Greetings and Happy New Year everyone! This is the first issue of the ISSA E-Bulletin for 2006.

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1. New ISSA www page:

The new ISSA web page is now available at: http://www.issa.otago.ac.nz
We have taken on board a lot of feedback from members and wish to continue to do so in order to improve the overall quality of what ISSA can offer its members. Eventually we hope to provide a complete list of all national Sociology of Sport Associations, list of members and their research interests and to help facilitate collaborative research projects. There is still some fine tuning to do but we hope this is a good start. Please feel free to send your comments to me at: sjackson@pooka.otago.ac.nz


Tango. Soccer. Cafe Tortoni. These are some of the things delegates will likely remember the most about Buenos Aires. It all seems to have happened a long time ago now but only a few months ago we were anxiously awaiting details about the conference. In the end the conference proceeded and there were some very good
sessions. The conference was not without its challenges including a national airline/airport strike the day before the conference started. ISSA wishes to thank the local organisers along with all the participants for their patience, understanding, sense of adventure, good spirit and good company throughout the congress. We are pleased to note that ISSA was successful in obtaining support funding from both ICSSPE and ISA to help support the attendance of some of our South American colleagues. For those who missed the conference the program listing all sessions, speakers and papers is available at: [http://www.issa.otago.ac.nz/congress/2005a.html](http://www.issa.otago.ac.nz/congress/2005a.html) (look under Congress Timetable”).

3. Inaugural ISSA Graduate Scholar Paper Award:

2005 marked the introduction of the inaugural ISSA Graduate Scholar Paper Award. Chair of the GPSA, Dr. Elizabeth Pike presented the award to Simon Darnell (U of Toronto) for his paper: “Race and Knowledge Production within the Global Sport Development Project” in Argentina. Given the limited space available for papers at the 2006 ISA conference the ISSA Executive has decided to award the next GPSA at the next ISSA conference which will be held in Copenhagen in 2007. The 2005 selection committee included: Elizabeth C.J. Pike (Chair, UK) Cora Burnett Louw (South Africa); and Kimberly S. Schimmel (United States). The award winner received EU500, a year’s membership in ISSA and will have his submission considered for publication in IRSS.


The ISSA Scientific Committee has completed its review process and all members whose papers have been accepted will be notified shortly. ISSA is happy to advise that due to an increase in ISA/RC27 membership we were able to secure some additional sessions on the program. We now have 11 sessions including a shared session on violence with RC42 (Social Psychology). We are currently working on a recommendation for a hotel in Durban and will advise in the very near future.

5. ISSA 2007: Copenhagen, Denmark. Planning is already underway for the 4th World Congress of Sociology of Sport (in conjunction with the International Sport History Association) "Sport in a Global World; Past, Present & Future” which will be held in August in Copenhagen, Denmark. Details about the submission of abstracts, registration etc. will be available later this year.

6. Note from IRSS Editor, Peter Donnelly

A number of people have indicated that they have experienced communication problems with the Editor of IRSS over the past year. The matter was discussed at the Executive and Editorial Board meetings in Argentina and the Editor explained that the main problem was due to an overhaul of the University of Toronto’s internet system which resulted in the loss of many e-mail messages. At this time the Editor would like to encourage anyone who has not received an expected communication to contact him for an update. An overwhelming number of submissions in 2004 and 2005 has also resulted in a much slower than average review process. The Editor can be reached at: peter.donnelly@utoronto.ca
7. Search for new IRSS editor. As some of you will know Peter Donnelly’s term as Editor of IRSS ends in December, 2006. At the 2005 Executive Board meeting in Argentina it was agreed that the search for a new editor would begin immediately in order to facilitate the transition. ISSA expects to announce the new editor mid-2006.

8. Award for ISSA president Gertrud Pfister, ICSSPE president Gudrun Doll-Tepper and her Team for the Advancement of Women

On Thursday, 19 January 2006, ICSSPE Gertrud Pfister Gudrun Doll-Tepper and her science team were granted the 2005 Margherita-von-Brentano-Preis, worth 11,000 EUR the highest remunerated award for projects and activities for the advancement of women in Germany. By presenting this award the Free University honours the research project, conducted over many years, on women in voluntary leadership positions in German sport. The starting point for this study for Prof. Dr. Gertrud Pfister, Prof. Dr. Gudrun Doll-Tepper, Sabine Radtke, Claudia Biskup, Heike Plath, Doris Kula, Dorothea Muth and other participants, were the very low proportion of women in prominent positions in federations and clubs. Although 40% of members in these sport organisations are women, only 15% of them hold a leading position. In his speech Berlin's Minister of Sport Klaus Böger reminded the audience that the participation of women in leadership of sports is even lower than in politics. In the project promoted by the Federal Ministry for Family, Seniors, Women and Youth, the research team looked for possible causes for the low representation and examined the situation of those women, who were in a prominent position. "In addition it was interesting for us to determine where the leadership potential lies, and we found this in particular amongst former sportswomen and elite athletes," explained Gudrun Doll-Tepper in her speech during the ceremony in the Henry-Ford-Bau at the Free University. "We were not only interested in how to reach the top successfully but also how to stay at the top and to minimise the number of drop-outs". Therefore in the practical part of the project, the team developed suitable measures together with the National Olympic Committee of Germany and the German Sports Confederation on the basis of their results to increase the proportion of women.

9. Current books for review for IRSS

IRSS regularly publishes book reviews. For a list of current books that are available to review please look at the issa www site under “Journal” then Books to review.

10. Forthcoming Conferences:


B. 11th Annual Congress of the European College of Sport Science, 5 - 8 July 2006, Lausanne, Switzerland.
Deadline for abstracts is March 15.
More information is available at: http://www.ecss2006.com/HTML/Welcome.htm


E. The University of Otago 41st annual Foreign Policy School will be held in Dunedin, New Zealand from 23-26 June, 2006. This year’s theme is “Sport and Foreign Policy in a Globalising World” and will feature a range of world class speakers including: Andrew Jennings, Susan Brownell, Bruce Kidd, David Black, Peter Donnelly and Joseph Maguire. Any ISSA members who may be in the neighbourhood are invited to join us. Further information is available at: http://www.otago.ac.nz/otagofps or you can contact co-Director Steve Jackson at sjackson@pooka.otago.ac.nz

11. Extreme Culture/ Extreme Bodies

Call for Abstracts, Chapters, and Short Proposals – Deadline: Feb.15, 2006

Since the 1990s, "extreme" has become part of the mainstream cultural vocabulary. The American public eagerly consumes extreme cuisine, wears extreme deodorant ("energy-scented"), watches extreme television shows like Fear Factor, drives oversized extreme vehicles, practices extreme sports and signs up for extreme adventure vacations involving bungee jumping, "high falls," and "fire burns." Extreme body modification, both normative (as exemplified on the television shows Extreme Makeover and The Swan) and non-normative, has been subsumed into the mainstream media, as a form of entertainment and a marketing scheme. These carefully conceived mediated products effectively push boundaries, challenging our conceptions of beauty, deviancy, human pain thresholds, humiliation, entertainment, and leisure. Within this context, it appears that people who want to stand out have been driven to push the extreme to the extreme. Although the roots of extreme culture are counter-cultural, does the extreme body offer a way to resist the standardized, homogeneous, pre-packaged fakeness of consumer society? The editors of Extreme Culture/Extreme Bodies seek papers on all themes exploring the body, identity, and consumption within the context of extreme culture. Both theoretical and empirical studies are invited from sociological, cultural studies, media studies, and feminist perspectives. Suggested submission topics include, but are not limited to the following themes: Recent trends in cosmetic surgery, The body within the context of extreme sports, Non-normative or subcultural body modification practices, -The body as an artistic medium, Expressions of the extreme body in advertising and popular media, Embodiment within cyberspace. Theoretical perspectives on postmodernity, identity, and the body006. Chapters must be submitted in Microsoft Wordformat, 12 point font, double spaced. Essays should be in the range of 7500 - 10,000 words with references in ASA style. We will also consider abstracts and shorter proposals. Include a cv with your submission.Send submissions and inquiries to kosut@purchase.edu andbache461@newschool.edu
12. Positions Available

2 Positions Available at Durham, University, UK

(1) Chair
Sociology of Sport
Sport and Social Policy
Durham University
Closing date: 14 February 2006
Full details are available at:
http://jobs.ac.uk/jobfiles/JG483.html

(2) Senior Lecturer or Reader
Sociology of Sport
Sport and Social Policy
Durham University
Closing date: 14 February 2006
Full details are available at:
http://jobs.ac.uk/jobfiles/JG484.html