Dear Reader!

As you probably know, full texts of articles published in Kinesiology are accessible electronically at the web address www.srce.hr/cak.hr, at the central portal of Croatian scientific journals. We have informed you about that project in the last Editorial. However, our information was not comprehensive enough – we mentioned all those responsible for its realization, but we forgot to pay due respect to those who launched the very idea and took the responsibility to edit the portal: the idea came from the Croatian Information and Documentation Society. We were aware that visibility and accessibility of the journal should have been improved, but the number of visits surpassed our most optimistic expectations – since January 1, 2007, the journal Kinesiology pages have been visited over 4,300 times. Therefore we are grateful, dear readers, to you who have already read our pages electronically or will visit them in the future, but also to all known and unknown people who made this project a reality.

This issue of Kinesiology opens with the contribution by Włodzimierz Starosta and Waclaw Petryński of Poland, addressing specifically international terminology in the field of human movement science. As an inter- and multidisciplinary field encompassing educational, natural, biomedical and technical sciences aspects alike, human movement science requires the problems of terminology to be solved adequately in order to enable mutual understanding and good communication between professionals of various backgrounds. The authors discuss this matter rather authoritatively, referring to important people in the history of the field such as Bernstein; pointing out main problems regarding languages, English in particular; discussing biomechanical notions (force, strength and similar), and many other relevant issues. Finally, they accentuate the importance of creating an international, encyclopaedic dictionary of physical culture.

Although the referees of the article had certain remarks and suggestions, the Editorial Board found the article very intriguing and decided to publish it without any substantial changes of its contents (except for the necessary language editing). Scholars are aware that certain terms (and the notions, of which those terms are signs) in kinesiology or human movement science - this still rather young science, which has in different countries developed in directions sometimes different from the ones in the Anglo-Saxon literature - are formed under the influence of national scientific tradition and languages (even the name of the science itself has not been uniformly determined). Those non-English speaking researchers, who wish to contribute to the advances in kinesiology, must write in English and then they sometimes encounter obstacles that are difficult to overcome properly. It is our hope that a broader kinesiological community, English and non-English speaking members alike, will find the article worthwhile as well. Some may even wish to contribute to this discussion. The Kinesiology Editorial Board’s standpoint is: we encourage any future comments, statements and suggestions regarding this topic because they will undoubtedly improve scientific unambiguous communication in the field of kinesiology or human movement science.

Petra Zsidegh and collaborators (Hungary) utilized a standard methodology - used previously in numerous kinesiological researches - of body composition assessment in combination with some running tests to analyze the sample of Hungarian Roma children, comparing them to their non-Roma peers, on fairly large matched subject samples. The research which addressed prepubertal children has drawn some important practical conclusions regarding socio-economic influence on physical condition.

The third contribution, by Vasilios Diafas and collaborators from Greece and Bulgaria, studies kayak ergometry. The problem explored was how to rate perceived exertion - a means of quantifying subjective, self-reported estimates of effort expended. This paper contributes to scaling methodology in this domain.

The Faculty of Kinesiology team of authors, led by Vesna Babić, presents the findings on relations between running speed and morphological and power body characteristics obtained on the sample of kinesiology students. By applying statistical analytical methods the authors have reached conclusions that may contribute to better understanding of the factors responsible for sprint performance in the population of athletes who are not top-level sprinters. These findings may be useful to physical education teachers and physical conditioning coaches alike.
Blaž Lešnik and Milan Žvan of Slovenia present their new findings on alpine skiing. Kinematic measurements were realised in outdoor conditions. Based on the analysis of measured data a contribution to knowledge in competitive alpine skiing is attempted.

Another team from the Faculty of Kinesiology, University of Zagreb, led by Jadranka Vlašić, focuses on folk dances by exploring relations between motor and morphological characteristics of the sample of female university students. The paper makes the contribution towards new kinesiological knowledge on folk dances.

This issue of the journal further continues with the paper by Marjeta Kovač and her collaborators (Slovenia) researching into characteristics and motor abilities of boys following different secondary-school programmes. Research was based on a very large subject sample, reaching conclusions that enable, among others things, adequate generalisations connecting physical with socio-economic status of the respective population.

Jakob Bednarik and collaborators of Slovenia present the problem of segmentation of sports consumers in Slovenia. Marketing aspects were considered in relation with various types of involvement in consuming sport events.

Eva Leibinger and her collaborators (Hungary) present the survey of the public educational systems in several European countries from the physical education point of view. Identifying the similarities and the differences, they conclude that physical education and sport may surely be considered value-bearer and value-transmitter fields of education, emphasised more or less in all analysed educational systems.

And finally, Tomislav Badel and collaborators from the Faculty of Dental Medicine, University of Zagreb, present a sports medicine subject in contact sports. A branch of dentistry called sports dentistry is identified and intraoral mouthguard programs are explained and advocated.

This spectrum of subjects together with various geographical origins of the researchers guarantee, we believe, a continuation of dynamic and vivid life of the journal Kinesiology, of interest both to professionals and scientists in the broad field of kinesiology.

At the end we would like to announce the 5th International Conference on Kinesiology which is going to be held in Zagreb in fourteen months – more precisely, on September 10-14, 2008. During the Conference, we sincerely hope, all the members of the international Editorial Board and some members of the Advisory Board of our journal will attend a meeting to discuss editorial and publishing matters.

Editors