

M.A. Olympic Studies - NEWSLETTER

Edition No. 3 - 2015

Foreword

Dear all,

Following the success of our first two enrolments, it is my delight to introduce you to the 3rd edition of our newsletter. Moreover, the appreciation this initiative has received by graduates, current participants and those who have already expressed their interest in joining the programme gives testament to both its cause and the M.A. Olympic Studies course as a whole. In particular, graduates have stressed how the newsletter helps to maintain their identification with the programme and current participants how the newsletter acts as a stimulus to communicate about the course's latest developments. Staying connected is of the upmost importance as one of the key assets of any international part-time programme is its ability to create a global network, which can only be maintained through communication.



As with the last edition, there has been an increase in content included within the newsletter, most notably due to that of the inclusion of Prof. Ian Culpan's review of the latest news and developments from the New Zealand Centre for Olympic Studies (NZCOS), University of Canterbury. I would like to personally thank both the NZCOS and the Autonomous University of Barcelona (UAB) for providing us with valuable insights into what all the Olympic Studies Centres are accomplishing both collectively and individually. As members of the M.A. Olympic Studies programme their contributions are particularly fruitful to both us here at the German Sport University (GSU) and to this newsletter's readers.

Besides the inclusion of the UAB's and the NZCOS's latest developments, the number of pages have also increased due to various developments and initiatives we wish to highlight. I am referring, amongst others, to accounts of our time at the International Olympic Academy (IOA), the proceedings of the recent conference *Historical and Contemporary Issues in Olympic Studies* in Johannesburg, South Africa, the programme's segment in the international sports magazine *SportsPro* and the announcement of the upcoming 5th intake to begin in September 2016. The continual growth of the course has led to an increase in its international reputation. It is our esteemed reputation and persistent high quality in interdisciplinary teachings combined with ever more prominent opportunities, e.g. the IOA graciously accommodating us, that has enabled our continuation. Furthermore, I would like to thank all the programme's professors and all the staff of the GSU's Olympic Studies Centre who face huge administrative and organisational challenges for their ceaseless effort and identifying themselves with the M.A. Olympic Studies course. However, all of this would not be possible if it was not for our participants' enduring enthusiasm and contribution. Working together, academics and participants, we have helped to shape the programme into what it is today – an exceptional international opportunity to further our understandings and the teachings of Olympism and Olympic Education.

Enjoy reading the 3rd edition of the newsletter.

Stephan Wassong

Latest News

M.A. Olympic Studies 5th Intake

On behalf of the M.A. Olympic Studies programme and all our partners, we are delighted to announce that the 5th intake will begin in **September 2016** and welcome all applications – **deadline 31st January 2016**.

In order to apply, applicants will be 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, as is the full teaching language of the programme. All other information regarding the application process can be found on the German Sport University (GSU) website (see below) or by request.

GSU – M.A. Olympic Studies:

<https://www.dshs-koeln.de/olympicstudies>

September-Modules at the IOA



The week of 20th to 27th September 2015 saw the International Olympic Academy (IOA), Olympia, be host to the 3rd and 4th intakes of the M.A. Olympic Studies programme for their respective modules.

Holding the course at the International Olympic Academy provided a great opportunity to combine the course's teachings with the experience of visiting the ancient site of Olympia and taking in its

cultural heritage. This enabled the students to develop and discuss deeper thoughts and opinions on topics beyond the boundaries of the usual classroom.

The week commenced with the Honorary Dean of the IOA, Prof. Kostas Georgiadis, delivering an inspirational welcoming speech at the official Opening Ceremony. The subsequent seminars of the 3rd and 4th intakes' modules - *International Relation and the Olympic Movement* and *Olympic Athletes and Elite Sport in Transition* respectively - were taught by Prof. Stephan Wassong, Prof. Wolfgang Decker, Dr. Ansgar Molzberger, Dr. Jörg Krieger and Caroline Meier of the GSU's Olympic Studies Centre.

Additionally, students were also presented with lectures by Prof. Keith Gilbert (University of East London, England) on – *International Organisations, their Roles and Responsibilities*, Prof. Ian Culpan (University of Canterbury, Christchurch, New Zealand) – *Olympism Education and the Coach-Athlete Relations* and Prof. Jens Flatau (University of Kiel) – *The Philosophy of Science and Research Methodology*.

Outside of the seminars, during leisure time, the students made the most of the IOA's atmosphere; visiting the ancient site and the town of Olympia, conducting group sporting activities and gathering for social evenings. This too, in conjunction to learning about the Olympic Movement and Olympism, was important for the students' development, enabling the intakes to grow as a group and further expand their international networks. Finally, all the students received a special award in honour of their efforts and undertaking the week's learning at the IOA.

SportsPro Article

Prof. Stephan Wassong was granted the honour of featuring in the highly acclaimed *SportsPro* article for their section on *Thought Leaders* in the November 2015 edition. The article featured an interview with Prof. Wassong on the topics of the M.A. Olympic Studies programme and the role of education within the Olympic Movement.

By stressing the relevance and importance that education has within the Olympic Movement and its Values, particularly through the newly initiated Olympic Agenda 2020, Wassong has brought the much needed attention of the public to such a crucial issue. Furthermore, he demonstrated how the concept (Olympic Education) is currently being addressed, e.g. in the teachings of the GSU's Olympic Studies Centre, and the benefits that it brings.

Addressing key questions on the M.A. Olympic Studies programme, Prof. Wassong has provided a great opportunity to spread the accolade of course to the public and has helped to further cement its purpose.



General Assembly of the International Pierre de Coubertin Committee



The International Pierre de Coubertin Committee, presided by Prof. Norbert Müller, celebrated its General Assembly on 28th November 2015 in Lausanne. There were 35 members present representing all five continental regions as well as two members of the Coubertin family, Antoine and Yvan de Navacelle de

Coubertin. The main points of their agenda covered activities carried out in 2015 and projects to be developed in 2016 and in the coming years.

The most important actions carried out in 2015 were:

- the translation of Coubertin's Selected Writing into Portuguese, honoring the language of the country which will host the Olympic Games of XXXIst Olympiad, Rio 2016;
- the soon to be finished (after 5 years of work) translation of Coubertin's Works, published in 1987, into Arabic;
- the publication of the proceedings of the Conference dedicated to "Coubertin and the Future", held at the Olympic Museum in Lausanne in January 2014 commemorating the 150th anniversary of the birth of Pierre de Coubertin;
- the celebration of the 10th Coubertin Youth Forum held in Piest'any, Slovakia, with the participation of 150 teenagers from 20 Coubertin high-schools from five continents. The Coubertin Youth Forum was created by Prof. Dr. Norbert Müller in 1997.

The CIPC was proud to announce that in 2015 it had become a member of UNESCO's Intergovernmental Committee for Physical Education and Sport (CIGEPS) at the UNESCO meeting held at the IOC headquarters in January.

The most important activities to be developed in 2016 are:

- the update of the CIPC statutes;
- several projects for the Rio 2016 Olympic Games;
- the initiation of the translation of Coubertin's Selected Writings into Japanese, expected to be published in 2020 to honour the hosting of the Olympic Games of XXXIInd Olympiad in Tokyo.

The CIPC General Assembly meeting started by paying tribute to the late Geoffroy de Navacelle de Coubertin, CIPC Honorary President, who passed away in May 2015.

For more information please go to:

<http://www.coubertin.org/>

Graduates

Gizem Lüders



Gizem Lüders was a participant of the third intake of the M.A. Olympic Studies programme. Joining the course, Gizem was already working for the Galatasaray Sports Club as their Swimming Department's coordinator. Combining work with her studies, it was not long until she was given the opportunity to put her newly acquired knowledge into practice when she was promoted to the role of Assistant Manager of the Water-Polo Department. "At that stage I realized already that the master program contributed to my professional development."
– Gizem Lüders.

Adamant to get the most out of the course, Gizem also volunteered in several Turkish Olympic Committee (TOC) projects where she was able to further apply the course's learnings. This quickly led to the TOC offering her professional work, as a Project Manager, allowing her to represent her country in numerous influential meetings and projects. One of her key responsibilities was to successfully 'keep alive' existing projects while at the same time initiate both new national and international ones.

However, as the course proceeded, Gizem realized that one of the main attributes she was going to take away from the program was that it had instilled her with a passion for knowledge, research and teaching. This was only to be further developed as Gizem was invited by University academics to share her experiences and knowledge with both themselves and their students. It was these developments in conjunction with her desire to establish and improve the Turkish sport culture that led her to the decision to follow the career path of Academia and become a teacher. Currently, Gizem's time is taken up by undertaking scientific research, preparing for an examination to enable her to become an academic and responding to various job offers from Turkish Universities.

IOC Olympic Education Commission and IOC Culture & Olympic Heritage Commission

In November 2015, Prof. Dr. Norbert Müller and Prof. Dr. Stephan Wassong attended the meetings of the IOC Culture & Olympic Heritage Commission and the IOC Olympic Education Commission respectively. With the IOC Culture & Olympic Heritage Commission, chaired by Lambis V. Nikolaou, meeting taking place at the end of the month and the IOC Olympic Education Commission, chaired by Sir Philipp Craven, meeting at the beginning. Following the meetings, the objectives and subsequent mission statements for both commissions were determined and are currently displayed on the International Olympic Committee website:

<http://www.olympic.org/ioc>



Conference Report South Africa



From 30th November to 2nd December 2015, the GSU's Olympic Studies Centre and the University of Johannesburg organized the Conference *Historical and Contemporary Issues in Olympic Studies* in Johannesburg. The Conference was an outcome of the cooperation between the two institutions that aims for the establishment and development of an

Olympic Studies Centre at the University of Johannesburg. This Centre is the first one in Africa and therefore adopts a pioneering role in the distribution of the Olympic values and Olympic education.

Prof. André Swart, Dean of the Faculty of Health Sciences of the University of Johannesburg, and Prof. Cora Burnett, Head of the Olympic Studies Centre at the University of Johannesburg, opened the Conference during an official function. On this occasion, Prof. Dr. Stephan Wassong, Director of the Olympic Studies Centre Cologne, gave a special address in which he stressed the need for the new Centre to create links with international scholars and academic institutions within the field of Olympic Studies. The Conference presented a first opportunity for this.

The academic panels were launched by Dr. Sam Ramsamy, IOC Member in South Africa, and Gideon Sam, President of the South African Sports Confederation and Olympic Committee. Both of them stressed the necessity to establish an Olympic Studies Centre in South Africa to serve the entire African continent. Moreover, Nuria Puig from the IOC Olympic Studies Centre in Lausanne illustrated the entire global network of Olympic Studies Centres.

Prof. Ian Culpan (University of Canterbury, New Zealand), Prof. Benoit Seguin (University of Ottawa, Canada), Dr. Sam Ramsamy, Prof. Ian Ritchie (Brock University, Canada) and Prof. Cora Burnett gave the keynote presentations of the panel sessions. The panels accommodated perspectives on the educational significance of the Olympic Movement, aspects of the organisation of the Olympic Games, challenge to the IOC in its attempt to safeguard the Olympic Idea and the special situation of the Olympic Movement

on the African continent. In total, twenty speakers from thirteen countries contributed with presentations to the panels.

Prof. Dr. Stephan Wassong, Dr. Ansgar Molzberger and Dr. Jörg Krieger represented the GSU's Olympic Studies Centre at the Conference. In his presentation, Prof. Dr. Stephan Wassong illustrated the growing importance of "Sport For All" activities of the IOC. Dr. Ansgar Molzberger presented the archive of the Olympic Studies Centre Cologne and highlighted research possibilities for international scholars. Dr. Jörg Krieger focused on the role of scientists as key agents in the Olympic fight against doping.

Publications - GSU

Pierre de Coubertin and the Future

On 24th and 25th January 2014, in celebration of the Jubilee year of Baron Pierre de Coubertin's 150th anniversary (born 1st January 1863) the Comité International Pierre de Coubertin (CIPC) held its third symposium – *Symposium Pierre de Coubertin and the Future*. The belated date was selected to follow Francis Gabet's (Director of The Olympic Foundation for Culture and Heritage) wishes, namely to use the renovated Olympic Museum as a congress venue. Accordingly, the event was found to be a great success with 111 participants attending from 31 countries.

The symposium saw speakers from a variety of diverse backgrounds hold talks on the relevance of Coubertin's 1894 educational basis for the Olympic Movement today. It was this topic that inspired the articles submitted by the Symposium's participants to be published in *Pierre de Coubertin and the Future*, edited by Stephan Wassong, Norbert Müller and Jean-Loup Chappelet. Whilst not all of the applications could be included in the publication, the book saw a diverse range of authors presenting their views on how Coubertin's teachings are still of great relevance.

Stephan Wassong - Norbert Müller - Jean-Loup Chappelet



Pierre de Coubertin and the Future
CIPC - Symposium Lausanne
24th - 25th January 2014

AGON

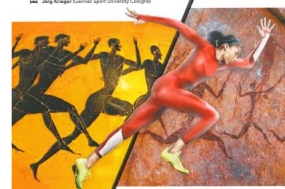
Historical and Contemporary Issues in Olympic Studies

Since 1st October 2014, the GSU's Olympic Studies Centre has been working in cooperation with the Faculty of Health Sciences at the University of Johannesburg aiming to develop and establish the first Olympic Studies Centre in Africa. To accomplish this goal, numerous activities have taken place, including the Conference *Historical and Contemporary Issues in Olympic Studies* on 30th November to 2nd December 2015 - (see Conference Report South Africa) – for which an adjacent book, edited by Cora Burnett, Stephan Wassong, Kobus Roux and Jörg Krieger, was published.

The publication, which contains the contributions of all panel and keynote speakers of the conference (including the above mentioned editors), covers a wide range of topics on the theme of the conference from differing perspectives. Comprising 4 sections and 15 articles, the book gives valuable insights deepening our understandings of: *Olympic Education* -

Historical and Contemporary Issues
in Olympic Studies

Editors
Cora Burnett (University of Johannesburg)
Stephan Wassong (German Sport University Cologne)
Kobus Roux (University of Johannesburg)
Jörg Krieger (German Sport University Cologne)



Deutscher
Sportbund Köln
German Sport University Cologne

UNIVERSITY
JOHANNESBURG

Values and Culture, Governance of Olympic Sport – Actors, Developments and Trends, Contemporary Challenges of the Olympic Movement and the Olympic Movement in Africa. On a side note, this book signifies the value of the collaborative work undertaken by the partnership and the importance of its original aim – to bring Olympic Education to Africa through the University of Johannesburg.

Symposium of the Olympic Studies Centres

Symposium of the Olympic Studies Centres



Following the success of the 1st International Colloquium of Olympic Studies Centres, which took place at Loughborough University in 2012, it was decided that the event was to be held quadrennially and should be associated with the Summer Olympic host city or country.

This means that it is now Brazil's turn, with the Pontifícia Universidade Católica do Rio Grande do Sul, through its Olympic Studies Research Group, playing host to the second edition in Porto Alegre City. The colloquium will be held on 2nd and 3rd August 2016 and the themes to be discussed have already been pre-determined from matters risen in 2012. However, there is still additional room to surface current topics and pressing matters related to on-going studies within and in cooperation between the Olympic Studies Centres.

Preparations for the Colloquium are well underway with the formation of the respective committees and the development of a preliminary schedule - the full programme is to be announced on 16th May 2016. Chairing the Organising Committee is Prof. Nelson Schneider Todt with Prof. Steven Wassong aiding via providing continuity between the Colloquium's successive editions as chair of the Steering Group. Both are also members of the Scientific Committee alongside Ian Henry (Loughborough University), Lamartine DaCosta (Universidade do Estado do Rio de Janeiro) and Otávio Tavares (Universidade Federal do Espírito Santo).

The two day Colloquium already consists of a variety of topics to be discussed, with Lamartine DaCosta, Brazil, being the upcoming keynote speaker presenting on the topic *The Future of Sports Mega-Events - Innovations for After the 2014 Fifa World Cup and the 2016 Olympic and Paralympic Games*. However, the submission deadline for papers is yet to close and possible new entries could be accepted into the schedule – **deadline February 2016**.

For more information please go to:
<http://eventos.pucrs.br/oscs2016/>

Symposium Social Media Management in the Global Sport



Centre d'Estudis Olímpics
Universitat Autònoma de Barcelona

Academics from the University of Southern California, the Sorbonne Nouvelle-Paris III and the Autonomous University of Barcelona (UAB), along with representatives of sports organizations such as the International Olympic Committee (IOC) and ACB.com, recently gathered to analyse the phenomenon of social networks in the world of sports. The International Symposium on *The Management of Social Networks in Sport: Organizations, Athletes and Brands* was held on 11th and 12th November at UAB's Faculty of Communication Sciences, and led by its Centre for Olympic Studies.



The MOOC Course the Olympic Games and the Media Achieve More than 10,000 Students

What are the Olympic Games? [1/5]

- 10,500 athletes.
- More than 200 countries competing.
- 28 sports in Summer Olympics.
- 7 sports in Winter Olympics.



Fireworks in the Olympic rings during the 2008 Winter Olympics opening ceremony in Turin



The Olympic Games and the Media Massive Open Online Course (MOOC), organized by the CEO-UAB and delivered via the Coursera platform – the most important platform of open online courses in the world – has now come to an end, after successfully uniting over 10,000 learners from 140 different countries. The Olympic Games and Media MOOC is now preparing its next edition in the lead up to the Rio Olympics 2016.

Project on Legacy Management for the Mediterranean Games Tarragona 2017

This year, CEO-UAB has been working on the implementation of the *Strategic Table for Economic Revitalization and Reactivation of Employment through Opportunities for Legacy of the Mediterranean Olympics of Tarragona 2017*. The aim is to create a space to think about and define the Games' legacy strategy, based on cooperation and innovation among the public and private institutions involved in the event. A Strategic Plan for the Legacy of the *Mediterranean Games Tarragona 2017* will be the result of this work, and will serve as a roadmap for the coming years. This project is an initiative of the Ajuntament de Tarragona and Fundació Tarragona 2017, through Tarragona Impulsa, and is jointly funded by the Servei d'Ocupació de Catalunya as part of its Programes de suport al desenvolupament local and the Fons Social Europeu as part of its Programa Operatiu de l'objectiu d'Inversió en Creixement i Ocupació dels FSE.



Olympic Values at School

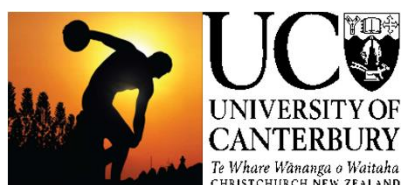
The Catalan edition of the *International Olympic Committee's Teaching Values: an Olympic Education Kit* is available for the entire educational community in Catalonia, thanks to the support of the Secretariat General of Sports of the Generalitat of Catalonia. The manual is aimed at school teachers in Catalonia to be used as reference material to promote Olympic values and sport among students aged 8 to 18 years.

Report compiled by Prof. Emilio Fernandez, Pena of the CEO-UAB, Spain.



OSC Canterbury – News

NZCOS and the GSU



The GSU's Olympic Studies Centre and the New Zealand Centre for Olympic Studies (NZCOS), University of Canterbury, New Zealand have agreed to cooperate and work together in their areas of mutual interest concerning teaching, research and dissemination of scholarly works relating to Olympic Studies with a particular focus on Olympic education

and its historical, socio-cultural and pedagogical aspects. This agreement aligns with the NZCOS Mission of fostering the critical understanding of Olympism and the Olympic Movement, particularly as this understanding may contribute to the enrichment of the human experience. Some of our recent academic activities in 2015 are listed below.

Porritt Memorial Lecture

On 30th November 2015, the NZCOS held the 11th *Porritt Memorial Lecture* to recognise and celebrate the contribution that The Lord Porritt made to the Olympic Movement both here in New Zealand and worldwide. The Lord Porritt was an Olympian, a bronze medallist in the famous Paris 1924 100metre race immortalised in the film *Chariots of Fire*. He was also an IOC member and on the executive board for 10 years. He was the first chairman of the IOC Medical Commission, a surgeon to the British Royal Family for 30 years and the Governor General of New Zealand for five.



This year the *Porritt Memorial Lecture* was attended by 52 delegates and delivered by Dr. Kirsten Petrie, University of Waikato, NZ. Dr. Petrie's topic was *Olympic/ism Education, Physical Education and Children's Sport: What is Most Important and Therefore Where Should We Focus Our Energies*. As is the custom, the Porritt Memorial Lecture was immediately followed by the NZCOS Seminar where Panel Members explore and debate academic aspects of the lecture in order to critically examine its content.

Olympic University Symposium

Another recent activity of the NZCOS was co-hosting, with the New Zealand Olympic Committee (NZOC), a University Symposium for invited delegates from New Zealand universities to identify and discuss research needs focused on Olympic education in physical education/teacher education and in NZ Schools. This Symposium was chaired by Prof. Ian Culpan, Director of the NZCOS.

NZOC Research Grant

Suzie Stevens, a PhD student at the NZCOS and Prof. Ian Culpan received a research grant from the NZOC and are conducting research into what NZ physical education graduate teachers know and understand about Olympism. This project, due to be completed in December 2015, will provide baseline data for the future development of Olympism education in NZ.

Teaching Olympic Education

The NZCOS, through Prof. Ian Culpan, in collaboration with Prof. Roland Naul (Germany), Prof. Deanna Binder (Canada) and Prof. Antonín Rychtecky (Czech Republic) have a contract with Routledge Books to produce an International book on Olympic Education. The title of this edited book is *Teaching Olympic Education: An International Review* is due for publication in 2016.

M.A. Olympic Studies Continuation

The NZCOS, via an invitation by Prof. Wassong, GSU Olympic Studies Centre, continue to teach in the international M.A. Olympic Studies programme. This is the second year that the NZCOS has been involved and the Centre is keen to ensure that more Southern Hemisphere students take up this excellent post-graduate opportunity.

Thoughts on OSC Johannesburg

In December 2015, the University of Johannesburg established a Centre for Olympic Studies. The NZCOS took great honour in getting the opportunity to participate in this occasion. The NZCOS wants to wish the University of Johannesburg best wishes for the future and looks forward to cooperating with it on matters of mutual interest.

Report compiled by Prof. Ian Culpan, Director of the NZCOS, University of Canterbury, NZ.

Dates

31.01.2016	Application deadline for the 5 th intake
28.02.2016 - 05.03.2016	Module week 4 th intake (Cologne/GSU)
02.08.2016 - 03.08.2016	Symposium of the Olympic Studies Centres