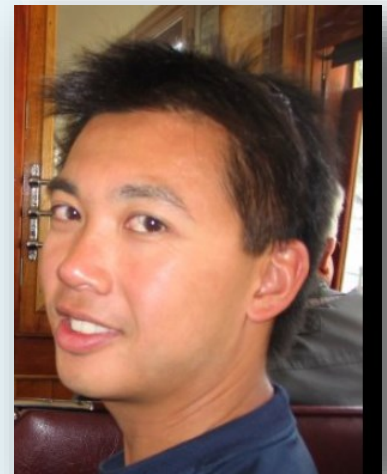


Anfisa Kasyanova is sport events professional with working experience in Belarus, Georgia and Russia, including Sochi 2014 Winter Olympics and Paralympics. Being from Belarus Anfisa is now living in Ancient Olympia (Greece) while working for Georgian Modern Pentathlon and Triathlon National federation as Events director. Anfisa has been an international level athlete in the sport created specially for the Olympics by Pierre de Coubertin – Modern Pentathlon – for more than 10 years and she has retired when her Olympic journey has brought her to the 3rd addition of Master programme (2011–2012). This was the first time when Anfisa visited IOA and since then she has become a frequent guest and welcome friend there. In July 2013 Anfisa has become IOAPA member and in 2015 she joined its Executive Board.

An Interview with the New IOAPA President

Interview by Vagelis Alexandrakis

During the IOAPA Session, a new President was elected and will have the challenging task to lead the IOAPA until 2017. We had the chance to speak with him and discuss his views, ambitions and concerns.



- 1) **How does it feel to get Elected President of the IOAPA for the term 2015–2017?**

It was indeed an honour and I am humbled to have been entrusted the leadership of IOAPA at the session in Olympia this past August. I have much admiration for those whose vision created the organisation, and to all the past executive committee members that have successfully kept it running for over 25 years. Hopefully my small contribution over the next two years will build on that success as we move forward in our next quarter century of supporting the ideals of Olympism, and the Academy itself.



2) In your opinion, what should the priorities of the IOAPA be for the term 2015–2017?

I understand that there were a number of administrative challenges that the organisation had to deal with over the previous two years (banking and credit card problems, reconciliation of membership lists, website issues). My plan is to help get these administrative functions running smoothly again, and then help to refocus our efforts to improving on the core deliverables of IOAPA. Those deliverables include:

- growing the membership
- demonstrating a real "value-add" for taking out a membership subscription
- strengthening the connections to past alumni and the IOA through additional networking and educational opportunities
- creating a compelling program for the biannual session in Olympia.

3) Why should one register as an IOAPA Member?

Membership provides alumni with the best opportunity to stay in touch with the IOA and learn from those who have attended a session. It's difficult to articulate what it's like to come to Olympia, and each time I return from a session, I find that I'm asking myself "how do I channel the life-changing experience of the IOA back to my life and work at home?" This is always a difficult question for me to answer, but I've been able to build strong professional and personal relationships through IOAPA that have helped me to remain enthusiastic and involved with the spirit of Olympism in my own country.

There are some obvious tangible benefits of membership (quarterly newsletter, access to the bi-annual session at the IOA and reunions at the Olympic Games, educational resources through our regular academic research bulletins). But more importantly, joining IOAPA means connecting to a global network of friends that you can lean on for advice and support, reminding you of the passion that brought you to Olympia the first time, and helping you to carry that spirit through to your everyday life!

4) What would you like to wish to the new IOAPA Executive Committee

We as an executive have a lot of work ahead over the next two years to address the administrative issues that currently face us, as well as to chart a sustainable path forward that provides for real value-added benefits to our members. But I am also convinced that we have assembled a strong and enthusiastic team that is eminently capable of rising to the challenge. Let's all get to work and most importantly, have some fun with it!



The IOAPA Family

By Jordan Har Lev (Israel)

The Olympic Village is the genuine global village. It is where people meet, free of mediation, speak directly to each other, and learn from one another. More than the material taught in the lectures, these studies are personal, full of experiences, languages, faces, and customs and especially makes friends for life. It is a common saying that you do not choose your family, but if such an option was possible – the IOAPA members would have definitely been the ones I would pick as my family.

During the summer of 2015, I participated as the Israeli representative in two professional IOA sessions at the Olympic village in Ancient Olympia. The first session I took part in was the 55th Session for Young Participants which was held at the end of May and was an exceptional experience that opened a whole new world for me. Being exposed to the contents and the way they are implemented in other countries inspired me to act the same in my sporting environment and that is why I decided to promote the Olympic ideal in Israel.



Upon returning to Israel, I immediately joined the activities of the Israeli Olympic Committee through two existing fields that spread the Olympic idea in Israel – the Center for Olympic Studies and the Olympic Values Education Program in schools. At the same time, I joined as a member to the IOAPA organization, which led me to return only two months later to the very special place of Olympia and participate in the session that was held last August.

The Young Participants Session was designed to cluster a large international group of young people from a variety of sports fields, whose common ground was their first authentic exposure to the "Olympic Spirit" and its meaning, and to instill them with the motivation to use the experience and knowledge they gained to promote the Olympic ideals in their countries. Unlike this session, I found that at the IOAPA session, the participants were only those who already chose to promote the Olympic idea, with all its aspects, and they are already active on the matter around the world. However, the common ground between the two is that each time, it was only upon arriving at Olympia that I truly understood its importance and even more so, the meaning of the experience I was able to be part of.

At each session, my experience was completely different, not in the sense of better or worse, but regarding group dynamics, the level of my involvement in the session activity, how well I knew the contents, and how much I wanted to become part of the IOAPA family. It is clear that without the first time, there would not have been a second time, yet I did feel somehow that participating in the IOAPA session was more meaningful to me personally as well as to the State of Israel.

For 8 days, nearly 24 hours a day, I was surrounded by educated and experienced people with high values and unique interpersonal skills that only in a place like Olympia I would get to meet all at once. I think that all through my years at school and the academy, I did not learn as much as I have learned here each day. This meeting proved an excellent platform to listen to opinions as well as criticism, exchange ideas, share experiences, create collaborations, meet new fields, and most of all sit together as a group of people with common goals and dream big.



I was highly impressed by the participants' activities in their countries, spreading the Olympism around the world. To date, 15 national representatives are officially active and collaborate with the IOAPA organization. In my opinion, it is about time that Israel will also join these countries and will actively promote the Olympic ideals and values in education, culture, and sports. Creating a change clearly requires power in the sense of collectivity, i.e., a group of people who share an idea and strive to achieve a common goal. Therefore, my

first objective as a country coordinator is to find the representatives of Israel from former sessions of the International Olympic Academy, so together we could create, develop, and work on projects related to Israel's Olympic movement while collaborating with parallel centers across the world.



I believe that sports are a means to assimilate educational values of positive effect, both individually and in the society as a whole. This approach is in line with the goal of the Olympism – using sports for the benefit of human development in order to encourage the establishment of a society that stands for peace and human dignity. Nowadays, in our society, sports can offer all ages, especially youths, an opportunity for a healthy, balanced, and meaningful life. Combining an educational program for Olympic values in the educational system will allow highlighting the advantages of physical activity, discover new fields of sports, and spread the Olympic idea through movement, learning, and discovery.

Practicing sports is a human privilege, and every person should be entitled to the opportunity of participating in some sort of sporting activity without discrimination, and in the spirit of the Olympic Games that require mutual understanding, friendship, empathy, and fair play.

The Hans van Haute Scholarship Fund 2015

By Helen Curtis (UK)

The Hans van Haute Scholarship Fund, established during the 2001 IOAPA session, was named in honor of the main force behind the creation of the IOAPA. Created in Hans' memory, the purpose of this fund is to aid those former IOA participants, coordinators, or lecturers who would like to attend an IOAPA session but cannot do so due to lack of financial resources.

During its short existence, the fund has offered assistance to two people for the 2003 IOAPA session, one person for the 2009 IOAPA Session and another two people for the 2013 IOAPA session. 2015 Recipient: Martina Tomšič, Slovenia.

This year's recipient of the Hans van Haute Scholarship Fund was Martina Tomšič, from Ljubljana, Slovenia. A participant at the 2004 Young Participants Session, she has been a member of IOAPA ever since. Martina combined sport participation (Fencing) with academic study and is reading a PhD in Philosophy. Her research focuses on embodied cognition and the application of self-consciousness to movement.

An experienced fencing coach and Technical Official, Martina recently volunteered as a Flamekeeper (Technical Volunteer) at the 1ST European Games in Baku. This was the focus of her presentation at Olympia, titled 'Flamekeepers -The First European Games: A reflection on volunteering in the fencing competition'. Remarking on IOAPA session, with support from the fund, Martina notes:

"It was really nice to come back to Olympia and be part of this amazing experience. The presentations were very thought provoking. I will take the information and utilise it for involvement with the

NOA. "The fund allowed me to participate, covering all accommodation costs in Olympia and part of Athens. Since I am currently a PhD student, the fund enabled me to consider coming and actually take part."



Inspired by her experience at the session, Martina intends to become IOAPA Country Co-ordinator for Slovenia over the next two years.

Supporting the Fund

Elizabeth Hanley, Hans Van Haute Scholarship Fund Chairman, reflected on the importance of such a fund and added that, *"If each one of us donated even a small amount (via PayPal to Daniele Nati, our Treasurer) the present fund of €1,248.78 would increase to a substantial amount immediately and, therefore, allow us to award a sufficient amount to future applicants. "*

We also plan to create different avenues for giving: 'in memory of' and 'in honor of' are two examples. Please send us your feedback and contributions for these ideas!

Betz Hanley donated in memory of Dr John Powell

Dr. John Powell

John Powell was one of the most popular lecturers and discussion group leaders at the IOA, beginning in 1972. He was a University of Guelph (Canada) professor who initially inspired me, and many others, in 1977 when I was a 'young participant' at the IOA and Olympism became an integral part of my life. During the many years I was fortunate to be invited to the IOA as lecturer, discussion group coordinator, and dance workshop director, John continued to rekindle that inspiration! Until his death at the age of 81 years on 31 October 2000, John was not only an inspiring lecturer but one who easily shared his thoughts, ideas, and expertise with those who were fortunate enough to be in his discussion groups. His poetry, and particularly Olympia's Quietness, became a favorite of mine, and combining it with dance during Kevin Whitney's Arts Happening evenings for the years we worked together made it a special part of those evenings.*

An opportunity to contribute to the Hans van Haute Scholarship Fund for those who would like to remember John is now available. You may do so "In memory of John T. Powell". This will provide the financial opportunity for one of our members to attend a future IOAPA session. An initial donation of \$100 will be my contribution. Please join me in remembering John!



Our "Silent Auction" during the final Social Evening quickly raised over 200 euro; this could become an integral part of our future IOAPA sessions. It was fun and it was lucrative for the HvH Fund!

For more information about the fund and how to donate, please click [here](#)

Toronto Pan American Games Reunion

By: Richard Koo (Canada)

The city of Toronto, Canada was proud to host the 17th Pan American and 5th ParaPan American Games during the months of July and August 2015. This is the first time IOAPA has held a reunion outside of the Olympic Games, but we hope that this event starts a new tradition of IOAPA reunions at other regional multi-sport events.



The reunion took place on July 16 at Betty's, a friendly pub and local institution renowned for having once been called the Betty Ford Clinic until a 1993 "cease and desist" order was issued by lawyers of the former First Lady of the United States.

Being just 7 minutes from the Athletes' Village, Betty's provided the ideal location in which to host this event. Despite being a new event to the IOAPA reunion schedule, this meeting still attracted over 20 alumni from across the Americas as well as Europe and Asia. Those that attended were treated to a cozy yet upbeat environment and great conversation as we saw new faces and reconnected with old friends.

Despite the busy schedules of the alumni (many being athletes, volunteers or team officials who needed to be at events the next day), the evening continued well past 11pm. The success of this event is due in no small part to the enthusiasm and engaging nature of those in attendance.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank my co-country coordinator Caroline Bujold for helping to organize and spread the word about this year's event to the IOAPA alumni.

See you again at the next reunion in Rio!



The Mayor of Olympia in Naples for the 3rd edition of the Isolympia

by Eliana Esposito (Italy)

Dear IOAPA Friends,



I would like to communicate to everyone that the mayor of Olympia, Efthymios Kotzas, was present at the 3rd edition of “Isolympia” in Naples, in order to remind the history of the institution. Naples was the only city in the West where the Olympics was celebrated in honour of Augustus and Rome. This was because of the intense Greek element in the region which was part of the Magna Grecia. Last year the Italian Olympic Academy and Committee were also present.

For more information, please, visit the website of ISOLYMPIA: WWW.ISOLYMPIA.ORG

Eliana Esposito
member of IOAPA since 1993



Sport “Makes the Cut” in UN Negotiations

By Hugh Dugan (USA)



The UN agrees on Sport's important contribution to global sustainable development.

While IOAPA was holding its reunion in Olympia in August 2015, the United Nations was entering double-overtime in negotiating a sweeping series of goals to promote global prosperity through the year 2030.

In the end, sport was included as “an important enabler of sustainable development.” This was a major accomplishment since so many other interests and goals were clamoring at the negotiation table to be included in this milestone document, and not all made the final cut. Thanks to the persistence and persuasiveness of the International Olympic Committee, sport was not sidelined.

Then in September, world leaders met at the UN and adopted the ambitious post-2015 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) declaration. It includes for the first time recognition of sport's important contribution to global sustainable development, highlighting what sport can contribute to achieve peace, health and education. Related information on sport and the SDGs is available at <http://www.sportanddev.org/en/newsviews/news/?5714/1/Sport-and-the-post-2015-development-agenda>

IOC President Thomas Bach spoke in the General Assembly stating that “This is another acknowledgement of the important role of sport in society, one of the major issues of Olympic Agenda 2020, the strategic roadmap for the future of the Olympic Movement.” Bach added “It shows that with Olympic Agenda 2020, we are aligned with the United Nations post-2015 Development Agenda. This new agenda specifically acknowledges the important role that sport plays promoting healthy lifestyles, education and social inclusion. It recognizes the benefits of sport for all and its ability to empower women and young people.”

President Bach met separately with UN Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon about the SDGs and the contribution of sport in their realization, as well as about other aspects of cooperation between the IOC and the UN. Accompanying President Bach was four-time Olympian and IOC Member Angela Ruggiero (US).

“The International Olympic Committee was built on the belief that sport can contribute to peace and to the harmonious development of humankind,” President Bach said. “As the world sets out on a new era of development, we are truly honored to continue being a committed partner for development with the United Nations to make the world a better place through sport.”

For many years the sport community has advocated for greater recognition as a legitimate development tool on the world stage. Now that sport has been recognized by the UN as an “enabler” of development, how can sport live up to this recognition?

This suggests an opportunity for IOAPA members, among others, to contribute to the discussion on how sport can contribute to positive social change in the next fifteen years. The website sportandde.org invites your comments via #post2015sport. For more, see [here](#)

A Tribute to Monique Berlioux

By Luc Silance (Belgium)

After a life dedicated in greater part to sport, Monique Berlioux left us on 27th August 2015. Until the end, she was cared for by her adopted daughter Marie at Mons (Azay le Brûlé) at her beautiful house at Le Poitou in France



She was born in Metz on 22 December 1923 where she was raised by her mother Suzanne. From her earliest years, she swam under the watchful eye of her mother, who was an outstanding swimming coach who brought on a long list of champion swimmers, not just her daughter, but many others such as Kiki Caron.

In 1938, Monique became French champion at the age of 15. War prevented her participation in the Olympics of 1940 and 1944, both cancelled because of the war, but she was chosen for the French team for the 1948 Games, those of the fourteenth Olympiad in London, where she reached the semi final of the 100m backstroke. Over forty years later she was still active in swimming and won silver at the 1990 veterans World Championships in Rio de Janeiro.

From 1959 to 1964, she served as president of the artistic swimming commission at the Fédération Française de Natation. After her studies she began her career as a journalist and showed herself to be a great reporter and columnist in publications such as “France-Soir”, “Le Figaro”, “l’Aurore”, and “Le Jardin des modes”. She became a correspondent for several daily newspapers in England, Belgium, Spain, Portugal and North Africa.

These activities brought her to the notice Maurice Herzog. After his ascent of Annapurna in the Himalayas, French President General De Gaulle had put him in charge of the state secretariat and then the ministry for youth and sport in France. Herzog chose Berlioux as his press chief. She remained in the role from 1960 to 1966. Then she was put in charge of the inspectorate for a further year.

At this time she was introduced to Avery Brundage, then International Olympic Committee President. He appointed her Press service and public relations chief. From 1967 to 1969, she did the job with such success that she was named IOC director with responsibility for the administration and press.

In due course, Lord Killanin succeeded Avery Brundage as IOC President. It was him who appointed Monique Berlioux executive director, a prestigious position she occupied until 1985.

In 1971, she was named Secretary General of the Olympic Congress held in the Bulgarian resort of Varna in 1973. She held the same role for the 1981 Congress in Baden-Baden.

Her work was by no means easy. She experienced difficult times with an African boycott in 1976, then the Americans in 1980 and the Russians in 1984. Juan Antonio succeeded Killanin as IOC President in 1980 but relations between the President and his Director General soon broke down and Berlioux left Lausanne in 1985.

She became technical consultant to the cabinet of Jacques Chirac when he was Mayor of Paris and held this position from 1985 to 1996. Later Chirac would become French President.

Throughout her long career, Berlioux never forgot what she had learned as “licenciée aux lettres”, as a journalist and writer. She published numerous books, including “Jacques Chirac-la victoire des sports”, “Les amis de Paris”, “La France et ses champions”, “Des Jeux et des crimes”, “Un univers olympique”.

She also helped curate an illustrated exhibition on sports history entitled “La France et ses champions: un siècle de sport, cent ans d’images” (1991)

She was honoured both in her homeland and abroad. In France she was made a “commandeur de la Légion d’honneur” of the “Grand-croix de l’ordre national du mérite”, “Chevalier des arts et lettres”, “Médaille d’or de la jeunesse et des sports” and the “Grande médaille de vermeil de la ville de Paris”

The IOAPA takes this opportunity to thank Monique for her contribution to the Olympic movement and expresses its condolences to her family.

The article has been translated by Philip Barker

News & Opportunities

UN General Assembly approves Olympic Truce for Olympic Games Rio de Janeiro 2016

The 70th Session of the United Nations General Assembly on 26 October approved a resolution for observance of the Olympic Truce for the Games of the XXXI Olympiad in Rio de Janeiro next summer. The resolution was co-sponsored by 180 out of 193 UN member states and then unanimously adopted by all.

The resolution calls for the Olympic Truce to be respected from seven days before the start of the Olympic Games until seven days after the Paralympic Games.

During his address to the General Assembly, the President also appealed for help from the member nations to identify top-level athletes who are currently refugees

The Olympic movement supports refugees

During one of the most significant refugees' crisis ever, the Olympic movement has taken in serious its social responsibility towards society. The IOC made available a fund of USD 2 million and a number of important projects are already making use of this emergency fund the to National Olympic Committees (NOCs) organising programmes to help refugees, with more projects expected to receive financing in the coming weeks.

Information about the specific projects by different NOCs can be found [here](#)

The Olympic Truce at Times Square.

Thousands of New Yorkers learned about the Olympic Truce during a day-long program in Times Square on 3 November 2015. IOAPA member Hugh Dugan, head of the Truce Foundation of the USA, shared the outdoor stage along with Costas Filis, head of the International Olympic Truce Center, in front of giant video screens with the message "Imagine Peace". With the help of the Ephorate of Antiquities of Olympia they described the Holy Procession of the Olympians from Elis and its modern counterpart for Rio 2016. The day's events sponsored by "Save the Dream" coincided with a major conference of the International Center on Sport Security, featured Olympians, musicians, and youth athletes.



IOAPA Research Officer, Hugh Dugan, with the Olympic torch.

New Olympic / Paralympic-related website: www.paralympicus.gr



IOA Masters graduate, PhD c. in Olympic Studies and long-time IOAPA Member, Kostas Vasileiou, has launched a new website, where one can find news and updates related to the Olympic and the Paralympic Movement.

The editorial team of paralympicus.gr is composed of journalists, researchers, academics, Olympians and members of the Olympic and the Paralympic Movement, with deep knowledge of Olympism and the Olympic and the Paralympic Games.

The goal of the paralympicus.gr is to give readers continuous, objective and direct information, related to the charming world of the ancient Olympic Idea.

The IOAPA wishes Kostas best of luck and all the success in this new initiative and invites the IOAPA Members to regularly visit the website.

Click [here](http://paralympicus.gr) to visit the website.

2016/2017 edition of Advanced Olympic Research Grant Programme

The Advanced Olympic Research Grant Programme is aimed at encouraging university professors, lecturers and research fellows who have completed their doctorate, and who currently hold an academic/research appointment/affiliation, to conduct projects in IOC priority fields of research.

The deadline for submitting applications is 5 February 2016.

Further info can be found [here](#)

ISCA recruits 3 volunteers

The International Sport and Culture Association (ISCA) is looking for three volunteers to join its team in Copenhagen for 12 months from 1 March 2016. Application deadline: 13 November 2015 .

More info can be found [here](#)

Joint master's programme in International Development and Peace through Sport

The University of Tsukuba is offering a master's programme in International Development and Peace through Sport. The programme aims to educate students who will contribute to solving social issues through sport as a tool for development and peace.

For more info click [here](#)

European Prize for Social Integration Through Sport

The European Forum for Urban Security (Efus) is offering a European Prize for projects related to social integration through sport. Participation in the European Prize is open to local and regional authorities, the voluntary sector, non-governmental organisations and private organisations from any of the 28 European Union member states. The deadline for submissions is 6 November 2015.

For more info, click [here](#)

Call for abstracts

"The Future of the Olympic Event in the Age of the Mega-Spectacle"

13th International Symposium for Olympic Research, July 30–31, 2016, Federal University of Espírito Santo, Brazil

The 13th International Symposium for Olympic Research, will be co-hosted by the International Centre for Olympic Studies (ICOS) at Western University, London, Canada, and ARETE – Centre of Olympic Studies, Federal University of Espírito Santo (UFES), Vitória, Brazil. The Symposium will be held July 30–31, 2016, on the Campus of UFES in Vitória.

Scholars, researchers, students, and professionals interested in the socio-cultural study of the modern Olympic or Paralympic Games are invited to submit abstracts for conference presentations. Papers in the areas of history, sociology, anthropology, philosophy, political science, cultural studies, and sport management, as well as other disciplines that contribute to our cultural understanding of the Games are particularly encouraged.

Abstract Submission Deadline: January 15, 2016

For information on abstract submission procedure, registration, and other related matters, please visit the [website of the International Centre for Olympic Studies at Western University Universidade Federal do Espírito Santo](http://www.ioapa.org)

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