

**Sport Information Activity in The North American Region:  
A Report to the IASI Presidium and Executive Committee,  
at the Annual Meeting  
Lausanne, Switzerland, April 24-26, 2001**

**1. North American Sport Library Network (NASLIN) Activities**

**8<sup>th</sup> NASLIN Conference,  
to be hosted by Nike, Inc., Beaverton, Oregon, Aug. 10-11, 2001  
<http://www.uoregon.edu/~naslin/>**

For the first time, since 1994, the NASLIN conference will be held during a summer month. Normally the conference is held on an 18-month schedule either in the fall or spring. This time however, the NASLIN Steering Committee thought some participants might combine attending the conference and taking holiday time in this beautiful part of northwestern United States.

The conference committee, Cindy Romaine, Librarian at Nike Inc., Henriette Heiny, Director of the International Institute for Sport and Human Performance in Eugene, Oregon and your reporter are working through a list of suggested topics and experts which focus on technological applications of sport information and sport information research.

Our keynote speaker, Diana Nyad, will speak on her experiences in doing research for her sport program, Goin' Deep for the Fox Network and how her background has prepared her for her present jobs. An accomplished long-distance swimmer, Diana swam 102.5-mile nonstop from the Bahamas to Florida (this record still stands today). She wrote of her experiences in the book, entitled, *Other Shores* (NY: Random House, 1978). Another book she published is entitled, *Basic Training for Women* (NY: Harmony Books, 1981).

The topic of digitization will be a focal point of the forthcoming NASLIN meeting for this will give NASLIN conference participants a chance to talk about priorities and projects, agree upon goals and how best to work together.

**NASLIN Membership and Distribution List**

Again, this past year some time was spent in trying to identify additional kinesiology and sport sciences librarians in US universities. As reported previously the task is getting easier for there is a noted difference in the quality of information on the academic library websites, although some very large university libraries still do not have an adequate staff directory. Of the 385 US universities and colleges, 195 librarians have been identified and are on the NASLIN distribution list (171 last year). For the 38 Canadian universities, 31 librarians are now on the list (30 last year).

In fall 2000, NASLIN Steering Committee instituted membership fees for 2001. The annual fee structure is: Individual Member - \$0; Fellowship Member - \$25; Institutional Sponsor - \$100; and Patron - \$200. The Steering Committee felt that one category of membership should remain at \$0 as we are still in a building stage for new individual members. NASLIN had a good response from our corporate sponsors. This will assist us in our educational aims and help support our conferences.

### *Nasline*

Two issues of *Nasline* were published this past year, No. 16, September 2000 and No. 17, February 2001. In addition to distributing these issues electronically to the NASLIN members and the IASI-L, this issue was sent to other lists including, SportHist, SportPsy, NASSServ. The SIRC maintains NASLINE on their SPORTQuest website with issue no. 16 and 17 in PDF format, a change from the format of other issues. The research conducted prior to the editing of each issue saw changes in the kind of resources found. The searching for new book information for the New Publications section is still conducted mainly on WorldCat. It is noted in the past year that many more fulltext documents are catalogued by OCLC members and added to WorldCat (and subsequently added to the Scholarly Sport Sites website). In addition, university library cataloguers seem to make note of special periodical issues devoted to a specific sport topic. NASLINE no. 17 has a new section dedicated to these special periodical issues.

## **2. Digital Sport Group (DSG) and Digitization Projects in North America**

### **Digital Sport Group (DSG)**

The latest issue of *NASLINE* (#17, Feb. 2001) outlined the immediate work of DSG, an informal group within NASLIN. The impetus for the formation of this group came from Ted Hathaway, the Baseball Index Project Director. He noted, as have others, that major libraries have large digitization projects ongoing. In the *NASLINE* report, the Amateur Athletic Foundation of Los Angeles (AAFLA) offered to conduct an experiment with the three types of digitization and also pledged support to digitize a ten-year run of a title. Upon Ted's suggestion, the DSG agreed that the magazine *Outing* (Deposit, NY: v1, May 1882 - v82, no1, Apr 1923//) should be our first focus. AAFLA will digitize 10 years of *Outing* magazine, 1888 to 1897.

The DSG feels that the sport librarians also need to have a strong influence in this all-important technological direction of university, special libraries and archives. We hope that the success of this pilot project will show funding agencies our willingness to work together. This will also assist in demonstrating the serious nature of our requests, especially for funding the rest of the backrun of *Outing* plus digitization of other early American sport and recreation journals.

### **Digitizing Sport Serials**

The Amateur Athletic Foundation of Los Angeles is the major force in the US and leader in the area of digitizing important sport and Olympic reports and serials. AAFLA has invested much time and funding to promote and provide access to significant academic and specialized sport materials. See issues No. 16 and 17 of *NASLINE* for an update on the sport history and management serials and Olympic Official Reports and Olympic Review available fulltext on the AAFLA website <http://www.aafla.org/>

### **Other North American Digitization Projects**

The University of Michigan through a grant from the Mellon Foundation began the Making of America Project (MOA) <http://moa.umdl.umich.edu/> in 1995 (see also the Online Searching and Page Presentation standards and processes at <http://www.dlib.org/july97/America/07shaw.html>). In the Feb 9, 2001 online issue of Scout Report, a weekly evaluative report on scholarly or important new websites,

<http://scout.cs.wisc.edu/> it was mentioned that MOA has had a major update. Now over 7,000 volumes and periodical issues totaling over 2.8 million pages of late nineteenth century American books and journals are available in fulltext format. For instance, MOA has digitized:

- *Athletic sports for boys: a repository of graceful recreations for youth*. NY: Dick & Fitzgerald, 1866, 174 p.
- The physical training of students, *Princeton review*, v. 33, no. 2, Apr 1861, p. 183-214.

Other libraries are also involved in large digitization projects, including the Library of Congress and its American Memory project (the Spalding guides are due to be digitized and are eagerly awaited), Cornell University, The Library of Virginia and the Alberta Heritage Digitization Project <http://ahdp.lib.ucalgary.ca/> (early newspapers and local histories with their sections on community sport and recreation). Bell & Howell is also starting to digitize the 1000-title American Periodicals Series, consisting of serials published between 1741 and 1900.

Through The Council on Library and Information Services' Digital Library Federation <http://www.clir.org/diglib/dlfhomepage.htm> and the Research Libraries Group (RLG) in the US an effort is being made to coordinate projects. RLG is an international consortium of university and national libraries, archives, historical societies, museums, research collections with a major goals "to improve access to information" and preserve fragile materials. Digitizing materials is one of their priorities <http://www.rlg.org/>.

### **Theses and Dissertations**

Access to fulltext theses and dissertations are also a focal point of university libraries/archives and the company, Bell & Howell Information and Learning <http://www.umi.com/>. In parallel with the national online dissertation project of the German LUK Commission of Learned Societies and Die Deutsche Bibliothek and the Australian Digital Theses Program, Virginia Polytechnical Institute and State University (Virginia Tech) requires that the Master's and PhD graduates consent to their theses being accessible in fulltext or PDF on Virginia Tech's website. In some cases, however, if a graduate intends to edit and publish their thesis as a book these regulations are relaxed for a few years. In this latter case, the bibliographical information and abstract appears on the website with "Restricted" in the "Availability" box on the record.

In addition to this initiative Virginia Tech has organized a project called Networked Digital Library of Theses and Dissertations (NDLTD) <http://www.ndltd.org/> on behalf of universities and colleges. On their home page is a section with the guidelines and objectives for the project at Virginia Tech and the Networked project, how other universities can participate, and a linked list of participating universities world-wide. A quick search on the meta search engine Google, found a number of articles on other universities who will be requiring fulltext accessibility of theses, e.g. University of Texas at Austin in May 2001.

Some universities have taken an alternative approach. The University of Wisconsin at Madison has all of its dissertations fulltext (from 1997 +) through Bell & Howell's ProQuest Digital Dissertations service on the B&H website <http://www.umi.com/>. The ProQuest search engine allows searching in many fields to find the appropriate thesis or dissertation. Each

record indicates whether the citation plus abstract are the only information available or whether the PDF version of the dissertation is offered. A recent search found:

- Jay, Cynthia Kay Gerhardt. The college experience of the elite male college athlete with learning disabilities, PhD dissertation, University of Texas at Austin, 1999. 291 p. Available: 10.11 Mb image-only PDF.
- Dodge, Ann Marie. Varsity athletes' justifications for unethical behaviour in sport. MPE thesis, The University of New Brunswick (Canada), 1998, 110p. Available: 4.64 Mb image-only PDF

### **Government Documents**

Sport Canada <http://www.pch.gc.ca/sportcanada/> and the Australian Sports Commission have also used, to good advantage, their websites as a vital method of disseminating information on government policies, monetary expenditures, financial support to athletes, sport research, and legal information. At last count Sport Canada has 20 fulltext documents on their website from the most recent document, Canadian Policy on Doping in Sport, 2000 and going back to the original Fitness and Amateur Sport Act of 1961.

Thus, access to fulltext documents and research via websites and databases assert a powerful force and influence the direction of delivery and dissemination of sport information in North America and abroad.

### **3. Updating Scholarly Sport Sites: A Subject Directory (SSS)**

<http://www.ucalgary.ca/library/ssportsite/>

The University of Calgary Information Services Director, Dr. Frits Pannekoek, was most generous in providing funds for the printing of Scholarly Sport Sites bookmarks that advertise the existence of the SSS website. Bookmarks were made available at the North American Society for Sport History Conference in Banff last May, at the ICSSPE Conference in Brisbane (thank you Jill Haynes), with enough for the 11th IASI Congress, the forthcoming NASLIN Conference and beyond.

Sections greatly updated over the past year include: the Bibliography of Fulltext Publications, Booksellers, Libraries – Directories, Databases/Directories – Biographies, with fine-tuning of the Associations section. Work is ongoing in the National Sport Structures section with a small backlog at the moment of newly found websites to be added. Changes were also made in the Local Organizations section after a search of the AAHPERD website. AAHPERD has finally provided links to all its regional physical education groups and the state physical education associations. This change meant that all the individual state associations were erased from SSS. All that is left on Local Organizations section is an annotation and link to the AAHPERD site.

Also searches for other sport or physical education libraries in non-English speaking countries, brings forth university sport sciences programs. Page references to these sites are sent to the SIRC's SPORTQuest Webmistress for inclusion in their Universities and Colleges section. In the past year the indexing of scholarly websites by the network of CORC librarians (Cooperative Online Resource Catalogue, see NASLINE, no. 16 for details) throughout North America identifies many websites of interest (SSS was catalogued by a colleague at the University of Georgia).

With the Worldsport website discontinued in mid year much searching had to be done in the meta search engines Google and InferenceFIND to locate new URLs for the international sport federations. A new GAISF website remains a mystery at the writing of this report and a restored website URL has not been found as yet.

#### **4. Contributions to the SPORTDiscus**

During the year, three individuals in North America contributed indexed records to SIRC's SPORTDiscus database. Shirley Ito, amongst her many duties and projects at AAFLA, submitted 669 records from current issues of Sports Illustrated.

A staff member under the direction of Henriette Heiny, at the University of Oregon's International Institute for Sport and Human Performance, not only indexes the 220 theses titles added yearly in the *Microform Collection* for the SPORTDiscus, but also catalogs these titles with LC and Dewey classification and subject headings for the subscribing libraries.

From May 2000 to Feb. 2001, your reporter continued her informal contract with SIRC to index for the SPORTDiscus the US and Canadian retrospective sport materials and a few current serials. A project was begun with the physical education and sport books in the Books on Demand (BoD) collection. This microfilm collection, available from Bell & Howell, was purchased in its entirety by the University of Calgary Library in 1984. The collection has approximately 221 sport and physical education monographs, 36 recreation and park books, and 10 short-run serials e.g. Herald of Health and Journal of Physical Culture, a few Spalding baseball guides.

In the past year 55 monographs from this collection were indexed with abstracts, plus 75 other retrospective US imprints not available in the BoD collection, for a total of 130 monographs. Of the Books on Demand titles there are a number of UK imprints on figure skating for the BoD is particularly strong in the early figure skating books written by outstanding skaters and teachers of their day. These were indexed even though UK imprints are outside the purview of the agreement. In addition, 156 Canadian periodical articles were submitted. These include the sport articles in the current year's run of Maclean's magazine, a four-year Maclean's backrun from 1929-1933 and 1997-1999 sport-related articles from Canadian academic journals. This latter work updates, in part, the work done previously in the larger Canadian Sport History Indexing Project, 1994-1997.

Respectfully Submitted,

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