

Editorial

Dear Reader,

During the period of eight months that have passed after the 3rd International Scientific Conference 'Kinesiology – New Perspectives', held in Opatija in September 2002, and after all those involved had gone back to their daily routines, many positive impressions expressed by people who were on the spot were the reward for the efforts contributed by the organizers, by the participants, by the guests and many others. Many letters that we have received since then encourage us to start the preparations for our fourth conference on kinesiology, under the tentative title 'Progress and Excellence', with big enthusiasm. The fourth conference on kinesiology is planned to be held in Opatija in September 2005. The reflections on the previous conference may be seen in the increased number of new high-quality contributions submitted for publication in our journal *Kinesiology*. We are particularly happy to receive so many articles written by authors from all over the world and we hope that we shall receive many more submissions in the future.

Since the last issue of our journal several international, both scientific and professional, meetings were held that were all organized or co-organized by the Faculty of Kinesiology, University of Zagreb.

From February 21 to February 23, 2003, the international scientific-professional symposium entitled "Physical Conditioning of Athletes" (the original title in Croatian was: "Kondicijska priprema sportaša" and the official language of the symposium was Croatian) was held in Zagreb, at the Zagreb Fair Congress Hall. Faculty of Kinesiology and Zagreb Sports Association were among many organizers of the meeting. The presentations held by active participants have covered the basic and sport-specific subjects that are of interest both to sport scientists and coaches. Proceedings of the meeting (588 pp.) were edited by D. Milanović and I. Jukić.

The 5th Alps-Adriatic Conference on Sport was held in Rovinj 5-7 June, 2003. The general themes were "Parents as Partners in School Sport" and "Water as a Sport Medium for Activities in Recreational, Amateur and Elite sport". The interesting theme-related discussi-

ons presented in the submissions were summarised in the Conference Proceedings, edited by S. Puhak and K. Kristić.

Rovinj was the place for the traditional meeting of Croatian physical educators at the 12th Summer School of Kinesiologists. This year the topic was "Methods of work in physical education, competitive sport and recreational sport".

At the island of Krk, sport physicians, kinesiologists, psychologists, social workers and many people of other professions met at the end of April, 2003, under the patronage of the Croatian Olympic Committee and in organization of the Croatian Association "Sport for All" and the Faculty of Kinesiology, University of Zagreb, to discuss diverse aspects of physical exercise and activity of the elderly. The invited lecturer Prof. Roland Renson (Belgium) and 29 contributors highlighted the issue from the medical, sociological, psychological and methodological point of view. The original research results and professional experiences presented to over 90 participants have been published in the special issue of the Croatian journal "Sport for All".

Additionally, the Croatian scientists participated in the 7th International Scientific Congress "Modern Olympic Sport & Sport for All", which was held in Moscow from 24th to 27th May, 2003 (more than 600 scholars from all over the world were present at this Congress). The participants addressed issues regarding future perspectives of top-level sport, on the one hand, and on the other, the issues of how to enhance the rates of adherence to life-long engagement in physical exercise and sporting activities.

We are delighted by the fact that after more than 30 years the residency in sports medicine, as the joint residency in occupational and sport medicine, has been re-established in Croatia. This is expected to contribute to a better health care of sport activity participants, as well as to a better scientific and professional collaboration between medicine and kinesiology.

The issue that is before you contains ten papers that cover a wide range of scientific topics within kinesiology and the adjacent sciences. The topics belonging to the core of kinesiology address the analysis of anthropometric characteristics of runners and their

performance in 110m and 400m hurdling events, the changes in motor abilities and morphological characteristics in young women who participate in various aerobic dance programs, the qualitative biomechanical analysis of the overarm throw as a typical example of sport-specific segment of locomotion, and, which is particularly important, the analysis of the latent structure of agility, the ability that may be said to be the most important in many sports. The two papers from the field of physical education that regard the possible ways of how to enhance students' motivation for physical education classes participation and how to boost the reputation of the subject PE at schools are also included. The discussion on secular changes in

sport points to the sport-specific selection with regard to the morphological and biological characteristics of athletes. The study of mathematical modelling of the human body in young women comes from Far East. Two papers that cover the field of sport tourism and the promotion as the element of sport marketing mix are particularly important for Croatia since tourism is one of the most developed industries in Croatia.

We are particularly looking forward to meeting our colleagues and friends at the 8th ECSS congress in Salzburg, where many Croatian scientists will also be present. We hope to expand the circle of our friends and associates from the whole world.

Editors