

**IASI PRESIDIU**  
**IASI EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE**  
Havana, March 18-22, 2003

**PRESIDENT'S REPORT FOR 2002**

Last year the President's activity was mainly focused on two objectives:

- the first one was to regularize the administrative and financial situation of IASI ;
- the second one was to contribute to the development of regional activities and specific workshops following our working plan decided in Barcelona in 2002.

To give an idea of the work undertaken, 425 documents and/or messages have been dealt with by the Presidency since the Barcelona meeting.

**A Administrative matters**

A1 Executive Secretariat

- Compiling, printing and distributing the Minutes of our statutory meetings in Barcelona in 2002
- Updating the IASI registration in the Chamber of Commerce of Den Haag (Netherlands) where IASI is registered, in order to update all the data related to the official registration of IASI and to obtain the receipt necessary to open a new bank account in Finland
- Preparing the IASI 2003 annual meetings with the Executive Secretary

A2 Financial matters

- Opening of two new bank accounts (one in US\$ and one in €) in Jyväskylä
- Transferring the IASI book-keeping and financial archives to the Treasurer's office

**B IASI Relationships**

B1 ICSSPE

IASI has continued to maintain its close relationship with ICSSPE.

Firstly, Gretchen Ghent, our Publications Officer, IASI representative in ICSSPE's Editorial Board, attended the annual meeting in Manchester in July 2002, and was very active and efficient in the publishing of a special issue (N°4) of the ICSSPE periodical « Perspectives », focused on Sports information and technology, and several articles in the ICSSPE Bulletin (see Gretchen Ghent's report)

Secondly, I attended the annual ICSSPE Association board meeting which also took place in Manchester. Several further developments of our common actions were discussed e.g. the Human Kinetics programme and the participation of IASI in the Thessaloniki pre-Olympic congress in 2004 (Cyber café).

B2 IOC :

In the continuing co-operative relationship between IASI and IOC, and as an extension of the information supplied in the « Manual for a Sports Information Centre » (2000), I met our partners at IOC headquarters on July 1<sup>st</sup>, 2002.

Two main topics were discussed. The first one was the World Directory of Sports Information and Experts, available on Internet : [www.directory-iasi.org](http://www.directory-iasi.org) (see the specific report hereafter). The second point was the program for developing countries and particularly for Africa. It was proposed to establish and support in the future two main African sports information centres : one to serve the English-speaking area, the other the French-speaking one. These centres, supported by an existing NOC, would become the co-operative resource and foundation of sports information for all the NOCs in their respective linguistic area. On the basis of such an infrastructure, IASI would provide its expertise in the setting up and development of sports information and documentation centres.

### B3 UNESCO

On January 9-10, 2003, I attended the « Round table of Ministers of Physical Education and Sports » in the headquarters of UNESCO in Paris. Three main topics were discussed :

- Strengthening Physical Education and Sports in the educational environment
- Protection of young athletes
- Drafting of an international legal instrument to control doping in sports.

UNESCO is the cradle of IASI and we therefore should fully support the work undertaken by the governments and sports organisations in these fields by supplying the appropriate information.

### B4 ENSSHE and EASM

In the European region, close links are maintained with these two organizations, by participating in their annual forums. These meetings are the occasion to demonstrate the benefits of sports information for the members of these professional associations.

## **C National and Regional activities**

Activities have continued in many countries and regions throughout 2002. I would only like to emphasize the main points since the complete reports will be presented by each regional Vice-president.

### C1 In Asia

Due to adverse context in the Hong Kong Institute, ASIA activities practically halted. On the other hand, the 2005 Congress organization is being carried out in good conditions by the local organizers.

### C2 In North America

NASLIN developed its activities thanks to the dynamism of its Chair, Mrs Gretchen Ghent.. Over the year two issues of NASLIN were published and distributed electronically to IASI-L. In the meantime the digitizing activities have been carried out at NCAA and AAFLA, and the « Scholarly Sports Sites » has been updated. Lastly, contributions to SPORTSDiscus have increased.

### C3 In Oceania

The Australian Sports Information Network (AUSPIN) is still very active thanks to Mrs Jill Haynes who organized and animated a specific workshop « *Sharing information and building relationships* » in Perth in November 2002, which was a great success.

### C4 In Europe

IASI-Europe has participated in the setting up of the PESIS project, now called EkoS (European Knowledge of Sports). The proposal has been submitted to the European Commission (DG XIII : Information Society) prepared by a Task Force involving IASI, through seven meetings since our last ExCo meeting in Barcelona. The duration of the project is 24 months and we are a candidate for a European grant of € 2. 4 millions.

#### C5 In Africa

In the framework of our relations with IOC/NOC the perspective of the organization of sports info centres in the African Region has progressed. The project of a first preparatory workshop will be submitted for the approval of the ExCO members.

#### C6 In Latin America

Due to the problems in her country, Mrs Beatriz Barbera could not maintain her position as Vice-president of Latin America and she recently resigned. We did not receive any report from her.

### **D IASI working program**

Most of the annual program has been carried out thanks to the activity of the adwg members. A few points could not be considered, either because of local problems or because of excessive ambition.

Some achievements :

#### D1 IASI website

The IASI website is our main medium of communication. Through the work of the AdWg « IASI website » chaired by our Publications Officer, with the assistance of SIRC, the IASI website has been thoroughly reorganized to be more informative, content-rich, updated and professional.

The French version was also updated.

#### D2 IASI Newsletter

Three issues of the Newsletter (nos 22,23,24) were published under the aegis of Mrs Gretchen Ghent, and disseminated both through Listserv and paper format.

#### D3 IASI World Congress

Thanks to the work done by the members of this workshop co-ordinated by Mrs Cindy Slater in relation with the local Organizers, the preparation of the IASI 2005 Congress is going on in good conditions. The first announcement is available on the IASI website.

#### D4 Marketing plan

The new IASI brochure, devised by Mr José Aquesolo, has been published. It should be a strategic tool to promote our Association. Each Vice-president will soon receive copies to be distributed in his Region as to raise membership.

#### D5 Recommended methods for Acquiring and Disseminating Sports and PE Test Information

Mrs Gretchen Ghent wrote this adwg report presenting the results of the survey and asking the ExCo members for future developments.

#### D6 The World Directory of Sports Information Centres and Experts

At present 104 centres are registered on the Directory. We have achieved our first goal which was to reference the main sports info centres throughout the world.

Three points will have to be reconsidered during our Cuba meeting :

D7 Members survey

D8 Best practice guidelines to archive electronic resources

D9 Development of guidelines for Vice Presidents

## **E Association life**

2002 was a black year for our association. Three main leaders had to resign for different personal reasons : the Executive Secretary Mr José Aquesolo, the Vice-president for Latin America Mrs Beatriz Barbera and a member of the ExCo Mr Jean-Michel Jonhson. We loose very active and competent leaders. I would like here to pay tribute to their decisive commitment to our Association in the past few years.

IASI activities have to continue, so we have to start the statutory procedure to appoint new persons in charge.

## **F The Forthcoming Year**

After this year, many achievements have been realized thanks to the activity of the AdWg, and leaders in their region.

However, some objectives could not be reached and could constitute a priority for the coming year among the key tasks defined in the working program (Barcelona 2002).

1 – We must regain the leading potential of the Association by replacing the members who have resigned, with a functional objective which is to decide on new headquarters since we have to appoint a new Executive Secretary .

2 – A marketing and communication plan in each region must be developed to raise membership by increasing the visibility and the credibility of the Association and strengthening the sense of belonging and the associative identity of IASI. In particular, we must distribute the new IASI brochure containing IASI aims and objectives, benefits for members, organizational structure, projects, activities and contacts, with a detachable part for regional information.

3 – We must develop strategies for promoting sports information and encouraging creation of sports information centers in developing countries. To this end, cooperation with the IOC/NOC and Olympic Solidarity should be reinforced.

4 – We must serve the needs of the IASI members, providing regular and relevant communication and professional development. Here the AdWg on Member survey should be reactivated.

## **Conclusion**

Like Janus, IASI life has had two different faces last year. Sports information was very active and developing in some regions, while recession threatened in others.

This situation must be seriously and resolutely taken into account. The gap between developed and developing countries regarding the access to information, and particularly sports information, must not increase.

This is why the development of our activities and the strengthening of our co-operative links must be a priority in the near future.

Finally, I wish to thank all our members, those involved in projects, the members of the Managerial Unit, the Presidium and the Executive Committee for their valuable contributions and cooperation during this past year.

I look forward to meeting you in Cuba.

Alain PONCET  
Paris, February 27<sup>th</sup>, 2003