

REPORTS

REPORT FROM THE WORKS OF THE PRESIDIUUM OF THE INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF SPORT KINETICS DURING THE YEARS 1997-1999

by

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Ladies and Gentlemen,

Dear Friends,

It's my great pleasure to be able to greet you again, this time in this beautifully situated and picturesque capital of Slovenia – the historic city of Ljubljana. Two years have past since our General Assembly in Magdeburg. In my report I shall concentrate rather on that last period, though I intend also to say a few words about the course of the development of our Association from its very beginning, that is from its establishment on 28 of April 1990. This is justified, especially that on the 29th of November we will be celebrating our 8th anniversary of being in operation. In view of what we have achieved we can ascertain with definite satisfaction that our Association has achieved all its goals, among them the particularly important one, integration of experts in sport motorics, not only from Western and Eastern Europe.

The Presidium of the Association has been working with the following members: Dr.med. K. Anioł-Strzyżewska (treasurer), Prof.W. Starosta (president). Prof. prof.: P. Blaser, P. Hirtz, W.Ljach, K.Mekota (deputy presidents), Prof. W. Osiński (general secretary). The Control Commission was composed of Prof. Prof. M. Belej, R. Kovarz, R. Strzelczyk.

In my report I will focus on the most important issues.

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1. Members (Fig.1)

The numbers provide the evidence of the dynamic development of the Association. In 1991 (Olomouc) we had only 80 members, two years later (Poznań) there were –170, in 1995 (Prague) – 186, in 1997 (Magdeburg) –227, and now we have 260 members. In the last two years 33 members have enlisted. Most of them come from Poland (n=8), Croatia (4), Germany (3) and Russia (3). The substantial majority of the new members are professors including such great experts as: Prof. W. Zaciorski (Russia-USA), Prof. R. Malina (USA), Prof. T.Reilly (UK). This considerable rise in the number of new members took place despite the Presidium's strategy. The strategy concerned the quality of newly accepted members. Since 1993 we consistently care about the substantial level of our Association. This means that not everyone can be the member of the Association. Only professors have free access. All others, particularly those from countries in which we have National Sections, should be distinguishable by research achievements. Does this mean the association is exclusive? Yes.

At present, what we care most, is to extend the reach of the Association and to acquire members from other countries, especially from Western Europe : Belgium, Spain, Portugal, Greece, Sweden, Denmark. We are interested also in other parts of the world: South America, Asia, Africa, Australia, Oceania. There is much work to be done in order to achieve this goal. In the years 1995-1997 we managed to achieve a significant progress in this respect because we had new members enrolling in our Association coming from: Australia, Brazil, Italy, Croatia, Norway, Scotland, Bulgaria, India, Sri Lanka, USA. The geographical extent of the Association augmented significantly the (Fig.2). In the last two years the achievements were less spectacular. We have strengthen our position in 11 countries (Belarus, Croatia, Lithuania, Poland, Russia, Slovakia, Slovenia, Ukraine, USA, Italy), and only in one case a new member appeared (UK). It is regrettable that so few members of our Association, including those from the Presidium, are involved in these activities.

It is important to mention that in 10 countries we took the opportunity to establish National Branches of our Association. Lately, we have made attempts to open such Sections in Italy and Belarus. It is of extreme importance what kind of people we may recruit from countries where we don't have members yet. We should need outstanding experts in motorics. Apart from those mentioned above we have managed to gain some other famous experts in the subjects of: sports for the handicapped (Prof. J. Innenmoser, sport genetics (Prof. L. Sergienko), theory of sport training (chief editor of the international journal "Kinesiology" – Prof. D.Milanovic from Croatia), the presidents of the National Association of Kinesiology (Unione Nazionale Chinesiologi) and the chief editor of the "Chinesiologia" –Prof. G. Berloff from Italy and many others. A question arises: who should recruit new members? I suppose, every of us, and particularly the Presidium of the Association. We are pleased with the fact of new members enrolling, at the same time we regret that some depart. An outstanding geneticist, distinguished specialist in sport motorics, Prof. Borys Nikitjuk from Moscow passed away. Let us give pay him honour with a minute of silence.

2. International scientific conferences (Tab. 1).

The rhythm of organising scientific conferences by our Association has stabilised, which means we have cyclical conferences in the series of "Sport Kinetics" every two years. The number of organised conferences has risen considerably. Starting with 1990, that is within the period of 9 years, the members of our Association have organised over 20 international scientific conferences including: 15 in post-communist countries and 5 in Germany.

Table 1. Major importance scientific international conferences organised under the auspices of International Association of Sport Kinetics in years 1990-1999

N	Year	Name of conferences	Number of authors	Number of papers	Number of countries	Number of participants
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
1.	1990	„ Bewegungskoordination im Sport “ [Gorzów Wlkp., Poland]	42	35	5	over 60
2.	1991	” Sport Kinetics '91 ” [Olomouc, Czechoslovakia]	120	69	9	84

Table 1

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
3.	1992	" Selected aspects of sport kinetics" [Brest, Belarus]	51	39	5	ca. 75
4.	1993	"Sport Kinetics '93" [Poznań, 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" [Biała Podlaska, Poland]	94	67	11	76
7.	1995	"Sport Kinetics '95 " [Prague, Czech Republik]	176	98	12	123
8.	1996	2. Bernstein-Konferenz „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	Sport Kinetics '97 " Theories of Human Motor Performance and their Reflections in Practice" [Magdeburg, Germany]	150	135	16	ca. 210
11.	1998	" Movement Coordination in Team Sport Games and Matrial 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	Sport Kinetics '99 "Theories of Human Motor Peformance and their Reflection in Practice" [Lubljana, Slovenia]	ca 300	185	19	ca. 150

This means, on average, we hold at least two conferences per year. It is regrettable that part of them was not clearly advertised as IASK conferences.

German members have organised 5 conferences, Polish and Slovak – three each, those from the Czechs Republic and Belarus have organised two each. These statistics depict the active involvement of the members of the Association, as well as of the National Sections. On behalf of the Association I shall thank all active members for their engagement. According to the tradition I wish to thank from the bottom of my heart all those members who have organised international events in the years 1998-1999:

- Prof. Toivo Jurimae who was the organiser of the 5th consecutive international conference on Education and Science on Sports for young research workers in Tartu (Estonia) on 14-17.10.1998. This conference was held under the auspices of IASK. Thirty people from 10 countries participated in the event. The most numerous teams arrived from Poland and China. Among the invited guests were: Prof. G. Doll-Tepper, president of the ICSSPE, Prof. P.Komi and Prof. H.Kemper.
- Dr. Anatolij Skripko organised an international scientific conference “Physical Education and Health of Youth at the Turn of the Centuries” in Minsk (Belarus) on 19.09 – 2.10.1998. Out of 120 papers sent, 70 were presented and their authors came from 15 different countries. An exhibition of scientific apparatus was set up during the conference. The conference was held at the Belorussian State Politechnical Academy. The co-organisers of the conference were: The Ministry of Education of Belorussia, the Ministry of Sports of Belorussia and the Institute of Sports in Warsaw.
- Dr. Jerzy Sadowski was the organiser of the second international conference on “Movement Co-ordination in Team Sport games and Martial Sports” in Biala Podlaska on 25 –27.09.1998. Nearly 100 participants from 9 countries delivered 80 papers, out of which 59 were later on published. Abstracts and entire works were published in English and were distributed among the participants during the conference. The Honour Committee of that conference included, among others, the deputy president of the Polish Parliament - F.J. Stefaniuk. For the first time at a conference organised under the auspices of IASK a representative of Great Britain (Prof. T. Reilly) was present.
- Prof. Dr. Bojan Jošt and his team composed of : Prof. Herman Berčić and dr Aleks Vest organised an international conference “6. Sport Kinetics 99” in Ljubljana (Slovenia) on 1-4.1999. Over 150 participants from over 15 countries attended the event. For the first time in this cyclical conference,

representatives from Greece (Prof. V. Klissouras), Belgium (Prof. A. L. Claessens) and Holland (Prof. H. Kemper) took part. Abstracts and entire papers were published in English and handed out among the participants at the conference. Suitable to the occasion, and on behalf of the Association, I wish to extend my thanks to all the people I have mentioned for their courage, energy, all their work and trouble they have put in order to prepare and efficiently run the conferences, and I would like to award them with symbolic diplomas as a token of our gratitude.

Now I should say a few words about the future. In the very near future members of our Association will hold three international scientific conferences:

- Prof. Dragan Milanowicz (conference director) and Prof. K. Kristič (general secretary) will organise in Dubrovnik (Croatia) on 22-26.09.1999 a II International Scientific Conference entitled “Kinesiology of the XXI Century” which will be held under the patronage of UNESCO and the Croatian Academy of Sciences and Arts. The organisers of the conference are: the Department of Physical Education of the University of Zagreb and the Croatian Association for Theoretic Experimental Kinesiology). The organisers anticipate over 150 attendees. Among those delivering papers will be Prof.Prof. Per Olow Astrand, Antonio Dal Monte, Petr Blahus, Jozsef Tihany, Włodzimierz Starosta.
- Dr. R. Horvath is organising under the auspices of our Association an international conference on “ Motor Capacities of the Pre-School and Primary School age children”. This will be held in Presov (Slovakia) on 23-24.09.1999. The main organiser of the conference is : Department of Physical Education at the Pedagogical Faculty and Faculty of Humanities and Sciences of the University in Presov.
- Dr. Pavel Stejskal is organising an international; conference on “Movement and Health” in Olomouc (Czech’s Republic) on 11-14.09.1999. The conference will be held under the auspices of IASK. The organiser is the Faculty of Physical Culture, Palacky University in Olomouc.

Though the conference “Sport Kinetics “99” in Lubljana has not come to the end yet, we already put forward a question: where will the next, seventh consecutive international conference “Sport Kinetics 2001” be held? Recently a very serious candidate has turned up – Prof. Toivo Jurimae from the Faculty of Exercise and Sport Sciences of the University of Tartu (Estonia). Taking into

account the scientific achievements, activity and organisational abilities of Prof. T. Jurimae, his access can be treated as a particularly interesting one.

3. Works in the Presidium in the years 1997-1999.

The work input of individual members of the Presidium was not that substantial as one could have expected. In the last 2, and even 4 years the work ceased to have this team character as before. We had merely two meetings of the Presidium. The basic problems of our work consisted of : the strategy of recruiting new members, problems concerning the organisation of international events in Biała Podlaska, Minsk, Lubljana, Presov, Olomouc, Dubrovnik, strategy concerning the organisation of future conferences, works relating to the preparation of candidates for the position of honourable members of the Association, amendments in IASK's statute, preparation of the Information Bulletin, completing an Editing Board for the "Journal of Human Kinetics". Most of the works of the Presidium was carried out through correspondence. The following members of the Presidium were especially active at the organisation of international conferences (Prof. Prof. P. Blaser, W. Starosta, P. Hirtz), with the preparation of the Information Bulletins (Prof. Prof. W. Osiński, W. Starosta), with the recruitment of new members (Dr. Anioł-Strzyżewska, Prof. Prof. P. Blaser, W. Starosta). Our treasurer (Dr. K. Anioł-Strzyżewska) was especially active in her work. Members of the Presidium took part in a number of Scientific Committees connected with the organisation of conferences. The efficiency of the Presidium's works would certainly be higher if all its members were more actively involved. Therefore, when electing new members, it is of key importance to establish who indeed wants and is able to really work. As the president, I have been expecting from the part of the members of the Presidium and from the part of individual members of IASK, some suggestions concerning the ways of improving the works of our Association. I have received no suggestions so far, that is why I have prepared my own project. I foresee setting up 3-4 commissions. The chairman of each of them would be the Deputy President. Every commission could have as many members as is needed according to the Chairman. We asked for an evaluation of this project long time ago in an Announcement¹, but I have received no response so far.

4. International Co-operation

One of the main purposes of our Association is to initiate international scientific co-operation. We established such a co-operation in 1991. This was a collaboration between *Sport Sciences Institute and Physical Education Institutes in Germany and Poland* (Dortmund-Greifswald, Warsaw-Gorzów). Later on this co-operation continued in a form of 4- year- long research and work teams from Presov, Warsaw, Gorzów. Up to now a collaboration has been developing between such centres as Greifswald-Warsaw-Gorzów, and new contacts have been established with other scientific centres (e.g. Institute of Sport in Warsaw and the Politechnical Academy and the Academy of Physical Education and Sport in Minsk , as well as the Institute of Pedagogy in Nikolajev in Ukraine). Co-operation between academic centres in : Olomouc, Katowice, Innsbruck, Katowice, Greifswald is developing. A very interesting form of collaboration was proposed by Prof. J. Raczek. Who organised several seminars with the participation of international lecturers, in Katowice. It would be beneficial and interesting for all of us to develop various forms of international collaboration between other scientific centres in other countries. I am convinced that such co-operation between the members of our Association working in various centres will extend and develop even more. We would be delighted if such relations were extended and if they yielded fruit in form of experimental works .

5. The Association's Journal

This problem has been accompanying us since the beginning of the IASK's existence. In the years 1991-1992 we supported a journal "Anthropometrics" which was published by the Academy of Physical Education under the auspices of IASK, in Cracow. Unfortunately, the journal appeared in Polish and only once was it edited in the English version. Starting with issue 20, the journal will be published in the English version, under the auspices of IASK but with an altered title "Journal of Human Kinetics". (Fig.3) The chief editor will remain unchanged – Prof. J. Szopa and his deputy will be Prof. W. Starosta. The Body and the Editorial Council will consist of a large group of the IASK's members (Prof. Prof.: J. Szopa, W. Starosta, W. Osieński, E. Mleczeko, R. Kowarz, H. Mechling, R. Malina, H. Kemper). According to the agreement with the Chief Editor, the composition of the Body and Editorial Council will be discussed

with the president of the IASK, and the journal will include a constant column "From the Life of IASK". A special team headed by one of the members of the Presidium will be in charge of its editing. (Fig.4) The name of the Association with its logo will appear on the cover page.

6. The Rights and Obligations of the IASK's members

As far as the rights are concerned we should consider whether members of IASK should be charged for conference fees at conferences organised under the auspices of the Association 10-20% less than other participants. We should elaborate a precise and clear system of supporting IASK members, especially those coming from post-communist countries. The system would enable members of IASK to take part in international contacts and to attend prestigious scientific conferences. It is indispensable to acquire special financial support from scientific foundations, from the Council of Europe, UNESCO or other non-governmental organisations. We have already been successful, since thanks to the help of the Foundation Supporting Science named after J. Mianowski, several people from Belarus (Prof. Prof. T.Juszkiewicz, W.Krjaż, Dr. A.Skripko, G.Markiewicz, MA) had a chance to have their scientific training practice in Poland. Also, thanks to the efforts of Prof. P. Blaser and the support of DAAD (Deutscher Akademischer Austauschdienst) seven members of IASK were able to attend the conference in Magdeburg free of charge. This very important problem of financial support should be taken over by one of the members of the Presidium who would set up a special team. Besides, we should establish a motivation system for young research workers. Certain measures have already been taken. There are competitions for the best works of young research workers without doctor degrees which are organised not only at conferences "Sport Kinetics" but also at cyclical conferences held recently under the auspices of IASK in Tartu (Estonia) by Prof. T. Jurimae. Such competitions were conducted during all five conferences "Sport Kinetics". Also this one will hold a competition of this kind. These contests have become a tradition which is to be continued by improving its rules, and by raising necessary funds for awards. We need also clear principles enabling a proper qualification of the works. I propose a four stage assessment of the works: 1. The relation between the subject of the work with the conference topic. 2. Substantial value. 3. Original subject and way of presentation. 4. The level of

the graphic illustration of the research results. For each of the stages marks from 0 to 5 may be given. The total grade: 0- 20 points.

Now I should proceed with the tasks of the IASK member. They should refer to the following: Subsidising the IASK not only by paying annual fees but also by a particular activity during conferences, including good preparation of work and high level of their preparation. 2. One of the tasks should be the participation at the conference ‘Sport Kinetics’, and also at the General Meetings of the IASK which take place every two years. 3. The third task of the IASK’S member could be his activity shown through a proper preparation of conducting a conference. Special active involvement should characterise those who are the members of the Scientific Committees of the conferences 4. More engagement is necessary in the promotion of IASK through presentations during national and international events, in various forms (oral, written, publications). Also in this respect appointing a working team whose task would be to promote IASK on international arenas should be a prerequisite. Some steps have already been taken , among others, we have worked out all the data about the Association to be published in a “Yearbook of International Organisations” in Brussels. Information on IASK for the Internet is also in its last stage of preparation. And there is a lot to be proud of. One of the examples of the special involvement of the IASK members is the number of organised conferences. Another is the fact that, although the cost of participation in conferences is in general rising, the ones organised under our auspices has remained unchanged for years. We also offer varying conferences fees (also membership fees), that is much lower for those with lower incomes coming from post-communist countries. 5. When publishing post-conference materials it is necessary to place the logo of IASK in a visible place, and not only use the symbol when preparing conference Bulletins I and II (as it often has occurred before). 6. In the end, I shall quote a modified statement pronounced by one of the American presidents: “Don’t ask what IASK can do for you, but ask yourself what you can do to develop IASK”.

7. IASK in other international organisations

After an extensive procedure, in 1997 IASK finally became the member of international Council of Sport Science and Physical Education (ICSSPE), and in November 1998 we received full membership rights. In the first two years of our membership we were given the possibility of paying our dues at a 50%

lower rate. We hope to maintain this reduced charge in the future. We can be proud of this membership as it is one of the developmental elements of IASK, and it helps to strengthen its prestige in international arenas.

8. Proposed changes in the IASK's statute

All proposed changes are aimed at raising the standard of efficiency of the IASK's Presidium, and at improving its prestige among other international organisations.

- The Presidium of the IASK consists of: the president, 4 deputy-presidents, general secretary, the treasurer and 4 members. In total there are 11 peoples.
- In countries where the number of members have exceeded 5, it is possible to establish a National Section of IASK which would be composed of: the president, vice president (in case of over 15 members – two vice presidents, in case of more than 30 – three), the treasurer and the secretary. The national Section is a form of a subsidiary enabling an efficient functioning of the IASK all over the country and carrying its goals and statute assumption. It manifests its activity by organising national and international scientific events (meetings, lectures, seminars, conferences etc.)
- For those new members not possessing still the scientific degree of a professor, the status of a member-candidate is being introduced, that is “waiting member”. After a year the member candidate presents his scientific research achievements to the special commission of IASK, and in the case of positive opinion, he may be granted the status of a member.
- IASK members are split into: honour, practical and candidates. The status of honour members may be granted to outstanding experts of human motorics (kinesiology, anthropomotrics, sport kinetics, kinanthropology, etc.) who would be recommended by the Presidium and accepted by the majority present at the General Meeting of IASK. Honour members contribute by paying one annual fee for which they receive, free of charge, a membership card and a certificate.
- An attempt to conclude

As it results from the present report on the IASK's Presidium's works in the past two years and the years before, there are many problems still to be solved, and many to be improved. I have presented only a selection of them. It is crucial to call up a Commission or Teams which would deal with problems

of: 1. Development of the young staff. 2. Promotion of IASK. 3. Financial support of post-communist' members. 4. Development of international relations. 5 Setting up an editing team preparing materials to the column "From the Life of IASK". The members of the Presidium are expecting some help, propositions and advice from you. Hence, the success of our Association will be the success of each of us. However, every of us, and not only the Presidium, should work for the success of the Association. I am absolutely convinced that this truth is familiar to every member. I do except from you, dear friends, more involvement that before, and a reflection related with a question: "What can I do to strengthen and develop IASK? What have I already done? It is our Association and that is why all of should care for its future.

Nearly from the beginning of the existence of the IASK, that is since 1992, our activities have been substantially supported by the Director of the Sport Institute in Warsaw – Prof. Dr. Ryszard Grucza (e.i by allotting separate premises for the seat, providing access to the fax, etc.). For his many years' help and goodwill I would like to convey, on behalf of the Presidium of the Association, my sincere gratitude, and at the same time ask for the continuation of such kind of support.

Thank you very much for your attention.

President of International Association of Sport Kinetics

Prof. Dr. Włodzimierz Starosta

Warsaw, 30 July 1999.