

# International Association for Sports Information



## **IASI welcomes new members!**

The Association has members in more than 45 countries in Europe, America, Oceania, Asia and Africa. New members are welcomed to develop IASI's activities in new directions and tackle new problems on a broader basis and with a greater supply of information.

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**yesterday,  
today,  
*tomorrow***

**Better sport documentation  
through international cooperation**

**IASI yesterday, today, *tomorrow*.**  
**Better sport documentation through international cooperation**

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**International Association  
for Sports Information**



**IASI yesterday, today, *tomorrow***

**Better sports documentation  
through international cooperation**

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## **Preface**

The International Association for Sports Information, founded in September 1960 in Rome, is a non-profit organisation whose goals are to stimulate, support and develop activities in the field of international documentation and information for physical education and sport.

IASI is a unique international organisation which brings together a world-wide network of scientists, documentalists, librarians, information experts and managers of sports information and documentation centres. IASI maintains close links with the International Council of Sport Science and Physical Education (ICSSPE/ UNESCO), national and international organisations and institutions such as information centres, scientific libraries, public sports authorities, sports organisations, physical education colleges and sports institutes. Since 1994, IASI is recognized by the International Olympic Committee.

IASI is financed through its membership fees, occasional grants from ICSSPE and other organisations and the sale of publications resulting from its projects.

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### **1950-90: Forty years of sports information:**

(Mr Siegfried Lachenicht, IASI President '85-'89;  
Mrs Sigrid Müller-Hirsch, Chair of the Commission  
on Information Sources '76-'89; Mr Karl Ringli, IASI  
President '81-'84)

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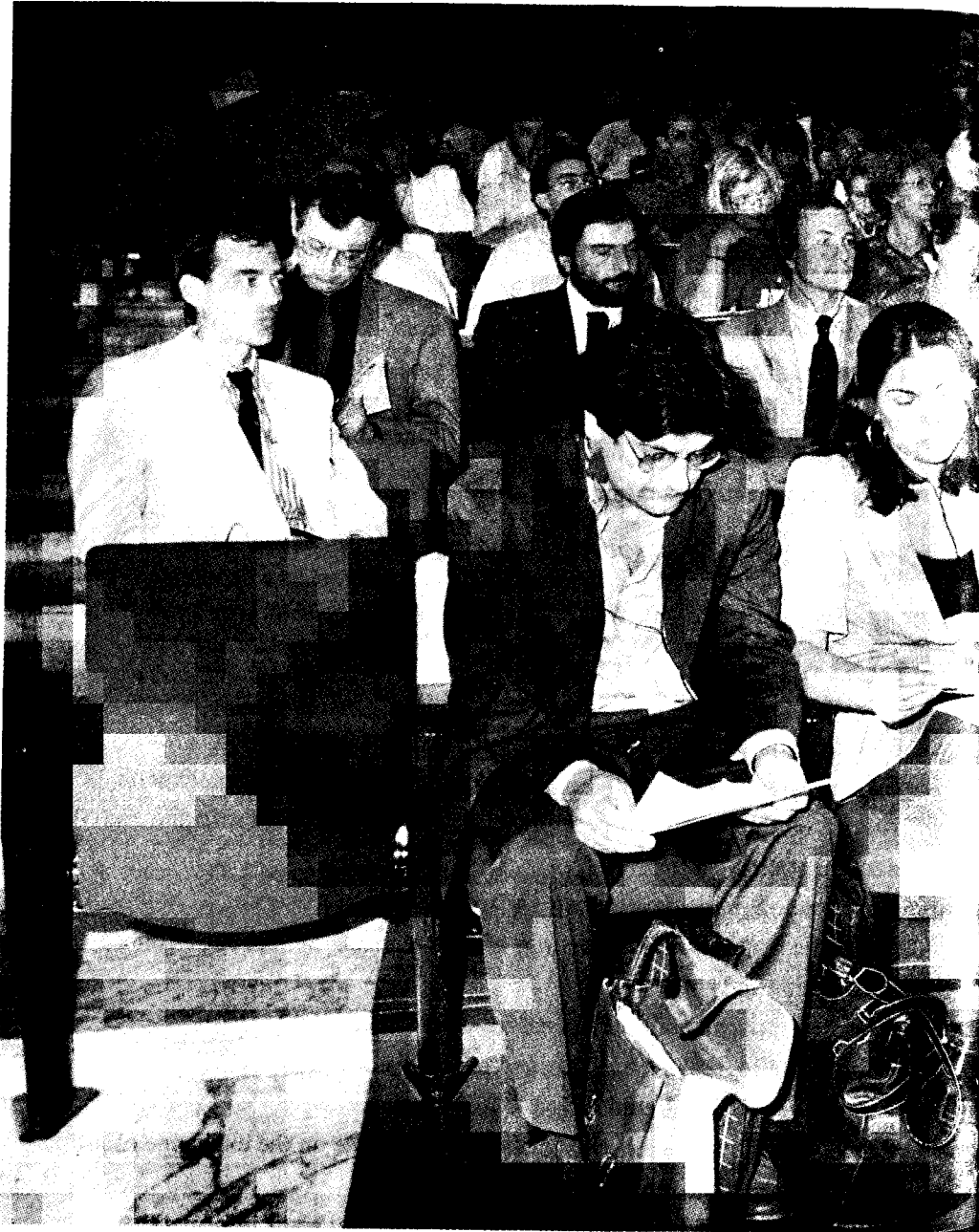
## If you are ...

Information experts, scientists, information centre managers  
Ministries for sport, local authorities  
National or international sports organisations  
Universities or colleges for sport and physical education  
Teachers, students, researchers in sport or physical education  
Trainers, coaches, sport journalists  
Commercial enterprises and trade organisations

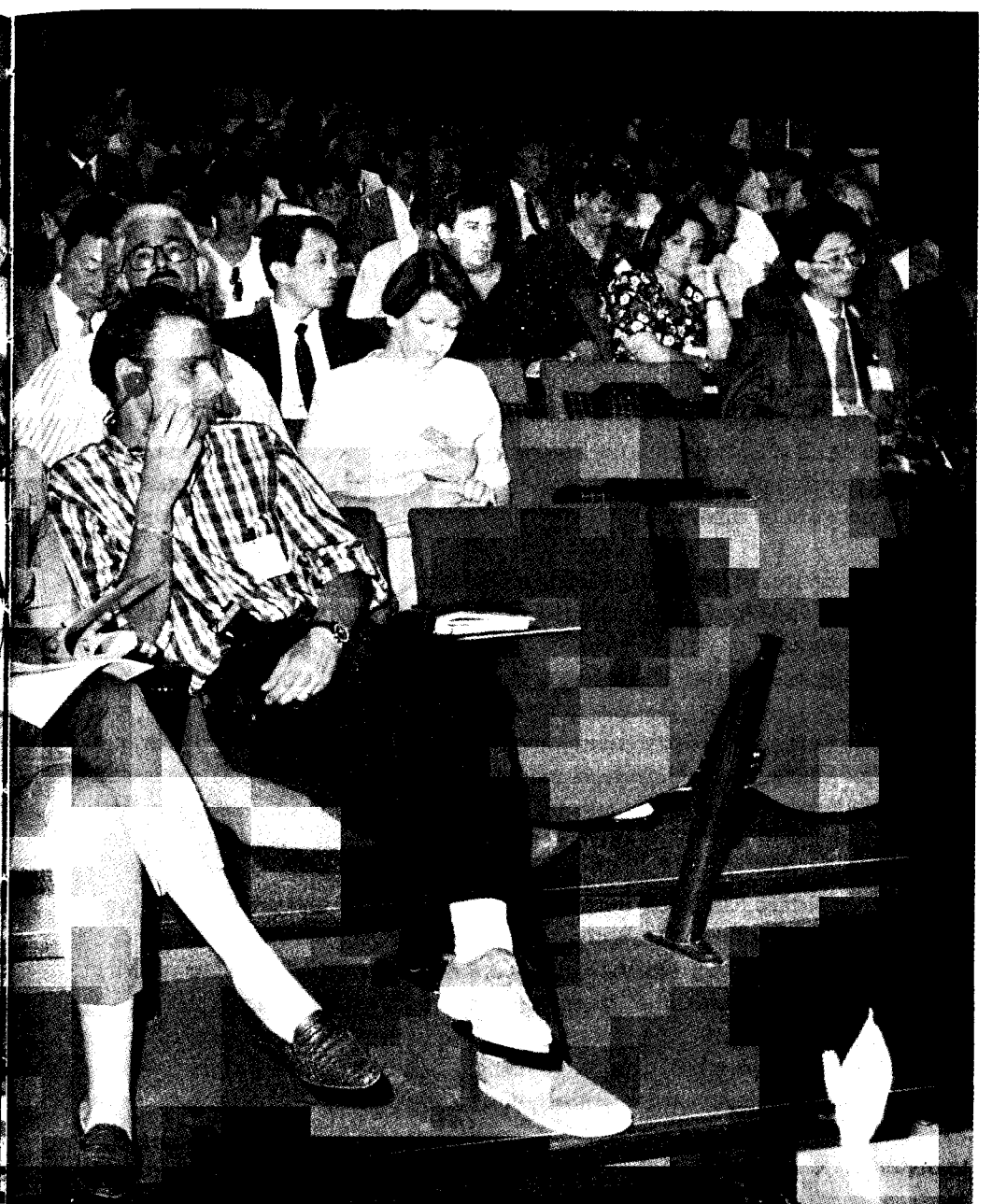
## ... then IASI is for you

## IASI offers its members ...

Participation in international forums  
Exchange of experiences with a broad network of information experts  
Advice on the planning, operation and development of information and documentation centres  
Participation in the development of worldwide database(s)  
Scientific congresses and meetings of experts in the field of sports information and documentation  
Regional groups on all continents for local participation  
Topical bibliographies on sport and physical education  
An International Bulletin of Sports Information  
Participation in ad hoc expert groups, for example on the exchange of primary documents, help to developing countries  
Publication of guides to better access international sport information  
Training in the use of a worldwide sport database



1 - 9th International Congress 1993, Roma (Italy)



6 IASI yesterday, today, tomorrow

## IASI Constitution

(Article 2)

### IASI: aims and tasks

The Association has set itself the following aims:

- to encourage and support the documentation and information activity for physical education and sport in all countries;
- to coordinate all efforts in this area following international standards whenever it is feasible, to promote projects of general interest, and to assist in their realisation through a network of members;
- to offer the services of the Association to all members of the International Council of Sport Science and Physical Education (ICSSPE) as well as to all other organisations working in the area of physical education, physical fitness and sport, their members and other interested persons and institutions;
- to organise exchanges of experiences and publications (in whatever form e.g. paper, audio-visual, electronic data) among the members of the Association and to hold international courses, seminars and conferences in theoretical and practical areas of documentation and information activity;
- to have committees carry out research work in theoretical and practical areas of documentation and information activity and to support such work in the various countries, so that modern methods of documentation and information activity contribute to the development of sports information provision;
- to stimulate the cooperation between its members to participate in an international database that it will designate, and other possible databases;
- to disseminate the results of the Association's work.

(Article 3)

### IASI: Memberships

The Association has three categories of membership.

Category A: Institutional members: national information centres, offices and libraries irrespective of their subordination to state organisations, coordination to non-governmental sports organisations or affiliation to scientific institution; or other types of institutions interested in sports information

Category B: Personal members

Category C: Honorary members

Each Category A member shall have three votes in the committees of the Association provided the annual membership fee of that member has been paid. Each Category B member shall have one vote in the committees of the Association provided the annual membership fee of that member has been paid. Each category C member shall have one vote in the committees of the Association.

Applicants for memberships are requested to:

- (a) recognise the IASI Statutes,
- (b) pay the annual membership fees regularly,
- (c) be willing to contribute to IASI's activities by their knowledge and experience, and,
- (d) actively transfer IASI's working results in their member countries or institutions.

## IASI Organisational Structure

### **GENERAL ASSEMBLY**

all members,  
every 4 years elections  
general directions for the work  
progress reports  
working programme

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### **CONSULTATIVE FORUM**

all persons interested  
(not only members)  
once a year  
proposals for action

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### **EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE**

at least once a year  
25 elected members  
decision making body

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### **Regional Groups**

by continental groups, or  
by linguistic groups

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### **Ad Hoc Working Groups**

project oriented  
restricted number of members  
temporary

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### **SECRETARIAT**

current matters  
administrative tasks



2 - 9th International Congress 1993, Roma (Italy)

## IASI Scientific Congresses

The organisation of scientific congresses in the field of sports information and documentation is a long and outstanding tradition within the International Association for Sports Information. The first congresses took place in:

- \* **1961 in Cologne, FRG** (2-6 January)
- \* **1962 in Leipzig, DDR** (8-12 October)
- \* **1970 in Schielleiten, Austria** (3-10 May)
- \* **1973 in Magglingen, Switzerland** (7-12 May)
  
- \* In **1975**, the International Jubileum Congress *Dynamic developments in todays sports information* was held in Graz (15-19 April) to celebrate both the 15th Anniversary of the IASI and the 70th Birthday of Prof .Dr. Josef Recla. After Graz other congresses followed:
  
- \* **1977 Duisburg, FRG**, 31 May-4 June, 6th International Congress:  
*Sports information 1977 - Tendencies, results, perspectives.*
  - International sports information in theory and practice.
  - Automated information systems and their use in the field of sport.
  - Aspects of the documentation process.
  
- \* **1981 Snagov, Romania**, 5-9 October, 7th International Congress:  
*Sports information in the 1980's*
  - Cooperation between sports documentation and information centres.
  - Sports information services for developing countries.
  - Sports information and the sports sciences.

- \* **1985 Dresden, DDR**, 15-18 October, 8th International Congress:  
*The tasks of sports information in sports science*

- Further development of sport information and its interrelation with sports science
- Information processes: their contents and methodical aspects.

- \* **1993 Rome, Italy**, 7-10 June, 9th International Congress:  
*Sports information in the nineties*

- Sports information: behaviour of different user groups.
- Sports information: not only books.
- Sports information: current developments in the countries.
- Information services: access and their management.
- Databases and their use: outlines of future information centres.
- New and emerging technologies: hardware, software, messages

- \* **1997 Paris (France)**



## 1950-90 : Forty years of sports information

Scientific information on sports went through various phases before IASI came into being. This process was characterised by individual initiatives as well as national efforts and international encounters.

### A. The fifties: the pioneers' work

#### Trends:

First exchange of ideas among representatives of European countries from West and from East concerning the work of sports libraries and ways of rationalising the work with written publications by means of:

- offering documents in an active way,
- mutual support,
- unifying codes of practice

From the beginning there was an enthusiasm for mutual co-operation between people coming from countries with different political systems and this continued in principle through the years of West-East tensions. The developments resulted in an international forum, the Bureau for Documentation and Information (BDI), within the framework of the International Council for Sport and Physical Education (ICSPE-CIEPS).

The work and research in the field of bibliography and documentation resulted in a number of insights and experiences that led to the first International Meeting on Physical Culture and Sports Medicine. This meeting took place in 1959 in Schielleiten. All parties with a possible interest in publications and information were invited to this memorable encounter. Besides the new aspects of specialised bibliography and their significance for the theory and the practice of sport, the first organisational principles and documentation methods were described, as well as new ways to further develop the techniques for the establishment and expansion of national documentation centres. The meeting also stimulated the development of a uniform specialised terminology for the classification and the systematisation of the available information in bibliographies, documentation and for specialised libraries.

In the course of this congress there was a clash of different opinions as a result of political attacks from a representative of the former DDR. Thanks to the alertness of the President, Prof Dr Josef Recla, however, this incident did not have a negative impact on the further business in Schielleiten. In total the Schielleiten meeting gathered 82 representatives from 40 institutes, sports schools and documentation centres from 17 countries.

The history of the development of the BDI would not be complete without mentioning the meeting that took place from 27 to 30 April 1960 in Paris. Under the Presidency of Prof. Falize representatives from the world of science and research gathered at the occasion of the Journée d'Etude de la Documentation et de l'Information en Education Physique et Sportive. At this meeting the participants were acquainted with the techniques of the Decimal Classification System (DCS). The meeting in Paris hastened the creation of a First International Forum of experts in the field of specialised documentation and information. This Forum met on 14-17 July of that same year in the UNESCO Institute in München-Gauting to prepare for the creation of the Bureau for Documentation and Information (BDI).



3 - Executive Committee of the IBDI 1973, Châtenay-Malabry (France).  
From left to right: K. Ringli, M. Piernavieja, Z. Majevsky, J. Recla.

## B. The sixties: foundation and reflection

### Trends:

- Foundation of an international - at first European - organisation (Bureau for Documentation and Information = BDI/ later BIDI or IBDI) under the patronage of ICSPE, later ICSSPE with statutes and an Information Bulletin.
- Precedence of German and French as conference language.
- Fixing the content (incorporate sports-medicine) and the media (besides literature also photographs and film).
- Formulating the tasks and responsibilities of BDI in a first working programme.
- Recommendations concerning establishment of national documentation centres as a pre-condition of co-operative work, training courses for sports documentation.
- Recommendation to develop standardised rules.
- Recommendation for better relations between the experts in sport science and sports documentation to make the content of the sports literature more accessible.
- Intensive work in the field of terminology on the basis of the German language.
- Foundation of specialised commissions.
- Towards the end of this period new technologies were increasingly being introduced in the field of sport information.

### 1960: foundation

When the International Council for Sport and Physical Education (ICSPE) was created on 12 and 13 September 1960 (Rome), the General Assembly ensured that the Bureau for Documentation and Information (BIDI) had a definite character. The tasks and responsibilities of BIDI were clearly described in the ICSPE Statutes:

### Article 29

The Executive Committee assigned the following tasks to the BIDI:

- a. To promote and facilitate the information and documentation in the field of sport and physical education in the different countries.
- b. To coordinate the developments in this field.
- c. To start up, encourage and - if necessary - carry out projects of general concern. The BIDI will report to the Executive Committee of the ICSPE.

This decision is considered the birth certificate of IASI.

The BIDI gathered for the first time from 2 to 6 January 1961 in the Deutsche Sporthochschule at Cologne. The meeting discussed the following issues: (1) the approval of the statutes of the Bureau, (2) the election of the Presidium, (3) arranging the literature in the Decimal Classification System, (4) documentation and working methods, (international exchange of documentation material) and (6) the publications of the Bureau.

Regarding the first point on the agenda, the statutes of the BIDI state the following:

#### *Article 10*

The Bureau will work in close collaboration with:

- a. National centres for documentation (and their departments) in the different countries in the field of physical culture and sport.
- b. The members of ICSPE.
- c. The other bodies of ICSPE.
- d. The International Federation for Documentation (FID) and the International Standards Organisation (ISO).
- e. Every other body that can reasonably be considered to contribute to the work of the BIDI.

#### *Article 13*

The Bureau represents ICSPE for all matters in the field of documentation and scientific information. ICSPE will support the Bureau in this area whenever it would seem desirable.

Regarding the second point on the agenda:

Members of the Bureau that were nominated were: W Arnold (Leipzig) as President, A McDonald (Belfast) as Vice-President, J Falize (Luik) as Secretary-General, J Recla (Graz) as Vice-President, El Affandy (Cairo), H Cettour (Paris), E Enrile (Rome), A Leitao (Lisbon), J Sadowska (Warsaw), E Schlee (Frankfurt), J Tomanek (Prague), I Toth (Budapest), A Vassev (Sofia).

Regarding the third point on the agenda, it was agreed that the Decimal Classification System (UDC) should be used internationally. The Bureau had to make proposals to improve the existing classifications to the FID.

Concerning the fourth point on the agenda it was decided that recommendations for the setting up of bibliographies should be prepared. Therefore the existing forms for documentation and bibliography of the ISO would be used. As a basis for the format, the international index cards of the libraries was used on the one hand and the format of postcard on the other.

With point five the mutual exchange of publications between the different countries was started (as phase I).

With regards to the sixth point it was decided that the magazine *Revue Analytique d'Education Physique* that since 1959 was prepared and edited by J. Falize, would be considered as the official paper of the BIDI. This magazine was edited in French and in English. At the same time it was decided to compose an international catalogue listing sports libraries and schools as well as specialized magazines.

#### *1962: The international congress in Leipzig*

In honour of the president in office, an international meeting was held in Leipzig with as main topic International meeting on the bibliography and documentation of sports sciences. The meeting was organized by the Deutsche Hochschule für Körperkultur in cooperation with the Bureau for Documentation and Information. The aim of the meeting was to unite experts in the field of bibliographic and documentation activities with their colleagues working in libraries. This way both groups could interchange and coordinate knowledge and experience. At the same time the most important issues in the field of the disclosure of literature on behalf of scientific information and new methods for the review of literature were discussed.

The activities of the Leipzig meeting resulted in the following recommendations:

- The main issues of the meeting (sciences and information; further developments in bibliography including sports medicine; translation work and cooperation) resulted in a body of knowledge that would determine future developments.
- The realisation of concepts at the service of the scientific world contained performance-oriented directives in support of the independent centres and sports institutions in the different countries.

- The expansion and development of well equipped (personnel and material) documentation centres makes it easier for the national and regional cooperation to evolve towards an optimal scientific information, on the national as well as on the international scale. The BDI will support the national documentation centres by conducting well-grounded scientific research (methods for the composition of bibliographies, work in the field of documentation, librarian and translation activities).
- International encounters that facilitate the exchange of experience should be encouraged by the public authorities from the different countries, as they contribute to the development of science in general and they fulfill an existing need.

1963: Focus on specialised terminology.

During the Leipzig meeting of 1962, a strong need was felt for a group of experts in the field of specialised terminology. The Austrian delegation was charged, together with the BIDI, with the establishment of an International Working Group on the Terminology in the Field of Physical Education (and Sport).

This workshop convened from 14 to 19 October 1963 at Strobl am Wolfgangsee at the invitation of the Austrian institutes for physical education of the universities of Vienna, Graz and Innsbruck. The participation of numerous French and English speaking experts contributed greatly to the success of the meeting. An excellent collaboration was established with the German speaking participants. On the last evening the results of four days labour were already available in three languages. From the 36 planned specialised areas, 28 were already elaborated and translated!

Everybody was well aware of the temporary character of the worked out concepts and terms: the definitions had to be considered by a wider group of specialists and approached from different angles, countries and languages.

1964: Activities of public interest.

In 1964 the BIDI gathered for the fifth meeting in Budapest. This meeting took place within the framework of the International Conference of ICSPE (from 30 May till

3 June). Members of the Bureau showed themselves to be professional "counsellors" in bringing together scientific representatives from different countries.

1965-1970: numerous activities.

The Bureau gathered once more from 10 to 13 February 1965. At this meeting the Classification Commission submitted a draft revision of the International Classification System, part 796/799. The Bibliography Commission would further develop and coordinate the work on bibliography. At the same time it was decided to establish other Commissions so that the management of the association (BDI) would be adapted.

The First International Seminar on Film, Television and Audio-visual Resources for Sport took place in Rome from 12 to 15 April 1965. During these days of study the present situation was discussed as well as the significance of the image and the sound for the international development of sport. Problems like the acquisition of sports movies and specialised films were discussed. In addition to these study days, the Commissions on Audio-visual Didactics and Research were created within the BIDI.

During the same year, the Terminology Commission gathered for its second meeting in München-Gauting. The concepts and definitions in the field of movement were elaborated (the issues of phenomenologic-morphologic, didactic-methodologic and philosophic-anthropologic aspects) but also concepts from the scientific theory and the Decimal Classification System.

On 30 April 1966, the Deutsche Sporthochschule at Köln organised an information seminar. The aim of the seminar was to establish a proper documentation centre. The main topics dealt with the tasks, structure and function of the information and the documentation, with the use of the UDC classification system, with problems of education and information tasks of the international specialised associations.

From 29 May to 3 June 1967 the International Days for Documentation and Information in the field of Sport and Physical Education took place in Bucharest. The meeting was chaired by Prof Dr Joseph Recla and its aim was to re-orient the BDI. The new concept provided a base for a broad worldwide and professional development of the activities of the Bureau. At the same time new elections were held. The new chairman became Prof Dr Julien Falize from Liège, Belgium.

With the First International Courses for Documentalists in Physical Education and Sports from 1 to 8 October 1967 in Graz, the education and further training of specialised documentalists were officially acknowledged. After that, such initiatives were granted a fixed place within the programme of the BIDI. The absolute summit of these days was the first demonstration of the automatic processing of sports documentation at an IBM computer at Graz. The computer era in the world of sports documentation and information had arrived !

The meeting of the BIDI in 1968 took place in Zeist (the Netherlands) from 22 to 25 April. As usual at that time actual issues and problems in the field of documentation and information were discussed. For the first time, speakers from world organizations like ICHPER, ICSPE, FIEP and FIMS were heard.

On 26-31 August of that same year the Third Meeting of the Commission for Terminology was held at Magglingen in cooperation with the IXth Magglinger Symposium. This meeting aimed at defining the concepts from the field of the physical culture going from the general physical education to the specific theories on physical exercises; this was all done in German, with translations into English and French. With this meeting, known as the INTERTERM meeting, came a temporary end to the elaboration of the specialised terminology.

From 19-22 December 1968 the Presidium of the BIDI gathered in Liège in Belgium. The Presidium studied the activity report and prepared the working programme for 1969-1970. At the same time the Presidium considered the transformation and professional expansion of the activities of the BIDI, in which special attention was given to the means and strategy necessary to form new young forces in the field of sports documentation and information.

The establishment of a public documentation centre at the Deutsche Sporthochschule Köln on 1 April 1969 led to the planning of an International Meeting for experts in the field of automated sports documentation (23-26 March, Köln). This gathering stated clearly that the only effective way to solve the problems in the field of information and the stream of specialised literature on sport, was by means of computers. The significance and necessity of a specialised thesaurus was discussed. The culminating point of this meeting was a demonstration of data being transferred directly from Graz to Köln by means of a computer. For the first time the creation of a circle for German documentation was brought to the discussion; in 1970 this circle was officially created (DISP, Documentations- und Informationsring).

From 21 to 24 May 1969 the BDI, from now on called the International Bureau for Documentation and Information (IBDI), organised, together with the library of the Institute for Physical Education of the University of Madrid, the Second International Seminar for Audio-visual Techniques. The experts were welcomed by the Spanish Minister for Sport and the present IOC President, Mr. Samaranch. The state of play in the field of audio-visual media was discussed as well as the use of it in physical education and sport.

The first decennium of the BIDI thus came to a close. It had been a period of searching and cooperation in the field of specialised documentation and information. The gatherings were characterised by an outspoken human undertone and understanding. This way a specialised association had come into being in which the human relations came to the fore and the pure professional part was rather put to the back. It was a time of elaborating and expanding, which opened up the road to further breakthrough.



4 - Executive Committee of the IBDI 1973, Châtenay-Malabry (France)



## C. The seventies: the break-through

### Trends:

- Re-organisation of IBDI/BIDI under a new name (International Association for Sports Information = IASI) as an independent organisation with cooperation with ICSSPE and other specialised international organisations such as UNESCO;
- Reorganisation of the working groups of IASI and confirmation of permanent commissions;
- Changing experiences of the national information centres.
- With the change of the person of the president from Austria to Norway the dominant language shifted from German to English.
- Professional co-operative work between specialists of West European countries with these of Eastern countries, eventually incorporating members from non European countries in IASI.
- Rapid advance of modern technology in sports information, utilisation of computers as well as of videos and the corresponding databases and thesauri.
- As a result of this the main activities shifted to the western industrial nations.
- Fixing the working projects of the commissions in a tight working programme with a continuous control of the results; regular, mostly annual, meetings of the permanent commissions to control the running of the projects.
- Development from sports documentation to active information as a part of sport science.

The breakthrough of sports documentation and information in the seventies started with the **Third International Congress** for Documentation and Sports Sciences in the Bundessportschule in Schielleiten. The speakers dealt with automatic information systems for the composition of bibliographies and library catalogues. Disagreements regarding the management of the IBDI led to a transfer of responsibilities during the meeting. Dr Jaromir Tomanek, Prague, was charged ad interim with the management of the IBDI. In December 1971 Prof Dr Joseph Recla was elected president by the presidium in Prague.

In May 1972 the new president invited the experts in the field of sports documentation and information for a meeting in Graz. On this occasion the future directives of the IBDI were laid down and experiences exchanged, but at the same time a proposal for new statutes was elaborated as well as a reorganisation of the IBDI.

The **Fourth International Congress** for Documentation and Sports Sciences was celebrated in Magglingen (Switzerland) from 7 to 12 May 1973. This Congress paid attention to the international activities in the field of information and documentation and to their perspectives. At the same time the state of affairs and the future developments in the field of information techniques were submitted to a detailed study.

During a meeting of the Executive Committee of the IBDI in the Ecole Normale Supérieure d'Education Physique et Sportive (22-26 October 1973) in Châtenay-Malabry, Paris, the relations with other specialised organisations like FID, AIESEP and UNESCO were settled. A new name for IBDI was brought at the discussion. The name of IBDI was effectively changed into International Association for Sports Information (IASI) during a session of the Executive Committee at Papendal, the Netherlands (1974).

The Second International Course for Sports Documentalists took place from 19 to 24 November 1974 in Warsaw. The participants were made aware of the problems of scientific information as well as with the tasks, organisation and methods of modern sports documentation and information. To celebrate the seventieth birthday of Prof Dr Joseph Recla and the 25 years of existence of sports documentation in Austria as well as the 15 years of existence of IASI, a jubilee congress was organised in Graz in 1975 under the name "Creative Sports Information". This jubilee was considered the **Fifth International Congress** for Documentation and Sports Sciences. Beside the festivities the discourses were centred particularly round present and future problems of sports documentation and information.

The meeting of the Executive Committee of IASI was held from 20 to 24 June 1976 in Oslo, and concerned itself with relations and cooperation with UNESCO.

In the autumn of that same year the Executive Committee gathered from 1 to 20 September in Sofia. This meeting focused on the new elections, the re-organisation of the Commissions and the changes in the statutes.

In 1977 the International Association for Sport Information became independent from ICSSPE. Today however, IASI is an enfranchised member of ICSSPE in which it sits as an independent committee.

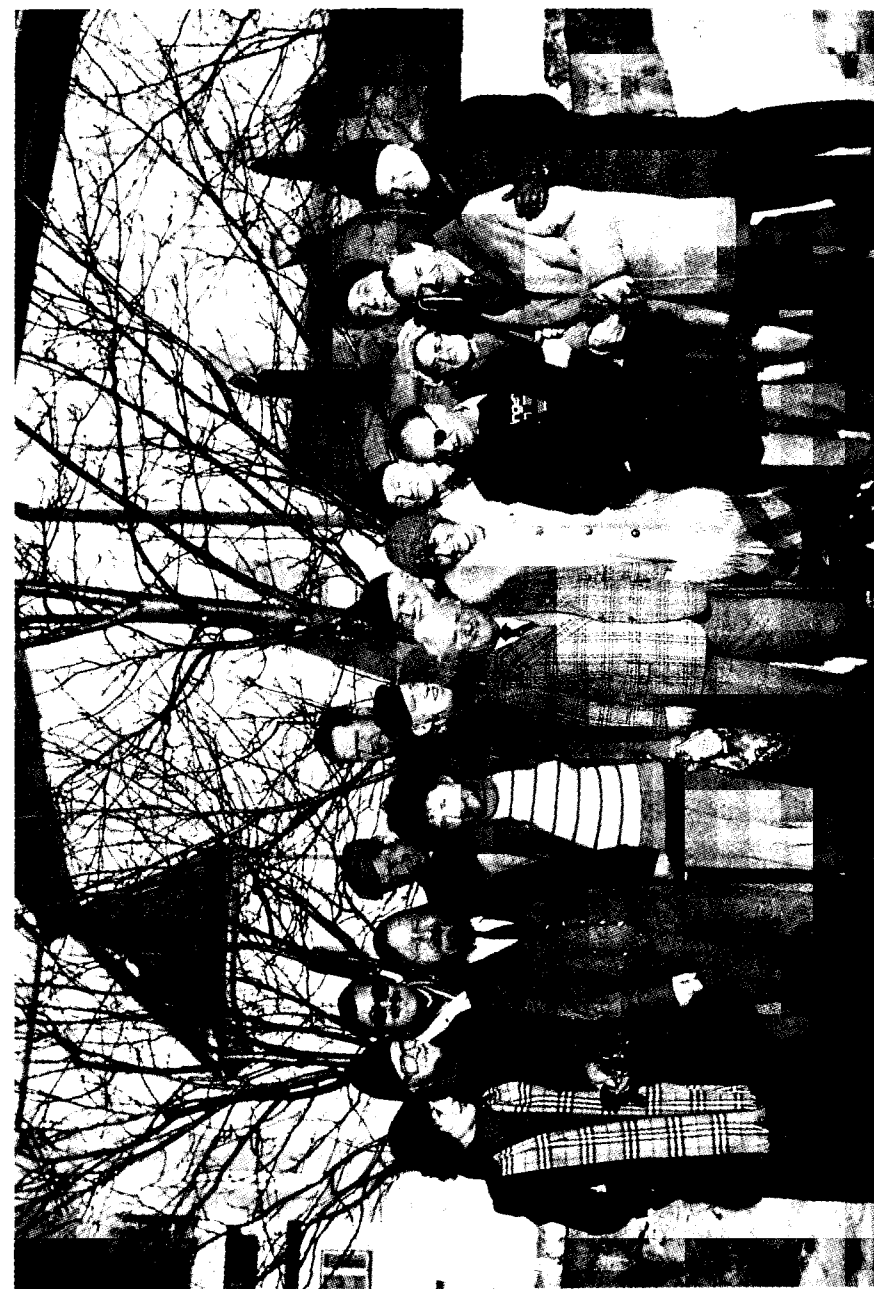
The **Sixth International Congress** was organised in Duisburg with the theme Sports Information in Theory and Practice. Organisers were IASI in cooperation

with the Bundesinstitut für Sportwissenschaft (BISp, Köln). The themes that were brought to the discussion ranged from an Information Centre for the Council of Europe, the management of information systems to information materials in sports sciences. At the same time the General Assembly of IASI took place where new elections were held. The General Assembly nominated Prof Dr Morgan Olsen, Oslo, to become the new President of IASI.

A few months after the Duisburg Congress the Executive Committee gathered again in Bisham Abbey, United Kingdom. From 9 to 13 January 1978 the general functioning, and also the working programme 77-81 of the Association was discussed. In the presence of the leading figures of ICSPE an efficient cooperation with ICSPE was established and the relations with UNESCO were clarified.

From 2 to 29 June 1979, a meeting was held in Potsdam. The points on the agenda were among others, the relations with ICSPE, the Olympic Congress in 1980 in Tbilisi and the situation of the International Bulletin of Sports Information (three new editorial members were appointed).

The international organisation, first known as the BDI, then as the IBDI and finally as IASI, had existed for twenty years. The Association had known a stirring childhood, a difficult youth and had experienced the typical growing pains, but at the end it had successfully passed its final exam. At the eve of its adulthood IASI was in need of a new policy that would lead to new landmarks in its history. The dominating role the English speaking countries played, opened a much broader international society.



5 - Executive Committee of IASI 1980, Raach (Austria)



## D. The eighties: towards a worldwide network

### Trends:

- Worldwide expansion of IASI on the basis of the English language.
- Creation of a working group of the responsibilities of national sports information centres and sport libraries (Coordination Committee = CoCo) in order to organise a regular coordination of the work.
- Improve the quick exchange of primary and secondary information sources by means of developing an international network of the information centres using modern information technology.
- Setting up of an international database in Canada.
- Strong orientation of sports information towards the needs of sports science with regard to the aims and tasks of UNESCO.

The idea of setting up an international network for sports documentation was launched in 1970. Dr Fritz Tscherne of Vienna succeeded in convincing Karl Ringli of Magglingen and Siegfried Lachenicht of Köln to create a network for the German speaking countries. The documentation group SPORT was created in Köln, lasted for four years and disappeared in May 1974. During this period the documentation centres of Norway, the Netherlands, Yugoslavia and Luxembourg joined the group. The representatives of these countries who joined this network were also members of the Executive Committee of IASI. IASI quickly gained the idea of the development of the network: during the meeting of the Executive Committee in Arnhem (6-9 May 1974) the working group "network" was set up; the IASI secretariat was designated as the coordination centre.

During the following years the documentation network was regularly discussed but no concrete steps were taken. The main reason of the slowing down was the opposition of the Eastern Block representatives who were very influential within IASI; the setting up of the documentation network was considered by these countries to be an influencing tactic by the NATO countries.

Nevertheless the international network was organised in the 80's as a result of two facts: on the one hand the worldwide expansion of IASI and on the other hand the setting up of a coordination committee consisting of leaders of important national information centres (CoCo) inside the framework of IASI.

During the 60's and the 70's IASI was mainly concerned with Europe. The sport documentation institutes of the Eastern countries were on the practical level better developed than the Western ones, so they had a greater impact on the IASI policy. During the second half of the 70's the situation completely changed because of the membership of modern well equipped centres in Western Europe and North America. On the initiative of Dr. Morgan Olsen, IASI President from 1977 to 1981, the decision was made to use English as the working language of IASI. During the Chairmanship of Karl Ringli ('81-'84) and of Siegfried Lachenicht ('84-'89) the further worldwide development of IASI was continued by the recruiting of IASI members in the various continents. Each part of the world could have representatives in the Executive Committee and regional structures were created: Europe, Africa, Middle East, Asia, Oceania, South Africa and North America. This modified the political influences in the leading bodies of IASI. On the whole the representatives of the small and developing countries were very in favor of the network idea: these countries had much to learn about sports documentation and could, via the network, participate in the work of the larger countries.

Since the beginning IASI has defined itself as a scientific association. IASI has organised scientific congresses (every four years) and is active via scientific commissions. These commissions sought to develop information methods and to harmonise instruments and technical means inside the general documentation process. The commissions were composed of experts and were chaired by persons who were also member of the Executive Committee of IASI. So the commissions could also take part in the decision making of IASI. But the commission experts were often not the leaders of the documentation centres! The result of this was that the Executive Committee could not take decisions for the centres on national level; all the decisions had to be approved by the persons responsible for the documentation centres. This meant that many decisions came back to the Executive Committee for adaptation or modification: so the decision making process was long and difficult. This situation resulted in the idea of creating within IASI a Coordination Committee (CoCo) composed of those responsible for the documentation centres. After the modification of the IASI Statutes the 1st of June 1977 in Duisburg, CoCo was founded three days later.

The second meeting of CoCo took place on 6 October 1981 on the occasion of the **7th International Congress** in Snagov/Bucharest. The aim of CoCo was defined as follows: "CoCo will discuss all problems concerning the aims and tasks of IASI and will try to find practical solutions for the cooperation between the national



6 - 7th International Congress 1981, Snagov (Romania).  
From left to right: A. Nicu, S. Lachenicht, J. Recla, M. Olsen, R. Timmer, M. Arnoldova,  
Kunst-Ghermanescu

centres on international level". Therefore IASI developed a forum that could contribute to the development of an international network.

The third meeting of CoCo took place in Köln from 3 October till 7 October 1983. The central theme of the session was the proposal to set up an international database SPORT by the enlargement of the existing SIRC SPORT database. The philosophy of this proposal consisted in having a central unit responsible for the management of such a database. Each national sport documentation centre had to index its own (national) literature in English and to send it to the central unit. In return each individual centre received the indexed records forwarded by all the other IASI partners. A realistic approach to the network revealed that there were no financial means to create a new central unit; therefore an existing organisation had to take over this function. The greatest existing database for sport literature was chosen: the Sport Information Resource Centre (SIRC) in Ottawa, Canada. It is the great merit of the SIRC manager Gilles Chiasson that he accepted this challenge and that he covered the costs via the budget of the centre.

What led to the new impulse for the setting up of a worldwide network for sports literature ?

In 1978 the first Conference of sports ministers of UNESCO approved the International Charter for Physical Education and Sport in Paris. The Charter said (in Article 71) that "the gathering and dissemination of information on physical education and sport was a necessity". In 1979 the General Secretariat of UNESCO in Paris organised an international meeting of experts in sports research and physical education. During this meeting Mr Lachenicht (Köln) together with Dr Jan Broekhoff (Eugene) and Dr Nicu Alexe (Bucharest), both members of the Executive Committee of IASI, made the proposal to set up an international network with a central database for sports literature. The experts declared "It is recommended that UNESCO, via its member countries, encourages the development of a central database for sports science and physical education in which scientific and non scientific information about sport and physical education would be stored. Dr Broekhoff, as a member of the Executive Committee of the International Council of Health, Physical Education and Recreation (ICHPER) was asked by the General Secretary of UNESCO to prepare a written report. In February 1980 this report "Ways and means of organising a system for the standardized collection of documentation in physical education and sport" was presented in Paris.

On 9 and 10 October the Executive Committee of ICSSPE (A-Status within UNESCO) discussed this matter in Sofia. The chairman Sir Roger Bannister asked Dr August Kirsch to prepare a discussion paper for the next session on the Executive Committee of ICSSPE in Vienna. This paper was prepared by Mr. Lachenicht, discussed by the Executive Committee and approved as official ICSSPE document. Mr. Kirsch was then asked to form a working party; so a group of six persons was appointed under the chairmanship of IASI President Karl Ringli (so IASI became also a sub-committee of ICSSPE).

Besides this ICSSPE initiative, the Broekhoff report was presented in October 1981 during the 7th international IASI Congress in Bucharest. Afterwards the Executive Committee of IASI, as a consequence of its meeting in Velika Plana (Yugoslavia), decided to recommend to ICSSPE the Broekhoff proposal. The ICSSPE Executive Committee analysed and approved this proposal in May 1983. So UNESCO was also involved in this project. ICSSPE invited IASI to put the project into practice. The IASI Executive Committee accepted the proposal as an official IASI project during its session of 1983 in Mexico City. The realisation of the project was going to happen through the Coordinating Committee. After the working out of a basic concept for the literature database, ICSSPE proposed to try to obtain financial support from UNESCO. During the third CoCo meeting in Köln, October 1983, the record structure for such a database was worked out. This record structure defined the technical rules for the cooperation between the individual national centres and the central unit in SIRC Canada. In September 1984 the proposal together with a financial budget was transmitted to UNESCO via ICSSPE.

The 8th International Congress in Dresden (October 1985) allowed all the IASI members to discuss the advantages of electronic processing and compatibility beyond the frontiers.

In the same month, the European Sports Conference discussed the project and was in favour of it.

In October 1986 the Intergovernmental Committee for Physical Education and Sport of the UNESCO discussed the proposed concept. This Committee also approved the project and insisted upon its realisation. In the mean time, however, a number of national centres had started the cooperation with SIRC for the development of a database SPORT/IASI. In October 1988 the SPORT/IASI database was presented during the 2nd UNESCO Sport Ministers Conference (Moscow). The Conference recommended to the member-countries to participate in

the project. Unfortunately UNESCO gave only moral support but no financial means. IASI and its members had to rely on themselves.

On May 17 1989, after a year long study, during the IASI General Assembly in Papendal (the Netherlands), a protocol was signed between IASI and SIRC concerning the working out of the SPORT/IASI database. However since 1986 the practical cooperation between the individual national centres had begun. So at the moment that the protocol was signed already 24 partners were working on this project so that the SPORT/IASI database already had 16,000 references. It became clear for the national sports information centres that they only had themselves to rely on to realise a worldwide network within IASI.



7 - 8th International Congress 1985, Dresden (GDR).



8 - Executive Committee of IASI 1986, Colorado Springs (USA)

## E. The work of the IASI Commissions

In order to execute scientific theoretical and practical tasks, the Executive Committee of IASI founded the commissions. A look at the work of the commissions provides a good overview of the developments that have taken place in the world of sports information.

Depending on the changes in the activities and the number of cooperating experts in the different countries, the number of commissions, their composition and their working method differed. Initially the commissions were created to meet immediate needs. Since their creation, some of the commissions have become permanent working groups with constant tasks and regular meetings (eg Classification, Terminology, Thesaurus, Training Information Sources). Other commissions were not able to maintain themselves and disappeared after a certain period (eg Audiovisual Technique, Data Documentation).

By the creation of the Coordinating Committee (in which the heads of the sports information and documentation centres were seated), and by the development of a central IASI database via SIRC in Canada, by means of modern information techniques, a number of commission tasks were exceeded (exchange between countries, coordination of technical support, unification of the indexing, international bibliographies).

Since the end of the eighties temporary working groups were established beside the permanent commissions, that centred round specific projects with clearly defined tasks. The international sessions of the different commissions were organised by national centres. The experts took part in the activities on a voluntary basis. In many cases the meetings ran parallel with the IASI congresses or with the sessions of the Executive Committee. The work of the commissions resulted in among others: lists of publications, methodical material, recommendations and regulations and reports on experiences and activities.

### *Commission on Classification* (established in 1961, dissolved 1990)

*chairmen:*

*Dr. W. Arnold (GDR) led some preliminary meetings*  
*I. Toth (Hungary) '61-'90*

Its main task was to elaborate the part of sports of the UDC (International Decimal Classification System) to arrive to a better classification of literature from the point of view of contents. This Commission worked in close cooperation with the FID. With the arrival of other classification languages like thesauri (suitable for computers), the UDC was gradually used less and less.

### *Terminology Commission* (established 1961, task assumed in 1987 by the Thesaurus Commission)

*chairmen:*

*Prof. J. Recla (Austria) led some meetings '61-'63*  
*Prof. A. Nicu (Romania) '63-'81*  
*Dr. F. Tscherne (Austria) '81-'87*

Its aim was to define the basic principles of sports in order to come to a uniform scientific idiomatic use (which at the same time could be used as basis for the classification system). The participants were mainly experts from the German speaking areas; later on the Commission split up in smaller working groups based on disciplines (eg ski).

### *Thesaurus Commission, since 1989: Working Group Information Retrieval Language* (established 1969)

*chairmen:*

*Dr. F. Tscherne (Austria) '72-'84*  
*Dr. W. Kneyer (FRG) '85-'90*  
*R. Stark (Canada) from '90*

The original task was to elaborate a multi-lingual sports thesaurus that should serve as a basis for an international computer supported system for the input and output of sports information. Since 1973 a group of experts (especially German speaking)



9 - Meeting of the Terminology Commission, Magglingen (Switzerland). Left to right: F. Tscherne, W. Kneyer, E. Schwarz, I. Toth, K. Ringli

worked intensively at the thesaurus. At the same time national thesauri sprang up. By using an English thesaurus for the database SPORT-IASI, a division of tasks became necessary between on the one hand a practical working thesaurus group for SIRC and on the other hand the Commission itself. The Commission was asked to continue the scientific elaboration as well as to support the work of the SIRC group.

#### *Information Sources Commission*

*(established 1976 - from 1991 to 1993 as Ad Hoc Working Group)*

*chairwomen:*

*Dr. S. Müller-Hirsch (GDR) '76-'88*

*A. Pälvimäki (Finland) '88-'93*

It was founded in 1976 was the result of the fusion of the Commissions Specialised Libraries (1961), Bibliography (1961) and Audiovisual Technique (1965). The results of this Commission have a very international character because experts from different countries took part in it. By creating an ad hoc Primary Sources Commission in 1988, an overlap was no longer avoidable and therefore the Executive Committee decided in 1991 to dissolve the Commission and to have the running tasks carried out by ad hoc working groups.

#### *Training Commission*

*(established 1961, dissolved 1984)*

*chairmen:*

*Dr. Z. Majewski (Poland) '61-'78*

*Dr. T. Szubra (Poland) '78-'84*

Since 1961 a Training Commission was charged with supporting the formation of sports documentalists, the elaboration of reading materials, the organisation of courses for sports information and the starting up of information centres in different countries. After having organised various international courses, this Commission died a slow death. Several of its tasks were taken over by other commissions.

#### *Information Commission*

*(established 1967, dissolved 1975)*

*G.A. Bell (United Kingdom), chairman '67-'75*

The Information Commission was started in 1967 to give information on the tasks and activities of BDI/IBDI/IASI as well as on the developments of sports information in the world. Later the International Bulletin for Sports Information (since 1977) took over this task.

#### **Primary Sources Commission**

(established 1988, from 1991 to 1993 as Ad Hoc Working Group)

chairwomen:

G. Fiedler (GDR) '88-'91

N. Clarke (Australia) '91-'93

It was initially an ad hoc Commission consisting of those responsible for libraries from different countries. The tasks of this Commission were among others the preparation and organisation of a quick exchange of literature between the countries via a network of sports libraries and based on the principles of international lending between libraries. Another task was to compile a list of the magazines owned by the IASI Centres.

Since 1991 the tasks are carried out by ad hoc working groups.

Other Commissions had shorter life and are just mentioned here.

#### **Specialised Libraries Commission**

(established 1961, task assumed in 1976 by the Information Sources Commission)

K. Ringli (Switzerland) chairman '61-'76

#### **Bibliographic Commission**

(established 1961, task assumed in 1976 by the Information Sources Commission)

Prof. J. Recla (Austria) chairman '61-'76

#### **Audiovisual Techniques Commission**

(established 1965, task assumed in 1976 by the Information Sources Commission)

chairmen:

E. Enrile (Italy) '65-'72

H. J. Müller (FRG) '72-'76

#### **Medical Data Commission**

(established 1965, task partly assumed in 1972 by the Data Documentation Commission)

Prof. E. Klaus (FRG) chairman '65-'71

#### **Data Documentation Commission**

(established 1972, dissolved 1978)

S. Lachenicht (FRG) chairman '72-'78

The exchange of medical and training data of athletes was progressively restricted by the countries.

Other Commissions, for example the Data Documentation and the Computer Usage Commission, never really became active.

A selection of the results of the work within the commissions:

- \* revision of the section 796 of the UDC, multi-lingual edition of the UDC Part 796/799
- \* definition of the principles of movement
- \* bibliography of the terminology in sports and physical education
- \* elaboration of a theoretical model for relations between the different principles, inventory of existing thesauri
- \* construction of a multi-lingual basic thesaurus for sports as well as for several subareas like the sociology of sport, the history of sport, training theory
- \* list of sport periodicals according to the ISO and ISSN standards
- \* directives for the composition of bibliographies
- \* international thematic bibliographies: sport and age, sport and women, sport and youth, sport and developing countries, sport and the disabled, sport and environment
- \* training programmes for the formation of sports documentalists
- \* work book on scientific sports information (in Polish)
- \* fixing the principles for lending and exchanging
- \* lists containing the secondary sources from different countries
- \* list of international periodical and monographic secondary sources for sport and physical education.

## Towards the year 2000

### The period 1989 to 1993

The SIRC/IASI agreement was reached in 1989 at the General Assembly in Papendal just before Gilles Chiasson became the new President of IASI.

Over the following four years IASI continued the consolidation of the SPORT/IASI database even though some events weakened the association between SIRC and IASI and even threatened the above agreement. This sad occurrence was the decision of the BISp to pull its support from the SPORT/IASI database. This was a shock to all other members of IASI who regretted this action. However, IASI as an association had to accept the situation and recognise that the ideal of a unique international database would be delayed, if not forever postponed. The only attitude left was for IASI to accept the existence of more than one international database, although the Executive Committee strongly supported the view that the one database that IASI was still fully supporting was the SPORT/IASI database.

There has been no increase in the number of participants in the SPORT/IASI database even though some participants increased their input. That was the case in particular for Australia which has really shown what benefits can be accrued from sharing databases.

The Executive Committee continued to examine the Constitution of IASI with a view of modifying the structures of IASI to adapt it more to the present conditions. It was decided that the commissions as they existed now would be eliminated and replaced by ad hoc working groups created upon the wishes of the Executive Committee for a specific purpose and disbanded when the project was completed.

A new set of statutes was approved at the General Assembly in June 1993. The new statutes are truly an embodiment of the practices of the Association for the last few years. It was recognised that at all IASI Executive Committee meetings there are frequently many participants who are not members of the Executive Committee but who have a lot to offer to the association. It is an opportunity especially for the receiving country to have its own input more strongly felt within the association.

The Executive Committee although the number of its members does not change, will become more of an executive than a forum. The forum or the discussion of ideas will happen in the general meeting which includes all people interested in the work of IASI that attend a session : it is truly a forum. This forum will make recommendations for actions to be taken by the Association, and the Executive Committee will follow this meeting and judge whether or not these recommendations are to be carried out. If necessary, the ExCo will nominate committees or commissions as it sees fit or as recommended by the forum to carry out the work.

Given that the work toward the control of bibliographic information is well under way with the SPORT/IASI database and other databases, such as SPOLIT and HERACLES, IASI concentrated its attention upon the creation of a directory of sport information centres, which will be essential to support the work of accessing the actual documents once bibliographic information has been identified. Eventually the current periodical holdings will be added to this directory and made available possibly through the same channels as the database.

The 9th International Scientific Congress of Rome (June 1993) had a great success. More than 200 participants from more than 40 countries, more than 60 speakers. For the first time a representative from the IOC attended the meeting and opened the door to the IOC recognition.

IASI is gradually moving into a position of helping more and more the national centre in providing information to its clients. It is a very long road, but with the resources at our disposal we are travelling it at the only possible speed. Our approach to the second millennium should see us become fully networked with a freer flow of information.





10 - IASI Meetings 1994, Canberra (Australia)

## Today and tomorrow

In the high technology world in which we live, it is essential for an organisation to be able to react quickly to change. Long term plans have to be modified at short notice and new plans put in place.

Through the changes in its Constitution (eg. democratic elections, ad hoc Working Groups, creation of an information experts Forum), IASI should now be better prepared to respond to the immediate needs of the membership and to changes in our environment.

At each meeting of the Forum, proposals for action will be put forward and acted on by the Executive Committee. Because it is difficult to predict the exact direction that these actions will take, IASI needs a flexible working programme.

The major principles for the activities of the Association towards the year 2000 can be summarised as follows:

### 1. Development of important databases,

- further development of the SPORT-IASI database as the major English database,
- collaboration with other databases,
- encouragement of the coordination between databases.

### 2. Development of work at regional level,

- encouragement of initiatives within the existing regional networks,
- stimulating the establishment of regional networks (structures, organisations) based on regional and or linguistic ground,
- encouragement of new ways and means to integrate developing countries in the work of the Association (eg. bilateral or multilateral collaboration).

### 3. Collaboration with other associations/organisations,

- close links will be maintained with ICSSPE to provide a special expertise to the scientific community,
- cooperation wherever needed and possible will be stimulated with other sports organisations, especially with the International Olympic Committee.

Nevertheless priority is given to ad hoc Working Groups with short-term and well-defined projects (eg. Bibliographies, Project Sportcom, Coordination of alphabets, Participation at Congresses, List of congresses, Work on external relationship /eg. with the IOC/, Business rules for funding, Production of PR material, Directory of Information centres, List of publishers and video-tape suppliers, List of E-mail network of members, etc.), there are areas in which long term plans are required.

That is the case for projects such as:

- The SPORT database project will continue and plans will be made to coordinate the work of all organisations having a national database with the IASI/SPORT database.
- IASI will continue to develop as a "network" by first producing a directory of information services (initially in hard copy, and eventually electronic), complete with information on the centre, on periodical holdings, and on document provision policies. Studies should be made to determine to what extent coordination can be achieved for information in different alphabets; in other words IASI should not be concerned only with Roman alphabet languages but also with Japanese, Chinese, Cyrillic, Arabic, etc. It is yet unclear what will be the influence of INTERNET on the work of the association, but it is certain that it will be very significant.
- IASI will cooperate with various organisations to coordinate the collection of data on sport competitions.
- IASI will investigate new ways and means to integrate developing countries in the work of the association (eg. through its regional groups and through the olympic movement). Regarding the near future, the IOC and IASI will examine possible cooperative ventures to improve the availability of sports information and documentation in the developing countries.

## IASI - V.I.P. Index

### *Presidency:*

(1960-67)	Walther Arnold	(1977-81)	Morgan Olsen
(1967-70)	Julien Falize	(1981-84)	Karl Ringli
(1970-72)	Jaromir Tomanek (interim)	(1985-89)	Siegfried Lachenicht
(1972-77)	Joseph Recla	(1989- )	Gilles Chiasson

### *Secretary General:*

(1960-67)	Julien Falize	(1988-89)	Albert Remans
(1967-72)	Maurice Piéron	(1988- )	Albert Remans
(1972-88)	Robert Timmer		

### *Treasurer:*

(1960-89)	Istvan Toth	(1989-93)	Petr Hursky
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### *Vice-presidents (in alphabetic order)*

Helmut Bachmann (1981-93), Athmane Benslimane (1993-), Esperanza Bobes Ruiz (1993-), Gilles Chiasson (1981-89), Nerida Clarke (1989-), Miguel Del Poze Piernavieja (1972-74), Eduardo Gorraez Larrinaga (1981-93), Georgi Kaburov (1985-89), Siegfried Lachenicht (1981-84), Mary Margaret McGinnis-Newsom (1989-), Bruno Rossi-Mori (1993-), Levan Sanadze (1981-85), Jaromir Tomanek (1960-70; 1975-77), Friedrich Trogsch (1972-81), Ruying Wang (1989-93), Yen Sumin (1985-89), Yaping Zhao (1993-).

### *Executive Board Members (in alphabetic order):*

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(93-), Petr Hursky (89-93), Josefa Ibanez Villar (81-89), Georgi Kaburov (74-93), E.J. Klaus (60-74), Wolfgang Kneyer (81-93), Siegfried Lachenicht (72-93), A. Leitao (60-66), G. Lorphevre (60-77), Tie Ma (93-), Joan MacDiarmid-Gordon (81-85), Ayala Maharik (93-), Zygmunt Majewski (60-81), Alistair McDonald (60-68), Mary Margaret McGinnis-Newsom (85-), Min-Chun Tsai (93-), Jane Mourao Lvalho (93-), Alfred Morgan Olsen (77-85), H.J. Müller (72-77; 93-), Sigrid Müller-Hirsch (72-89), Alexe Nicu (63-85), F. Parazols (69-77), Anitta Pälvimäki (85-), Maurice Piéron (67-72), Alain Poncet (89-93), Victor Pycktin (89-93), Joseph Recla (60-81), Albert Remans (89-), Karl Ringli (72-93), Daniel Romero (81-85), Bruno Rossi-Mori (93-), A. Sadowska (60-66), L. Sanadze (81-85), David Scarfe (85-89), E. Schlee (60-64), Erika Schwarz de Santamaria (85-), Seurin (77-81), Anna Skalowska-Wrzeszcz (85-), Cindy Slater (93-), Tadeusz Szubra (77-85), Werner Thilo (77-81), Robert Timmer (72-89), Jaromir Tomanek (60-77), Istvan Toth (60-90), Friedrich Trögsch (72-81), Friedrich Tscherne (72-81), A. Vassev (60-66), Anne-Mette Vibe (89-), W. Van Huss (67-77), Ruying Wang (89-93), Sumin Yen (81-89), Stefan Zackso (81-85), Yaping Zhao (93-).

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