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Humanistic and social approaches toward sport – the short information about an international conference in Poland

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Readers of the “IDO Movement for Culture” should be interested in a relatively new association which deals with topics of sport and social sciences. The *International Society for the Social Sciences of Sport* (ISSSS) was established at Józef Pilsudski University of Physical Education in Warsaw, Poland, in 2009 and has organized two conferences up till now. The goal of the ISSSS is a development, research and popularization of widely understood social sciences, it means philosophical, sociological, psychological, pedagogical, historical, anthropological, aesthetical, and maybe even more approaches connected with sport. The ISSSS embodies signs of a positive growth only one year after its foundation: more members from a higher number of countries, a firmer organizational anchorage, a development of the journal designed for the needs of society, namely *Physical Culture and Sport: Studies and Research*, published by this named University in cooperation with Versita Publishing House. The editorial board of this international journal sounds really very prestigious: **Jerzy Kosiewicz** (Poland) as the editor in chief, seven next editors: **Jay Coakley, R. Scott Kretchmar, William Morgan and Cesar R. Torres** (all of them from the U.S.A.), **John S. Russel** (Canada), **Wanderley Marchi Júnior** (Brazil), and **Miguel Cornejo Améstica** (Chile). Next 34 experts are the editorial advisory board. For more details see <http://versita.com/pcssr/editors/>. It could be a good place for publishing in a wide area of social sciences of sport around the world.

The second conference of the ISSSS took place at Józef Pilsudski University of Physical Education in Warsaw, Poland, on September 24th-27th, 2010. There were accepted 60 abstracts by 78 authors in the conference program. Although one can frivolously think the organization statutory appertains in Poland will be interesting only for the

applicants from the nearest countries (people from the Central Europe can remember the traditional Czech-Slovak-Polish symposia in this branch area), the contrary is true. There were some participants from Asia (Iran and Japan), the U.S.A. and of course from many European countries (besides hosting Poland also from the Czech Republic, Hungary, Italy, Great Britain, Spain, Portugal, Slovenia and Slovakia). As it was written above, the aim of the ISSSS is the communication through the discourses of many disciplines. The interest is coming from such branches as kinanthropology (kinesiology, sport science) with specialization in philosophy (including ethics and aesthetics), sociology, psychology, pedagogy, history but also recreology. The interdisciplinary dialogue can bring many inspiring associations. It is a chance for such expert and professional activities. The danger from the other side threatens in the shape of the ascendant differentiation without possibility of mutual understanding. However, I perceive more positives in this potential cross-over of our own discourses – I do not know any other such a departmental organization. There are both the very specialized institutions (for sociologists – like the EASS – or philosophers, for example), and contrary to wide externalization of sport together they conduct research of social and nature sciences.

The general framework of conference demarcated by name **Sport in the Context of European Cultural and Social Changes** was segmented into these thematic sessions:

1. The Subjective Aspects of Sport in Philosophical Perspective.
2. Theoretical and Empirical Determinants of Sociology of Sport.
3. Historical and Contemporary Faces of Sport and Olympism.
4. Psychological Determinants of Sport.

5. Pedagogy towards the Challenges of Contemporary Sport.
6. Social Background of Training and Competition in Sport.
7. Tourism and Recreation in the Light of Social Needs.
8. Social Issues of Sport Management.
9. Open Papers.

Not everybody from the people who declared their participation participated there (for different reasons), so from time to time some lucid changes in session's organization happened. However, every interested expert got oriented in the program in the end. At the start of the conference, within the frame of beginning ceremonies, Prof. **Gyöngyi Földesi** from Semmelweis University in Budapest was granted the First Honorary Membership of the ISSSS. The honoured expert demonstrated a brief but very expressive presentation whose topic was *Professional and Moral Responsibility of (Sport) Sociologists* where she was able to differentiate between the scientific and politic contexts. Definitely all the present auditors were very impressed by her refinement, grace and very enjoyable English.

The speech of the ISSS president prof. **Jerzy Kosiewicz** was formulated intentionally quite provocatively. *Sport beyond Moral Good and Evil*, was presented by the constituent president of the ISSSS at the beginning of the event as well. Two next keynote lectures were ranked on the program: Prof. **John Hughson** from Great Britain gained the attention of the auditorium by his interconnection of aesthetic and sport in a paper entitled *Re-uniting Sport and Art: The Potential of Olympic Posters*, and another one *Death as an Outermost Horizon of Sport*.

I am sure every participant will keep in mind the social program for a long time. We had a special opportunity to visit Żelazowa Wola village, the birthplace of F. Chopin in the year of 200 anniversary of his birth. A nice place, wonderful weather, an amazing piano recital of Chopin's works create an unforgettable experience. Also visitation of the Museum of Warsaw insurrection was extremely expressive. The film shows the ruins of the city after bombing in the spring 1945 testifying the barbarism of any war: while 1 300 000 people lived in Warsaw in the beginning of war in autumn 1939, only 1 000 survived in wreckages six years later...

I would like to share also the information about the next conferences in near future. The third meeting of the ISSSS will take place at Faculty of Physical Culture, Palacký University in Olomouc, the Czech Republic from the 21st- to 24th September, 2011. From the beginning of this year the conference's web pages with all important

information will be functional at the address www.issss2011.upol.cz. From the Czech Republic we will move to London, Great Britain in 2012 and after that to Oporto, Portugal, were the same active people personally interconnect ISSSS and EASS. The future is open, but the organizational team in Olomouc has been already thinking of how to organize the meeting in an interesting way not only on its professional level, but also how to prepare an extraordinary social part of the event. We hope, all of us will experience and spend our time in a useful and pleasant way. Will you come? You will be warmly welcome in Olomouc!

Humanistyczne i społeczne ujęcia sportu – krótka informacja o międzynarodowej konferencji w Polsce

Słowa kluczowe: ISSSS, konferencja, czasopismo, dialog interdyscyplinarny

Praca jest sprawozdaniem z drugiej konferencji Międzynarodowego Towarzystwa Nauk Społecznych o Sporcie (skrót pol. MTNSS, skrót ang. ISSSS), która odbyła się w dniach 24-27 września, 2010 w Warszawie w Akademii Wychowania Fizycznego Józefa Piłsudskiego. Do prezentacji zostało zakwalifikowanych 60 abstraktów 78 autorów.

PTNSS jest organizacją założoną w 2009 roku i jej celem jest rozwój, badanie i popularyzacja szeroko pojętych nauk społecznych tzn. ujęcie sportu w kategoriach filozoficznych, socjologicznych, psychologicznych, pedagogicznych, historycznych, antropologicznych, estetycznych i innych. Organizacja zanotowała znaczny wzrost zainteresowania swoją działalnością, a także wydawanym czasopismem o kulturze fizycznej już w rok po założeniu.

Międzynarodowe czasopismo o tytule *Physical Culture and Sport: Studies and Research* współpracuje z wieloma ekspertami z wielu krajów z całego świata. Celem organizacji jest komunikacja poprzez dialog multidyscyplinarny.

Konferencja zatytułowana *Sport w kontekście zmian w kulturowych i społecznych w Europie* został podzielony na kilka sesji tematycznych m.in. subiektywnych aspektów sportu w perspektywie filozoficznej, teoretycznych i empirycznych determinantów socjologii sportu, historycznych i współczesnych obliczach sportów olimpijskich, wpływie pochodzenia społecznego na udział w sportach, rekreacji, turystyki oraz zarządzaniu sportem.

Autor wspomina także wizytę w Żelazowej Woli oraz Muzeum Powstania Warszawskiego. Natomiast w ostatniej części zachęca do udziału w kolejnej konferencji, która ma się odbyć w Palacký University w Ołomuńcu, w Czechach w dniach 21 do 24 września 2011.