

Report from the activities of the IASK Presidium in the years 2003-2005-09-01

by
Włodzimierz Starosta

Ladies and Gentlemen! Dear Friends – members of IASK!

I am delighted I can welcome you again. This time in one of the most beautiful resorts in Europe. We have been waiting for this meeting not 2 years, as usual, but 4 years. But as one of the saying goes “*The world belongs to those armed with patience*”. The organiser of the 9th consecutive “*Sport Kinetics*” Conference is the oldest university in the world “*Alma Mater Bologna*”, founded nearly 10 centuries ago, in 1088, and precisely its recently launched Faculty of Movement Science. It is a great honour for all of us to be the guests –of the outside faculty of the Rimini University, which has such a long tradition.

Two years have passed since our meeting in the Polish Royal castle in Rydzyna. The Conference was a remarkable event in the life of IASK. Members from 19 European, American and Asian countries attended and presented a total of 184 works. In this report I shall focus on the last two-year-long period, and I will devote some time to the development of IASK since its establishment on 28th April 1990. **In 2005 we celebrated the 15th anniversary of IASK’s existence and on 29th November 2006 fifteen years will have passed since IASK’s official registration.** In the life of an international organisation it is rather a short time. We still belong to the youngest Associations in the world. From the perspective of those jubilees, we may state with satisfaction that IASK carries out properly its set objectives and especially the most important one – **integration of the ever increasing number of experts on human kinesiology and on sport kinesiology, not only from Eastern but also Western Europe. Its prestige and recognition rises on the international arena.**

The following have worked in the Presidium of IASK: W.Starosta (president), P.Blaser, T. Jurimae, D. Milanowic, T. Reilly (vice-presidents), W. Osinski (general secretary), K. Aniol-Strzyzewska (treasurer), A.Hokelmann, T. Polja-

kowa, W.Ljach, S.Squatrito (members). Control Commission: Dr. R.Szeklicki, prof.prof. J.Wolf-Cvitak, F.Merni.

Members

Numbers confirm the considerable quantitative development of IASK. In 1990 we had 37 members. Two years later we had already 330 and at present there are ~~362~~ of them. In the last 2 years 32 members have enrolled. Among them are outstanding professors: **N. Wolanski** (Poland-Mexico), T.Lopez (Mexico), W.Poliszczuk (Ukraine-Poland), A. Stasch (Germany), M. Szestakow (Russia). **I cordially welcome all the new members to our continuously expanding family.** We count on their activity for their own and for the IASK's sake. The substantial increase in the number of members has taken place despite the Presidium's strategy to raise requirements. **Only full professors are entitled to free admission. Other members have to demonstrate special scientific achievements in order to become candidates,** and only after a year of being on the waiting list and after having their scientific output positively evaluated they may become full members (Dr habil. E. Szczepanowska) has been positively qualified and I have now the pleasure to hand in her membership card).

We look forward to expanding the reach of IASK by acquiring new members from **Western Europe** (i.e. **Belgium, Denmark, Spain, Portugal, Sweden**), and also from other parts of the world (**South America, Asia, Africa, Australia, Oceania**). We have strengthened our position in several countries (among others: Germany, Russia, Slovakia, Poland, Ukraine), however in some only few new members have appeared (Japan, Canada, Mexico, Israel). Too few members of IASK, including the Presidium (K.Aniol-Strzyzewska, W.Ljach, W.Osinski, W.Starosta) are in charge of this task.

We have National Sections of IASK in 7 countries. In the last 2 years the Section in Russia has been reactivated. Our aim should be the acquisition of leading experts of kinetics from countries which have no representation yet. **Who should acquire them?** Each of us and particularly the members of the Presidium. We are happy when new members appear, at the same time it saddens us when they leave. We bid farewell forever to: the member of honour of IASK, Doctor honoris causa, an extraordinary pedagogue and scientist – Prof. **Roman Trzesniowski**; creator and long-term chief editor of the “*Journal of Human Kinetics*”; outstanding anthropologist, geneticist, specialist in human kinetics – Prof. **Jan Szopa**; eminent specialist in sport anthropology, Doctor honoris causa – Prof. **Zbigniew Drozdowski**; Prof. **Reinhard Daugs** – distin-

guished expert in the theory of movement teaching, former vice-president of IASK. **Lets' pay them honours with one minute of silence.**

International Scientific Conferences (table 1)

The number of conferences organised under the auspices of IASK rises continuously. Within the period of **15 years**, our members have organised **42 international scientific conferences**, out of which most of them have been held in: Belorussia, Croatia, Czechoslovakia, Czech Republic, Poland, Slovakia, Slovenia, the **remaining 9 have been organised in Germany and 2 in Italy**. It is regrettable that some of them **have not been announced clearly as IASK Conferences**. Record holders in this area have been Professors: P. Hirtz, W. Osinski, M. Belej. This incomplete statistics illustrates high activity of the IASK members. **I am wholeheartedly grateful to all the active members and cordially encourage others to follow them.** I am exceptionally thankful, to those members, who have organised scientific conferences in the years 2003-2005:

- Prof. **B. Blaser** and Prof. **A. Hoekelman** from the University of Magdeburg who on 13-14. 10. 2003 organised a seminar entitled **"Sport Theory Supports Practice"** in Osterburg (Germany), in which 55 people from 12 countries participated (Croatia, Egypt, Czech Republic, Canada, Germany, Poland, Russia, Italy, Ukraine, Hungary, UK, USA). 45 papers were presented. The seminar was organised under the auspices of IASK in German and English, which was not mentioned in the published monograph.
- Prof. **J. Sadowski** organised on the 29-30.05.2005 a third subsequent conference dealing with an exceptionally important problem of **"Motor coordination abilities in scientific investigations"**. 75 persons from 8 countries (Belorussia, Croatia, Japan, Poland, Russia, Slovakia, Ukraine, Italy) who presented 56 papers participated in the venue. Conference materials were published in a form of a monograph which accounts for the 20th volume in the IASK'S library. The conference, just as the two preceding ones, was held under the patronage of IASK. The staff of the outside Faculty of Physical Education from the Warsaw PE Academy in Biala Podlaska were the organisers of the conference.
- Prof. **D. Milanowic** and Prof. **F. Prot** organized in Opatija (Croatia) on the 7-11 September 2005, the fifth international scientific conference : **"Science and profession - challenge for future"**. The Faculty of Kinesiology of the University in Zagreb in co-operation with the Faculty of Sport from the University in Ljubljana were the organisers of the conference. The conference was held under the patronage of the Croatian Academy of Science and Arts. **230** people from **26** countries attended the conference. Very close

dates of both conferences, the one in Opatija and in Rimini, forced many potential participants to choose one of them, thus diminishing the number of participants in each of them. Only few could afford to attend both conferences. In the future we should try to avoid such situations, the more so that the organisers are members of the Presidium of the same Association.

Traditionally, on behalf of IASK, I shall thank all those involved for their courage, activity, enormous effort put into the preparation and efficient organisation of the conference, and I will hand in those, who have not received yet, symbolic diploma as a token of our gratitude and recognition.

Now a few words about our future.

- On 15-17.09.2006 in **Rydzyzna near Leszno** (Poland) Prof. **W. Osinski** is organising an international scientific conference entitled : **“Aging and Physiological Activity 2006: Application to Fitness, Sport and Health”**. The conference will take place as the **“8. Sport Kinetics 2003”** in the castle of the Polish princes and kings, under the patronage of IASK and the Committee of Rehabilitation, Physical Culture and Social Integration of the Polish Academy of Science. The organiser of the conference will be the Academy of Physical Education in Poznan and the State Higher Vocational School in Leszno.
- On 10-14.09.2006 in **Gdansk** (Poland) Prof. **J. Czerwinski** is organizing the 10th International Scientific Congress: **“Modern Olympic Sport and Sport for All”** under the patronage of honour of **Lech Walesa and Jacques Rogge**. The Academy of Physical Education in Gdansk will be the organiser of the conference. As one of the co-organisers, I encourage you to take part in the congress and to visit the cradle of **“Solidarity”** and the centre of the bloodless Polish revolution which spurred the collapse of communism.
- In December 2005 in Magdeburg (Germany), Prof. **A. Hoekelmann** organises an international Workshop on the subject of: **“Public Health”**.

Though the conference **“9. Sport Kinetics 2005”** in Rimini has just started, we already wonder: **where the next jubilee “10. Sport Kinetics 2007” will take place?** For a long time our members from the Faculty of Sport and Physical Education of the University in Belgrade, and especially the most active of them – Prof. B.Jevtic – have intended to host it.

Table 1

*Major importance scientific international conferences organised under the auspices of
International Association of Sport Kinetics
in years 1990-2005*

No	Year	Name of conferences	Number of authors	Number of papers	Number of countries	Number of participants
1.	1990	„Bewegungskoordination im Sport” “1. Sport Kinetics” [Rogi-Gorzów., Poland]	42	35	5	over 60
2.	1991	”2. Sport Kinetics ’91” [Olomouc, Czechoslovakia]	120	69	9	84
3.	1992	”Selected aspects of sport kinetics” [Brest, Belarus]	51	39	5	ca. 75
4.	1993	”3. Sport Kinetics ’93” [Poznan, Poland]	155	102	11	105
5.	1993	“Physical education under new social condition” [Prešov, Slovakia]	85	69	6	ca. 80
6.	1995	“Science in sport team games” [Biala Podlaska, Poland]	94	67	11	76
7.	1995	”4.Sport Kinetics ’95” [Prague, Czech Rep.]	176	98	12	123
8.	1996	„Bewegungskoordination & sportliche Leistung integrativ betrachtet” [Zinnowitz – Usedom, Germany]	76	48	6	over100
9.	1996	“Physical development and motor performance of children and youth” [Prešov, Slovakia]	160	100	7	ca. 100
10.	1997	”Theories of Human Motor Performance and their Reflections in Practice” “5.Sport Kinetics’97” [Magdeburg, Germany]	150	135	16	ca. 210
11.	1998	”Movement Coordination in Team Sport Games and Martial Arts ’98” [Biala Podlaska, Poland]	92	75	9	ca 100
12.	1998	”Physical Education and Health of Students and Youth at the Boundary of Centuries” [Minsk, Belarus]	226	105	12	over 100

13.	1999	"Theories of Human Motor Performance and their Reflection in Practice" "6. Sport Kinetics '99" [Lubljana, Slovenia]	ca 300	185	19	ca. 150
14.	2001	"Human Movement as a Science in the New Millennium" "7. Sport Kinetics '2001" [Tartu, Estonia]	132	123	22	over 150
15.	2001	„The role of Physical Education and Sport in Transition Countries of Central Europe” [Brno, Czech Republik]			6	128
16.	2003	"New ideas in sport sciences: current issues and perspectives" "8. Sport Kinetics 2003" [Rydzyzna, Poland]	253	153	24	ca. 180
17	2005	"Scientific Fundaments of Human Movement and Sport Practice" "9. Sport Kinetics 2005" [Rimini, Italy]	600	300	32	292

The work of the Presidium in the years 2003-2005

The activities of the Presidium have focused on the following issues:

- (1). Developing co-operation between members of IASK from the West and East.
- (2). **Promoting the principle of different conference fees for participants from the East and West , thus taking into account their unequal social status.**
- (3). Ensuring high scientific level of the international conferences organised under the auspices of IASK.
- (4). Expanding the reach of IASK by gaining members from new countries.
- (5). Attaching importance to the high level of IASK journals: **"Journal of Human Kinetics"** and **"Antropomotoryka"** and inviting authors who deal with original subjects.
- (6). Seeking sponsors for persons from poor countries who would wish to attend conferences organised under the auspices of IASK.
- (7). Maintaining good contacts with other international organisations (i.e. ICSSPE) and informing them about scientific events organised by us.
- (8). **Taking care of the development of young scientists by, among others, organising competitions and awarding best works.**
- (9). Publishing scientific work related to human kinetics and specifically to sport kinetics in renown journals.
- (10). **Exposing research work connecting theory with practice.**
- (11). Developing international co-operation between scientists from different coun-

tries of the world, in the field of interdisciplinary research. **(12). Increasing the number of monographs which compose the IASK Library and maintaining proper proportions between the theory and practice.** (13). Defining the place of movement in the system of studies about sport. (14). Supplying important information about the activities of IASK on the internet site and in bulletins and electronic journals of international reach, as well as in various publications.

The activities of the members of the Presidium differed. Most of the work was carried out through e-mail, however some obstacles appeared. Some of the members responded to every 3-4 e-mails or to none at all. The most active members include Professors: **S. Squatrito, W. Osinski, P. Blaser**. Prof. P. Blaser was the founder member of IASK and for 10 years its vice-president. He organised the wonderful and unforgettable in many aspects, record conference **“5. Sport Kinetics 1997” in Magdeburg**; created and ran the **IASK internet web-site** for many years. Today, with sorrow, we say goodbye to him but we hope he will support us in a different way (**annex 1, laudatio – Prof. P. Hirtz**).

In some reports, members proposed organising meetings of the Presidium in between the conferences *“Sport Kinetics”* and offering stronger support to young researchers, however they did not suggest: *Who would finance both the meetings and the support?* The more so that **the work of the secretariat is based on the work of volunteers**. High fees of IASK as the member of ICSSPE are covered voluntarily by Prof. A. Stasch (from Germany).

Many of the members of the Presidium: took part in the works of the Scientific Committees (T. Reilly, W. Starosta) of various international conferences, as well as co-operated in their organisation (T. Jurimae, T. Reilly, W. Osinski, W. Starosta), presented papers of introduction and those commissioned, published not only experimental works, but also original textbooks and monographs (D. Milanovic, W. Osinski, W. Starosta). **The efficiency of the Presidium would be much higher, if all its members took part in it. Therefore, it is essential to clarify during today’s elections: who wants and who can devote much time to IASK?**

International co-operation

One of the very important aims of the activities of IASK was the initiation of international scientific co-operation. Such co-operation commenced in 1991. At first it was launched between the Institutes of Science on Sport in Greifswald and Dortmund and the Institute of Sport in Warsaw and Gorzów (Dortmund, Greifswald, Warsaw, Poznan, Gorzów). Later on the co-operation expanded and involved other countries and other university centers (Preszow, Kiev, Magdeburg, Minsk, Nikolayew, Zagreb, Charkow), and with less intensity it

has lasted until these days. Co-operation between such academic centres as: Olomouc, Katowice, Innsbruck, Greifswald, Bratislava and others has been developing.

It would be advisable to expand other forms of co-operation with other scientific centres from different countries of the world. However, it should not be in a form suggested by one of the members of the IASK Presidium that the board should concentrate specifically on the co-operation of one country with the other, which would mean in some cases, imposing unwanted co-operation on some centres. **Contemporary forms of co-operation are based mainly on the interest of some people from different centres in one specific subject,** or in analysing results of research obtained through identical methods but with the use of different material.

IASK Journals

The journal „**Antropomotoryka**” published in Polish since 1989, starting with issue no 20 has appeared in English and changed its title into “**Journal of Human Kinetics**”. It appears under the auspices of IASK and the Committee of Physical Culture of Polish Academy of Science. The journal was first published by the Academy of Physical Education in Cracow and since 2000 by the Physical Education Academy in Katowice. Its founder and chief editor was the indefatigable and full of energy - Prof. **J. Szopa** and his deputy was Prof. **W. Starosta**. Now a chief editor will be prof. **Z. Waskiewicz**. The Board and the Council of Editors consisted of a large group of members of IASK. They ensured high substantial level and the possibility of the journal to be **accepted in the future on the Philadelphia list**. Recently the journal has received higher scores (5 points) in the classifications of the Committee of Scientific Research in Poland. The Polish version of “*Antropomotoryka*” in the Cracow edition, starting with issue 22 has become an editorial sequel of the periodical. The Editorial Office headed by a young and efficient organizer – prof. **E. Mleczko** – has been reactivated. An Editorial Council consisting of scientists well known in Poland and abroad, was appointed. The journal appeared in Polish with abstracts in English, under the auspices of IASK and the Committee of Physical Culture of the Polish Academy of Science. Since 2005 it has been published as a quarterly. “**Kinesiologia Slovenica**” by the **Faculty of Sport- Institute of Kinesiology of the University of Ljubljana**, appears also under the auspices of IASK. It seems, **that the more high level periodicals published under the auspices of IASK are, the bigger are the chances of introducing one of them onto the Philadelphia list.**

Rights and obligations of the IASK members

Finally, the postulate mentioned during the conference in Rydzyna regarding the introduction of lower conference fees for IASK members, has been accepted. Such fees have been already introduced by the organizers of the conference in Rimini. I am extremely grateful to them for that. **Such principle should be applied at all conferences organised under the auspices of IASK. The fees should be lower by at least 10-20%.** It is urgent to elaborate a precise system of supporting IASK members, particularly coming from post-communist countries. In this respect enormous progress has been done. I will come back to that issue later in my report. **It is indispensable to find special financial resources from various national and international scientific foundations, Council of Europe. UNESCO, NATO, IOC and other non – governmental organizations.** This issue should be dealt with by 1-2 people from the Presidium, thus forming a special Commission.

In addition, we should **create a motivation system for young researchers.** A small step in this field has been already made. I mean by this contests for the best work by young scientists, who do not possess a Ph.D. title yet, and which should be organized during conferences "*Sport Kinetics*" and during cyclical conferences conducted under the auspices of IASK, among others the one in Poznan (Professors: S.Drozdowski, S.Strzelczyk, W.Osinski). These contests have a long lasting tradition, which should be continued, though it is advisable to improve their regulations and raise proper funds to finance the awards. **At the conference in Rimini, the cups for the best were founded by the President of IASK from his private resources. The contest at this conference will be run according to new regulations set up by Professors: W. Osinski and W. Starosta.** They introduce a considerable dose of objectivism and extend the number of people evaluating (**annex 2**). The International Contest Commission, headed by W.Osinski, will choose winners by following new criteria. A novelty in the regulation is the fact that **candidates apply to the contests themselves, taking into account the requirements set forth.**

IASK in other international organizations

Since 1997 we have been members of a huge and prestigious international organization called **International Council of Sport Science and Physical Education (ICSSPE)**. It attracts nearly 300 national and international scientific associations, sport federations, higher education establishments, governmental and non-governmental organizations. We took part in the election of the authorities of Council during the Pre-Olympic Congress in Brisbane (Australia) and in Thessaloniki (Greece). For some time we have been paying reduced fees. We

have good contacts with the Executive Committee of ICSSPE and full understanding of its president Prof. **G.Doll-Tepper**. This promises the strengthening of IASK. As a proof of it I was invited to be the member of the **International Advisory Board of the Pre-Olympic Congress in Thessaloniki in 2004**. However, I did not accept the invitation and did not attend the Congress in protest against the full asymmetry in the choice of invited speakers. **There were 70 of them, and none were from the East**, that is countries from the former Warsaw Treaty. Although the election in Thessaloniki took place without my participation, I was unanimously chosen to the Executive Committee and then I was entrusted the function of a Coordinator for Eastern Europe (also unanimously). No representative ever, not only from Poland, has been put in charge of such a high function. **This was a significant distinction for me but above all for IASK.**

On 7-9 August 2005 the first meeting of the Executive Committee of ICSSPE took place in Edmonton (Canada), for which, according to the accepted principles, I prepared a report from the hitherto activities (**annex 3**). Its main premise was the integration of scientists from the East and West, which is successfully carried out by IASK, but to a limited extent by other organisations. **This is possible thanks to the creation of the system of varying conference fees, which partly compensates differences in the social status of the participants. Scientists from the West, who are often paid 40- 50 times more for their work, pay also more for their participation in the conferences, as well as for IASK membership.** This enormous difference in the remuneration of scientists, have passed unnoticed in the last 25 years by the vast majority of organizers of international conferences. Respectively to these unjust regulations, **80-90% of participants** used to come from richer countries. **This was a specific way of comprehending equality and democracy.**

Such disproportion is still more visible among invited speakers, which often happens in Pre-Olympic congresses organized under the auspices of ICSSPE. **I suggested ICSSPE, as a huge organisation reminding UN in the field of science about sport and physical education, should accept the principles of IASK regarding varying conference fees for participants. The resolution was unanimously accepted by the Executive Committee and the Committee of Associations.** Further meetings were attended by representatives from the Chinese Republic – the organizers of the Pre-Olympic Congress in Beijing. At the request of those chairing the meetings, I have presented the principles applied in IASK. They were received with understanding and approved of. It is to be expected that as a result of these decisions, **varying fees will be used at different international conferences. The fact that the problem has never been ob-**

served in the entire post-war history remains astounding. It is the pride of IASK that since its very beginning it has applied principles driving at the elimination of “economic barriers”.

Library of International Association of Sport Kinetics (1990-2005)

No.	Author	Title	Year	Language
1.	W.Starosta	Movement coordination in sport	1990	Polish
2.	W.Starosta	Bewegungskoordination im Sport	1990	German
3.	W.Starosta, N.Pristupa	Selected aspects of Sport Kinetics	1993	Russian
4.	W.Osinski, W.Starosta	Proceedings of the 3 rd International Conference “Sport Kinetics ‘93”	1994	English, German
5.	J.Bergier	Science in sport team games	1995	German, Polish
6.	W.Starosta	Model of comprehensive motor education of Polish child in family	1995	English, Polish
7.	J.Sadowski, W.Starosta	Movement coordination in Team Sport Games and Martial Arts	1998	English
8.	V.Strojnik, A.Usaj	Theories of Human Motor Performance and their Reflections in Practice	1999	English
9.	W.Starosta, F.Merni, etc.	Motor Co-ordination in Sport and Exercise	2001	English, Italian
10.	W.Starosta, W.Strzyzewski	Ringo – Polish game for everyone	2001	Polish, English
11.	A.Skripko, W.Starosta	Physical Education and Health of Youth	2002	Russian, English
12.	R.Botwina, W.Starosta	Mental Support of athletes. Theory and Practice	2002	Polish
13.	M.Radzinska, W.Starosta	Significance, kinds, structure jumping abilities and its conditions	2002	Polish
14.	M.Bajdzinski, W.Starosta	Movements kinesthetic differentiation ability and its conditions	2002	Polish
15.	W.Starosta, W.Osinski	New Ideas in Sport Sciences – Current Issues and Perspectives – Part I and II	2003	English
16.	W.Starosta	Motor coordination abilities (significance, structure, conditions, development)	2003	Polish
17.	W.Starosta	Roller skating and skate board for every one (The way to fitness and health)	2004	Polish
18.	W.Starosta	Self-learning in ice skating (The way to fitness and health)	2005	Polish

19.	W.Starosta	Global and local motor coordination in physical education and sport – change ability and conditions	2005	Polish
20.	J.Sadowski	Motor coordination abilities in scientific research		English
21.	W.Starosta, S.Squatrito	Scientific fundaments of human movements and sport practice	2005	English

Attempt to conclude

Facts listed in the report confirm continuous development of IASK and its rising prestige in the international arena, though we are one of the youngest international organizations. Our records are highly estimated, not only because there are more of us, because our family is joined by outstanding scientists and because more and more conferences are organized by our members, but mainly because papers and works prepared by members of IASK and published in various journals show increasing value. These include the ones published in the “*Journal of Human Kinetics*” and “*Antropomotoryka*”. Our total output in this field is considerable. The output is supplemented by our organizational and other achievements within the last 2 years. Of no lesser importance is the creation of specialist **Library of IASK including already 19 titles of books published in 5 languages**. Within the Library there is a proper relation between theory and practice. It is likely that the conference materials from Rimini will account for the 21th title in the Library. I invite you to enrich the Library’s collection by publishing interesting materials of other authors, however, they should bear in mind that they have to cover the costs themselves, since IASK has no resources.

Since the beginning of IASK’s existence in 1990, its seat was located at the **Institute of Sport in Warsaw**. The conditions created by the director of the Institute, Prof. **R. Gruzca**, were extremely helpful and invaluable in the development of IASK’s activities in the international arena. He enabled the functioning of the secretary’s office and provided free of charge means of communication with members from 42 countries. On my and the IASK’s Presidium behalf, I would like to express our gratitude to him for his many year’s of help and kindness.

Facts mentioned in the report demonstrate the wide range of activities of the members of Presidium as well as of the members from other countries. For the sake of IASK’s further development it is necessary to choose members to the Presidium who have distinguished themselves by their outstanding activity

and who wish to continue being active. They may ensure higher efficiency and better development of IASK.

Every newly elected Presidium sets specific tasks and tries to realize them. However, Presidium acting on a charge free basis (frequently supported by volunteers, especially in the secretariat) is not able to solve everything. The newly elected Presidium will certainly expect assistance, propositions and advice from all members. **The success of IASK depends on the activity of every member. I shall await from you, dear Friends, even more activity and reflection: *What have I done so far, and what else can I do to strengthen and develop IASK?* It is our Association and each of us should make a point of doing something for its development.**