Deutsche Sporthochschule Köln
German Sport University Cologne
Zentrum für Olympische Studien
Olympic Studies Centre

M.A. Olympic Studies Newsletter

Edition No. 8 - 2018
Dear all,

It is my sincere pleasure to welcome you to the 8th edition of the M.A. Olympic Studies newsletter. Whilst the original aim of this publication might have been to foster dialogue within our community, it is now evident that its reach supersedes these humble ambitions. This can be evidenced by the large number of applicants for the upcoming 7th intake having referenced the newsletter as a means of learning about the programme.

Concerning this edition, I am delighted that there is such a breadth of new information to be disseminated on the pages that lie ahead given that the 7th edition was published only back in July. Clearly, this must be attributed to the tireless efforts of our graduates and participants, partner institutions and the team that I have the pleasure of working with here at the Olympic Studies Centre (OSC) of the German Sport University Cologne (GSU).

Besides that of the aforementioned application period for the 7th intake, which constitutes the first article within the M.A. Olympic Studies section, I wish to take the opportunity here to comment on a few of the included articles. As with previous editions, we have included contributions dedicated to a graduate of the M.A. Olympic Studies - Shannon Galea (Canada), recent module weeks and activity reports from our partner OSCs, which have been submitted by the CEO-UAB (Barcelona) and NZCOS (New Zealand). Special appreciation must, as always, be given to our external contributors, whose valuable inclusions significantly enhance the newsletter’s value and quality.

Although the publication for the most part follows that of our now traditional format, which also serves the purpose of making it easier to read and follow, there are a few notable nuances included herein. These nuances can be attributed to recent developments that have taken place. Explicitly, I am speaking about the articles on the contribution of Chantell Gouws, a participant of the 5th intake of the M.A. Olympic Studies, to the Science Slam World Cup and academic trips of Guest Professors to the GSU’s OSC. In consideration of the former, this is the first time we have included a specific article on the activities of one of the participants of the M.A. Olympic Studies outside of the Graduates section. While I do not want to give away too much here, I wish to stress that we were tremendously proud of Chantell for her excellent presentation. As to the latter, given that we have had the honour of hosting two internationally renowned Olympic Professors and scholars here at the GSU, we would like to show our appreciation for their collaborative efforts via including a piece on their activities within the GSU’s OSC section.

Lastly, let me remind you that we have our key dates section on upcoming modules and in respect to the application deadline for the 7th intake on the back page.

Enjoy reading the issue.

Best wishes,

Stephan Wassong (Director of the M.A. Olympic Studies)
7th Intake Application Process

On behalf of the M.A. Olympic Studies programme and all our partners, we are delighted to announce that the application period for the 7th intake is currently ongoing. The new intake is due to commence their studies in September 2019 and we continue to welcome all applications up until the deadline of 28th February, 2019.

In order to apply, applicants are required to fill in an official application form, which can be requested on demand by emailing Prof. Wassong. The application must be completed in English, which is the full teaching language of the programme. All other information regarding the application process can be found on the GSU website (see below) or by request.

GSU – M.A. Olympic Studies:
https://www.dshs-koeln.de/olympicstudies

M.A. Olympic Studies Intakes at the Olympic Studies Centre

The M.A. Olympic Studies’ 5th intake at the stadium of the GSU

The 5th Intake of the M.A. Olympic Studies undertook their final on-site module week of the programme at the GSU from 2nd – 8th September, 2018. The week commenced with the participants, staff of the GSU’s OSC, and guest lecturer Prof. Keith Gilbert gathering together for an opening social evening held at the residence of Prof. Wassong. Continuing into the week, the students participated within lectures and group discussions under the theme of ‘International Relations and the Olympic Movement’. Gratitude must be given to Prof. Keith Gilbert, Prof. Jens Flatau, Prof. Stephan Wassong and Dr. Jörg Krieger, who imparted their expertise and delivered engaging lectures. As usual, the sports evening and social gatherings were a ‘big hit’ and were highly appreciated by the participants and lecturers alike.

From 16th – 22nd September, 2018, the 6th Intake of the M.A. Olympic Studies came together at the GSU to undertake their second on-site module week. Classes were delivered by the partner university lecturers Prof. Ian Culpan and Prof. Jens Flatau as well as the GSU’s OSC staff members Prof. Stephan Wassong and Dr. Jörg Krieger on the topics of the Historical Foundations of Olympic Sport and its Actors, Elite Sport in Transition, Olympic Athletes and their Coaches, alongside the Research Methodology module, which is divided across all five on-site module weeks. Building on the social environment that had been established back in February/March, 2018, the group swiftly picked up from where they left off and enjoyed the sports evening and social gatherings.
M.A. OS Participant Chantell Gouws at the Science Slam World Cup

From 19th – 24th November, 2018, Chantell Gouws (South Africa), a participant of the 5th intake of the M.A. Olympic Studies, travelled once again to the GSU to participate within the Science Slam World Cup. The week brought together 19 international young researchers (17 presentations) from five continents for the competition and to participate in scientific symposia, lab tours, workshops and sport and cultural activities.

The competition itself was a rather innovative initiative, whereby the presentations were aimed at transmitting the participants’ work to non-expert audiences, similar to that of a TedX presentation, and the project was awarded the start-up prize of the International Research Marketing Competition by the German Research Foundation (DFG). Chantell took to the stage on the final night of the qualifiers, held at the GSU, and delivered an excellent presentation on ‘The Role of Sensory Integration Therapy in Sensory Processing Disorder in Children with Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD)’. On behalf of everyone involved in the M.A. Olympic Studies, we wish to express our tremendous pride in Chantell for her contribution.

You can watch an archived video of Chantell’s presentation alongside the other contestants – and the GSU’s OSC’s staff member Dr. Ansgar Molzberger’s role presenting the second night of the competition – via following the link below:

https://www.dshs-koeln.de/science-slam-world-cup/
From 11th – 17th March 2018, the 5th intake of the M.A. Olympic Studies Newsletter Edition No. 8 - 2018

OSC Cologne News

Database on Olympic Studies: Degree Programmes, Courses, Seminars & Workshops

Prof. Thierry Zintz (Olympic Chair – Université catholique de Louvain) and Prof. Stephan Wassong are conducting a study with the objective of collecting information on all regular Olympic Studies programmes, courses, seminars and workshops at and beyond the university level around the world.

The central research tool is an online questionnaire in English, French and Spanish sent out to, amongst others, OSCs linked to universities, National Olympic Committees, International Federations, National Olympic Academies and the International Olympic Academy. Based on the returns to this, a database will be made available.

The main goal of this database is to centralise information on programmes, give increased visibility of educational initiatives in Olympic Studies around the world and allow for easier orientation for students searching for the most suitable course.

This initiative is conducted in close coordination with the IOC’s OSC and the IOC Olympic Education Commission. The IOC also provided the necessary funds for the study. First results are to be presented next year at the annual meeting of the IOC’s Olympic Education Commission on 20th January, 2019, in Lausanne.

25th International Seminar on Olympic Studies for Postgraduate Students at the IOA

From 1st – 30th September, 2018, the OSC’s Katharina Neumann participated in the ‘25th International Seminar on Olympic Studies for Postgraduate Students’ of the International Olympic Academy in Ancient Olympia, Greece.

Therein, over 30 selected students from all over the world gained knowledge and experience in the Olympic Movement. Different topics from the Ancient Olympic Games and their philosophy to the modern Olympic Movement as well as Olympic Education were discussed in lectures and seminars held by international professors coming from across the globe and constituting the foremost experts in their fields.

With excursions to archaeological sites and museums connected to the Ancient Olympic Games as well as being submersed in an intercultural environment and participating in sports with one another, the session constituted a once-in-a-lifetime experience for the participants. Contributing to the Session, Katharina Neumann delivered a presentation on her research project ‘Can Knowledge Transfer be safeguarded in Sport Development Programmes? – Olympic Youth Development Centre Zambia’.
Guest Professors at the GSU’s OSC

In the winter term 2018/19, the OSC of the GSU had the pleasure to host two international guest professors. Both of them collaborated with staff members of the OSC in research projects and delivered interesting lectures on various topics of the Olympic Movement to the international study programme M.A. International Sport Development and Politics offered by the GSU.

Prof. Thierry Zintz from the Faculty of Sports Sciences at the Université catholique de Louvain, Belgium visited the OSC in December this year. He was the Dean of the Faculty from 2010 to 2016 and is presently in charge of the Olympic Chair Henri de Baillet-Latour and Jacques Rogge in Management of Sport Organisations. He was also Vice-President of the Belgian Olympic and Interfederal Committee from 2001 till 2017. Since 2010, he has been the Director of MEMOS, which is an Executive Master in Management of Sport Organization, and is currently a member of the IOC’s Olympic Education Commission.

Prof. Alberto Reppold arrived at the GSU in November, 2018, and will be continuing his research stint here with us up until March, 2019. He is Professor at the School of Physical Education, Physiotherapy and Dance at the Federal University of Rio Grande do Sul, Brazil. Previously, Prof. Reppold was chair of the department back in Brazil from 2010 to 2017 and has been a long-time member of the IOC’s Postgraduate Grant Selection Committee.

Both professors enjoy a high academic reputation and are widely published on the national and international level. Their areas of expertise are on, amongst others, Olympic education, governance structures in sport and the Olympic Movement, sport management and policies and sport ethics. Their teaching topics delivered at the GSU included the legacy of the 2016 Rio Olympic Games, the autonomy of the Olympic Movement and the enforcement of law, sport in the favelas and the Belgian sport system.

Together with Prof. Zintz, the OSC is doing the IOC funded project ‘Database on Olympic Studies: Degree Programmes, Courses, Seminars & Workshops’. Prof. Reppold is collaborating with the OSC on a student reader on Olympic Education and Governance.

Olympism in Action Forum – Book Presentations of the International Pierre de Coubertin Committee

As member of the IOC’s Olympic Education Commission and President of the International Pierre de Coubertin Committee, Prof. Stephan Wassong was invited to attend the IOC’s Olympism in Action Forum, which was held from 5th – 6th October, 2018, in Buenos Aires.

Next to a working group meeting of the Olympic Education Commission, Prof. Wassong chaired the assembly of representatives from the National Pierre de Coubertin Committees of Argentina, Brazil, Mexico, Uruguay, Colombia and the USA.

In addition to this, he opened the session on book presentations at the end of the forum. The books presented on behalf of the International Pierre de Coubertin and the Pierre de Coubertin Committee of Brazil were ‘El Verdadero Pierre de Coubertin’ by Jean Durry and ‘New Cognitive and Virtual Interactions of Sport Sciences and Olympic Studies’ by Lamartine DaCosta & Ana Miragaya. The latter one is available as an online source at www.sportsinbrazil.com.br/livros_sport_tech.htm
CEO-UAB Fosters the Creation of the Sport Research Institute

The Olympic Studies Centre of the Universitat Autònoma de Barcelona (CEO-UAB) has promoted the creation of the new Institut de Recerca de l’Esport / Sport Research Institute (IRE-UAB). Thirty-six researchers from fourteen different academic departments will work in the Institute. This multidisciplinary vocation takes the Olympic studies field to a new level in the academic realm. The IRE-UAB will offer a new international sport doctoral programme and will collaborate in different initiatives such as the FC Barcelona’s Innovation Hub and the Real Sporting de Gijón’s Mareo Education & Research Lab, amongst others.

Two CEO-UAB Researchers Complete their Academic Stays in Greece and the USA

In recent months, two members of the CEO-UAB have successfully completed academic stays abroad: Adolfo Nieto, researcher at the centre, took part in and presented at the ‘25th International Seminar on Olympic Studies for Postgraduate Students’. His presentation was delivered on his paper ‘Pyeongchang 2018 on social media: the impact of the top athletes during the Winter Games’.

Oriol Figuera carried out a three-month research stay at the University of Alabama (USA). The purpose of Oriol’s stint in the US was in connection to collecting and developing big data to be analysed for his thesis dissertation about hooligans and social media together with Prof. Andrew C. Billings.

Barcelona City Council and CEO-UAB Strengthen their Relationship

The CEO-UAB has in 2018 continued its long-term collaboration with the Barcelona Sport Institute in the field of ‘sports events impact’. As a result, a new scheme has been launched amongst event organisers to obtain and share data with the aim of facilitating the assessment of the impact of all sports events supported by the Barcelona City Council. The impact analysis will cover key elements for sustainable development such as the impact in sports practice and event attendance, economic impact in the city and sports industry, citizen engagement through sport, event social-oriented actions, environment management and city branding.

Report compiled by the Centre d’Estudis Olímpics i de l’Esport of the Universitat Autònoma de Barcelona.
NZCOS Recent Activities

The 2018 academic year for the NZCOS draws to a close in December. The Centre has been involved in a number of noteworthy activities since June this year. Prof. Ian Culpan was again invited to teach on the Olympic Studies Masters Programme at the GSU. The relationship that the NZCOS has with the GSU Olympic Studies Centre is a highly valued one and as each of our respective programmes grow and develop further opportunities are being explored e.g. a student exchange scheme between the two institutions is presently going through the final stages of being established. Dr. Susie Stevens and Prof. Culpan were delegates at the IOC’s International Symposium in Buenos Aires, where a range of Olympic matters and issues around the future of sport were explored in in-depth discussions and presentations.

Involvement with the Global Foundation for Community Health

The NZCOS is an active ‘player’ in the Global Foundation for Community Health. Prof. Culpan is a scientific advisor for this Foundation and Dr. Stevens is part of the Future Leadership Programme. The work of the Foundation has become globally significant as it collaborates with UNESCO in working towards achieving the United Nations 17 Sustainable Goals. Of particular note is the work around Goals three and four (Health and Education). Here, the Global Foundation for Community Health is particularly active in promoting quality physical education and sport. In this promotion, Dr. Stevens and Prof. Culpan develop international presentations highlighting the importance of Olympism within physical education as an avenue to the achievement of individual and collective wellbeing. An example of this work is Prof. Culpan’s recent visit to Turkey where he was an invited speaker at the ‘5th International Council for Physical Education and Sport Science’s Congress’ in Cappadocia, Turkey. Further invites have been received to work in China, South Africa and the Philippines in 2019.

Special Mention – Diagoras 2018

Another achievement of note is the publication of the third issue of ‘Diagoras: The Academic Journal for Olympic Studies’. This Journal, a collaborative effort between the Olympic Studies Centres of the GSU, The University of Autonoma Barcelona and the University of Canterbury in NZ, is an important academic publishing outlet for established and emerging scholars in Olympic Studies. The NZCOS would like to congratulate its young scholar Anna McCon for her first publication in the latest issue. For more information, please visit:

www.diagorasjournal.com

Closing Message from the NZCOS

In closing the NZCOS values the collaborations with Prof. Wassong as it helps us stay connected to scholars in the field and in so doing contribute to the developing global network of Olympic studies.

Report compiled by Prof. Ian Culpan, Director of the New Zealand Centre for Olympic Studies, University of Canterbury, NZ.
From 11th – 17th March 2018, the 5th intake of the M.A. Olympic Studies came together for the 4th time to undertake the module week Governance, Policy and Olympic Organisations. Led by the M.A.’s partner university, Loughborough University, U.K., the team of Dr. David Howe, Dr. Borja Garcia and Dr. Jamie Kenyon travelled to the GSU Cologne to lecture on the subjects of

Graduates

Shannon Galea

Shannon Galea (Canada) was a participant of the third intake of the M.A. Olympic Studies programme. What originally drew Shannon’s attention to the M.A. Olympic Studies was a combination of her background in sport and through contacts within the Olympic and Paralympic Movement. Concerning sport, this background stemmed from her athletic career and scholastic achievements. She attended McMaster University for her undergraduate, the University of Ontario Institute of Technology for her B.Ed. and Durham College, where she completed her diploma in Sport Business Management. Therein, she has enjoyed a successful athletic career, participating within and having won awards across various sports. To name but a few, these included those of softball, squash and track and field. Of particular accolade, her achievements within the OUA allowed her to be awarded with the title ‘OUA’s Woman of Influence’ and she has competed in and coached softball internationally.

Her extensive travels and years of research, competing and taking sabbaticals from her teaching career led to various projects on international sport development and enabled her to participate within the M.A. Olympic Studies.

Shannon was particularly interested in the topics of health and physical education in varying communities as well as researching athletes from around the world on programmes provided for athlete-centered services. It was the combination of these prior experiences and the knowledge gained throughout her studies that constituted a stimulus for her research focus. This culminated in her thesis project entitled ‘Canadian Elite Athletes in Transition: Perspectives on NSO Support during Retirement’.

Building on her Games experience that commenced with her role as Sport Coordinator for the 2015 Toronto Pan/Para-Pan American Games, Shannon believes that her studies formed a platform on which to excel her career in sport with the Canadian Olympic Committee as the Game Plan Specialist. In this role, she hopes to be an advocate for helping Canadian athletes find their passions beyond the field of play as wellrounded individuals while maintaining a healthy balance in their high-performance career. Game Plan’s team of experts, who are located across Canada in the Canadian Olympic and Paralympic Sport Institute Network (COPSIN) draw from their shared knowledge of high performance sport, career development, transition planning and goal-setting to provide athletes with the support they need to perform at their best. Her role specifically will be geared towards program development and formally, as a teacher, she will be creating a curriculum and developing strategies that will strengthen partnerships and create sustainability within the Canadian sport system for athletes in various stages of the Long Term Athlete Development.

Shannon has been proud to give back to the sporting community and broader society through her various roles and activities and was thrilled when asked if she would be willing to feature as this edition’s selected graduate. You can find out more about Shannon’s activities or contact her via following the link below:

https://mygameplan.ca/about/our-team/shannon-galea

Dates

February, 28th 2019:
7th Intake Application Deadline

March, 18th – March, 23rd 2019:
6th Intake, Module 3 (at the Univ. Autònoma de Barcelona, BCN)

September, 8th – September, 14th 2019:
7th Intake, Module 1 (at the German Sport University, CGN)

September, 22nd – September, 28th 2019:
6th Intake, Module 4 (at the German Sport University, CGN)