

IOAPA ACTIVITIES IN PYEONGCHANG 2018

IOAPA Executive Committee

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IOAPA Members share experiences during PyeongChang 2018

IOAPA maintains the spirit of the International Olympic Academy (IOA) and encourages action after the experiences which educate and inspire us all at the IOA.

The Olympic Winter Games in PyeongChang provided opportunities for IOAPA members to contribute to the Games in various ways. This included academic research on Olympic Studies, NOC members, coaches, officials, Olympians, volunteers and spectators.

Several Olympic and Paralympic themed conferences and events were held during the Games. Each gave an opportunity for scholars and others alike to present and interact in a variety of fields related to the Games. These events, along with others that involve active members, highlight the way the Games can foster international collaboration and dialogue. Below are a few examples of events that involved IOAPA members.

The IOAPA Reunion in PyeongChang

The much anticipated IOAPA reunion took place on Wednesday February 20th at Canada Olympic House, located next to Olympic Park in Gangneung. COH was one of the most popular National Olympic Houses at the Games, with its central location, friendly hospitality, and large screen coverage of the Olympics. It was a fantastic location to welcome IOA friends for an evening of relaxation and fun.

IOAPA President Richard Koo welcomed IOAPA members and highlighted recent Executive Committee activities. This included an increased focus over the next two years on building out the country coordinator network to facilitate better connections between the IOA, IOAPA and the membership. He also reminded those in attendance of the biannual IOAPA session and invited our worldwide membership to reunite at the birthplace of the Olympic Movement in Olympia in the summer of 2019.

The reunion was a great success. Over 30 people attended with many countries represented, and was the largest attended IOAPA Reunion at an Olympic Winter Games ever. The informal style created a great atmosphere with lots of activity, as old and new friends connected over their IOA experiences.



IOAPA members celebrate together and catch up with old friends during the IOAPA reunion in PyeongChang. Photos Credit: Richard Koo.



At the end of the event, attendees were invited to stay and explore the rest of COH. Many took the opportunity to do so, enjoying the Canadian hospitality and staying late into the night.

IOAPA would like to take this opportunity to thank the Canadian Olympic Committee (Derek Kent, Kristyna Petrollini and Kate Moorehouse) for the generous support of this event and for welcoming us to Canada Olympic House. We look forward to connecting with members at the next IOAPA Session in Olympia in 2019 and onwards to Tokyo in 2020.

Olympic Truce for World Peace

The Truce Foundation of the USA hosted an awards ceremony held at the inaugural PyeongChang Forum for the Earth and Its Citizens, in Seoul on February 7th. The Foundation's President and past IOAPA Executive Committee member Hugh T. Dugan hosted the awards and spoke about the Olympic Truce and its central meaning.

The Foundation recognised three distinguished honorees for their contribution to peace among the people of the world:

- Governor of Gangwon Province, Cho Moon-soon, who received the “Open Fields Award” on behalf of the people of Korea for their contributions to peace in the Olympic host country;
- PyeongChang Organizing Committee of the Olympic Games, President Lee Hee-beom, who received the “Ekecheiria Award” for contributions to peace among the peoples of the world; and
- President of the United Nations General Assembly, Miroslav Lajčák, who received the “President’s Award” for contributions to peace between countries of the world.

Upon returning to the United States, Hugh has prepared a lecture entitled “The Olympics and Sports Diplomacy: What’s the instant replay on North Korea?” It is a behind-the-scenes account of how sport and world politics interact, particularly on the Korean Peninsula right now.



Image 1: IOAPA members
at the reunion in
PyeongChang.

Image 2: Richard W. Pound,
IOC member for Canada
and a keynote speaker at the
International Sport Business
Symposium.

Photos Credit: Richard Koo.



Mr. Dugan is a leading advocate of the ancient Olympic Truce which he helped revive for the modern era while a US diplomat the United Nations 1989-2015. He delivered his talk at Seton Hall University on March 19 and will do so at the College of New Jersey and at Penn State University where he will be hosted by professor-emerita and IOAPA member Dr. Elizabeth Hanley.

International Sport Business Symposium

On February 21st the 9th International Sport Business Symposium was held at Kangwon National University in Chuncheon, South Korea. It was organized by Prof. Holger Preuss (Johannes Gutenberg University Mainz) in cooperation with Prof. Dr. Seok-Pyo Hong (Kangwon National University). The conveyors made reference to the Greek symposium, dating back to 416 B.C., a key social institution in ancient Hellenic culture. Since 2006, the symposium has brought together Olympic scholars from all over the world and provides a platform for debate and interaction with others.

Olympic research and the IOC's Agenda 2020 underpinned the program. Discussion groups and workshop sessions included themes on Olympic studies, sponsorship and legacy. Specifically on the issue of legacy hosting the Olympic Winter Games in a region such as PyeongChang, the Games induced changes which normally take many years, such as creating new connections to Seoul, developing winter sport facilities, starting new businesses, strengthening tourism and improving on participation in winter sports. On the other side, it might bear risks and challenges for the host city such as overinvestments, hasty construction, displacements, etc. Mr. Richard W. Pound, chair of Olympic Broadcasting Services (OBS), former vice president of WADA and former vice president of the IOC presented a keynote address on the importance of pre-planning, community engagement, and objective measurement of legacies through interdisciplinary analysis in order to build support for these megaprojects. A number of IOAPA members including Dr. Mathias Schubert, Dr. Rebecca Leopkey, and Dr. Kyungsu Jung presented papers and chaired sessions during the symposium. These opportunities provided integration and dialogue between the IOC, NOC members and scholars.