

DIAGORAS

International Academic Journal on Olympic Studies



Deutsche
Sporthochschule Köln
German Sport University Cologne

Institute of Sport History
Olympic Studies Centre



Centre d'Estudis Olímpics
Universitat Autònoma de Barcelona

Ian Culpan
Emilio Fernández Peña
Stephan Wassong
(editors)



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New Zealand Centre for Olympic Studies
Putahi Akoranga Ōrimipiā o Aotearoa



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The aim of *Diagoras: International Academic Journal on Olympic Studies* is to foster a critical understanding of Olympism, the Olympic Movement and the Olympic Games. The focus of the journal is Olympic Studies with an emphasis on the educative, pedagogical, historical, socio-cultural, communicative and sport and exercise science aspects of Olympic Studies. *Diagoras* seeks to become the prestigious multi-disciplinary scholarly journal on Olympic matters by extending knowledge and understanding of related areas. Published materials will be focused on original research, integrative and analytical reviews and philosophical discussions on Olympic matters.

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EDITORS

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Preface

The idea of launching the e-journal *Diagoras: The International Academic Journal on Olympic Studies* was initially presented to the Second International Colloquium of Olympic Studies and Research Centres held on 2nd and 3rd August, 2016 in Porto Alegre, Brazil. The symposium's aim was to strengthen the collaboration between Olympic Studies Centres in academic projects on an international level. The journal clearly meets this aim through two specific avenues; this was probably why this publishing initiative was unanimously approved by those at the symposium. First, the editors-in-chief, who had the idea of the journal, embody this collaboration between Olympic Studies Centres. Prof. Ian Culpan holds the position of Director of the New Zealand Centre for Olympic Studies at the University of Canterbury, NZ, Prof. Emilio Fernández Peña chairs the Olympic Studies Centre of the Autonomous University of Barcelona and Prof. Stephan Wassong chairs the Olympic Studies Centre of the German Sport University Cologne. As to the second avenue, the journal serves as a central platform on which to publish the research of Olympic Studies Centres. This aspect, in particular, was strongly supported by those present at the symposium in Porto Alegre.

The main aim of the journal is to foster a critical understanding of Olympism, the Olympic Movement and the Olympic Games. In the attainment of this, the journal's approach will constitute that of a multi- and interdisciplinary one, whereby the articles to be published within will have an emphasis on, amongst others, the educative, pedagogical, philosophical, historical, socio-cultural, communicative and commercial aspects of Olympic studies. The structure of the journal gives room for established scholars to present their current academic works, but also for contributions from emerging scholars and post-graduate students. This strategy has to be stressed as it could serve as a means to motivate the younger generation of Olympic scholars to publish their research results, granting them the opportunity to contribute

to the academic ongoing dialogue amongst representatives of Olympic Studies Centres. Furthermore, encouraging emerging scholars and post-graduate students to publish their research will contribute to sustaining Olympic scholarship around the globe.

Drawing this preface to a conclusion, we feel that a few words must be said on the journal's selected title. It is always a great challenge to invent a new and original title for a journal as one encounters the issues of redundancy, copyright infringement and the protection of certain names. The choice of *Diagoras*, who himself, his sons and grandchildren were some of the most successful combat athletes at the Olympic Games in the 5th Century BC, should not lead to the impression that the journal is merely dedicated to ancient sport culture alone. The same applies to the paintings from the artist Utta Decker displaying the tunnel of the stadium in ancient Olympia and a victory monument for an unknown athlete dated 2./3. Century AD. The athlete was awarded with six wreaths at various athletic festivals, including the one in Olympia. We have chosen the title and the motifs of the paintings as to honour the origins of the modern Olympic Movement and Olympic Sports, while also acknowledging that any research conducted on these two topics is directly linked with the ancient festival in Olympia and athletic culture in ancient Greece. Thus, it was for these reasons that we thought it important to include *Diagoras* within the title.

We are looking forward to collaborating with academics from all Olympic Studies Centres in the development of the journal. As to the future, it is our intention that we will have published four issues of *Diagoras* by the 3rd International Symposium of Olympic Studies and Research Centres, which is scheduled to be held in 2020 at the Tsukuba University, Tokyo. This would be a wonderful accomplishment and evidence for the excellent ongoing collaboration between Olympic Studies Centres worldwide.

Prof. Ian Culpan
Prof. Emilio Fernández Peña
Prof. Stephan Wassong

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