

Arete

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Winter 2005

*Goodness is the only
investment that never
fails*
Henry David Thoreau

Athens 2004 — My Experience Carlo Farrugia (MLT)

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Since I was very young I was madly in love with all kinds of sports. The Olympic Games personified my love for sports and every four years I was glued to the television set to see my idols perform in different sports. I always said to myself "One day I will go to the Olympic Games." In 1995 I took my first taste of my Olympic experience when I participated at the Session for Young Participants in Olympia, at the IOA. The experience was incredible and I discovered a new way of life that has helped me ever since. The IOAPA gave me the opportunity to return every two years for its conference. In fact as a member of the IOAPA Executive Board it became my duty to organise this event for all the IOAPA members. In 1997 the games were awarded to Athens and my wish to attend my first Olympic Games started to grow stronger and stronger.

I was very lucky to be invited again as a coordinator at the IOA session and this gave me more impetus to give back to the Olympic movement what it had given to me. In 2000 the IOAPA was lucky to be invited to participate in the torch relay and I was extremely fortunate to be able to take part and carry the Olympic torch. This was, at the time, the climax of my Olympic experience and I still cherish the moment in which I ran with the torch passing the flame from one runner to the other.

I applied on the official website of the games as a volunteer. Then I waited and waited and waited for a reply. Finally, the much awaited phone call arrived. I was informed that I had been chosen to work as a volunteer

at the airport accreditation centre. It was wonderful, fantastic, and incredible since finally here I was with the chance to make my dream of participating in the Olympic Games come true. I made all the preparations for travel and accommodation and on August 13 I landed once again in Athens airport. I immediately noticed many positive changes. Better organisation, more cleanliness, and better transport. I immediately made my way to the uniform centre to pick up my volunteer uniform. Putting on the uniform made me feel better and also part of the games. The volunteers became synonymous with the Athens games and one could find them everywhere spread all over Athens. My first day of volunteering work also arrived. At the airport we were the first people that met all the members of the Olympic family and therefore we tried our best to make them feel welcomed. All the volunteers were extremely helpful and together they formed a fantastic cohesive team.

The venues were artistically beautiful and stunning to see; in particular the OAKA centre was simply awesome. The venues, restaurants, shops, and the sponsor centres were simply incredible and just walking inside them made you feel part of this big Olympic family. I tried to make the most of my stay in Athens and visited all the sport venues and tried to see as many different sports as possible. In fact, I managed to see volleyball, cycling, swimming, diving, waterpolo, football, gymnastics, athletics, and of course my favourite sport basketball. I also managed to go to the Olympic village where I met the

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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Laurel Brassey Iversen (USA)



I would like to wish all of you a safe, healthy and prosperous New Year. Of course, the recent tsunami disaster in South Asia has affected many of us. Please take some time and send emails to your IOAPA friends in the affected areas. If you are in a position to help financially, they can best tell you how to do so, or you can contact your local agencies.

2005 marks our 9th IOAPA Conference Session. In this newsletter, you will find all the information that you need to reserve your place. This is my last year as IOAPA President and it would be a great joy to see many old IOA friends this summer in Olympia and meet lots of new participants. So many IOAPA members were in Athens for the Olympic Games that we will have much to share. Then we will turn our attention to Torino and Beijing. Dr. Filaretos may retire soon, and there are bound to be changes in the IOA and the IOAPA. New policies will be set in place for both organizations. Please join us and be a part of electing the new leaders of the IOAPA, and setting the course for the future.

It has been my sincere pleasure to serve in this capacity. I only regret that I have not been able to accomplish more. I am very encouraged by the new leaders making their presence known and I feel that our organization will be in capable hands.

Remember the magic of Ancient Olympia! I urge you to find the time and the means to join us once more on the banks of the Alpheus. I promise you will not be disappointed. I hope to strengthen our friendships and share the Olympism that we cherish.

Sincerely,

Laurel Brassey Iversen

Website News Héctor Argüelles (ESP)



Dear friends,

The IOAPA website continues being extended and updated. New sections have been created and more information will be added along the next months. Please check periodically www.ioapa.org

All the best,

Héctor Argüelles - hector@ioapa.org

The Hans van Haute Fund



Harald Regensburger (AUT)

Dear IOAPA members,

As chairman of the Hans van Haute Fund committee, I would like to kindly remind you about and ask donations for Fund. The Hans van Haute Fund has been created to provide financial aid to those members who due to monetary reasons have difficulties joining the biannual IOAPA sessions in Olympia.

To fulfill our aim we need your support. Please consider sending your donations to IOAOA treasurer Paul Baldacchino. You can contact him at pablo@ioapa.org

Many thanks in advance,

Harry Regensburger

L'odyssée vers la découverte de l'idéal Olympique Ntwali Thierry (RWA)

Je n'ai jamais eu un rêve olympique et je ne connais rien des idéaux olympiques.

Je viens du Rwanda, un pays de l'Afrique Central dont on a du mal a retrouver sur une carte de l'Afrique

Je suis né dans un pays de refuge parce que mes parents ont quitté le Rwanda dans les années 1959 a cause des problèmes politiques appelés à tort ethniques mais surtout fuyant les massacres qui s'organisaient.

Ces massacre ont abouti au drame de 1994 que nombreux d'entre vous ont suivie à la télévision!

Je ne veux pas vous faire la peine en vous racontant cela, mais quand je pense aux expériences que je vais partager avec vous, j'aboutis à ce que le devoir de mémoire m'impose de vous en parler en quelque ligne pour mieux me situer.

Ces massacres du Rwanda, organisés, systématiques traduisaient un projet génocidaire inédit. L'inexorable mort s'abattait sur de pauvres innocents qui courraient simplement parce qu'ils étaient TUTSI. C'était horrible! même ceux qui avaient des jambes et bras coupés, ils demandaient de l'eau pour survivre seulement une heure de plus! Mais personne ne s'en occupait. Tous étaient massacrés sans pitié.

Le déchirement, les souffrances qui m'ont accablé au moment de ces massacres qui ont fait des victimes parmi mes frères et compatriotes, m'ont montré comment le génocide Rwandais de 1994 n'est pas une affaire causée par la misère ou le manque d'instruction. Les instigateurs étaient tous instruit, comme quoi l'instruction est nécessaire pour nous éclairer sur le monde, mais elle ne rend pas nécessairement l'homme meilleur, mais seulement efficace. Mais cette efficacité peut être bien ou mal utilisée!

Le génocide de tout un peuple a presque réussi sous le regard télévisé du monde et dans la quasi-indifférence des Etats. Le serment du "plus jamais ça" prononcé après Auschwitz a bien été trahi.

J'ai lu qu'après le dernier génocide les historiens expliquent que ce sera le dernier; parce que personne ne pourra plus accepter une pareille infamie. Rwanda 1994 les a démenti! Guerres tribales disaient t-on. Pourtant HUTU et TUTSI forment un seul peuple d'une même culture et même langue. Alors cette hain, cette méchanceté, cette exclusion décimant, quelle en étaient les causes?

Folie de puissance, égoïsme exagérée, bêtise diabolique? je ne sais comment les expliquer ou les qualifier. Il s'est seulement passé quelque chose de grave et d'inconcevable. C'est une nation ainsi ravagée que j'ai regagné en 1995. Quand je pense au génocide je réfléchis pour lui trouver une explication mais en vain. Je peux dire simplement que ce n'est pas humain.

Après ce drame, nous mettons aujourd'hui l'accent sur la réconciliation. Il le faut parce que la vengeance ne résoudrait rien. Reconnaître les erreurs pour les uns, pardonner pour les autres, seules ces deux actions rendront la Paix à notre pays.

J'ai voulu montrer par ce récit que seules les valeurs prônées par l'Olympisme à savoir: la tolérance, la fraternité et le respect de l'autre peuvent faire régner la Paix entre les peuples, les ethnies ou simplement entre les adversaires.

Le sport doit être et rester un des moyens de reconstruire notre nation qui a tant souffert.

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L'Etat Rwandais par le biais du sport invite tous son peuple à déposer les armes et à œuvrer pour bâtir les fondements de la paix, par le respect mutuel, la compréhension et la réconciliation. C'est aussi le discours de la trêve Olympique.

Prenant en compte la nouvelle réalité dans laquelle le sport Rwandais s'inscrit, le Ministère des Sports grâce au Comité national Olympique et sportif Rwandais a décidé de faire revivre le sport comme source de réconciliation. Il doit être aussi un élément pour préserver les intérêts des athlètes et du sport en général et contribuer à la recherche de solutions pacifiques et diplomatiques des conflits qui sévissent dans la région.

Le CNOSR (Comité National Olympique et Sportif Rwandais) a susciter une prise de conscience et encourager les dirigeants sportifs à oeuvrer en faveur de la paix. La participation aux différentes compétitions Internationales dont les Jeux Olympiques et les Jeux Africains sert à mobiliser la jeunesse à la promotion des idéaux olympiques .

C'est pour toutes ces raisons qu'en 2000, j'ai été contacté par l'ancien Président du comite Olympique Rwandais a savoir M. Gédéon Rudahunga pour participer a une session pour jeune participant sur l'Olympisme. J'ai répondu favorablement mais malheureusement cette promesse n'a pas pu être honorée parce que la FIT (Fédération Internationale de Tennis) m'a recruté comme entraîneur de l'équipe Cependant cette promesse n'a pu être honore parce que la FIT m'a recruté comme entraîneur de l'équipe Africaine qui devait faire une tournée.

En 2002, nouvelle proposition pour participer à cette session avec Mlle. Brigitte Kanyange. Ma découverte de l'idée sur l'Olympisme commença donc un certain 21 juillet 2002, quand nous quittâmes le Rwanda pour Olympie, grâce à quelque vagues idées reçues de Léon Pierre Nkusi (ancien participant à l'AIO et Coordinateur de session) ne nous a pas fait peur, parce qu'on était convaincu que le sport est une école de la vie.

Les 15 jours vécus de manière collective m' ont révéler l'Olympisme. J'ai découvert les spécificités culturelles historiques et identitaire, mais surtout que le sport aujourd'hui n'est pas une fin en soi mais un outil social d'intégration, d'insertion et d'éducation qui doit bénéficier au plus grand nombre.

Illumine par tous ce que j'ai vécu a Olympie pendant ces 15 jours; j'ai changé ma façon de concevoir le sport et surtout la façon de transmettre cela. En tant qu'entraîneur une nouvelle vision s'est créés en moi, Les sportifs Rwandais en notre charge doivent retrouver leur dignités. Ainsi l'objectif est de développer par le sport une société plus humaine ou chacun puisse trouver sa place.

Beaucoup d'entre nous qui ont vécu cette aventure d'Olympie nous avons éprouve beaucoup de joie pendant ces moment passé. C'est avec des larmes aux yeux, les cœurs tristes que nous avons quitte Olympie.

C'est pour moi un début merveilleux, un bon voyage plein de passion et de motivation. J'ai réellement vécu là bas ce auquel beaucoup de mes compatriotes ne croient plus la chaleur humaine.

J'ai eu une fois de plus l'opportunité et la chance de participer en tant que coordinateur a deux années d'aventures humaines et bénéficier de la pédagogie chère a Pierre de Coubertin.

Le défi comme Rwandais étais de voir comment faire partager les idéaux de l'olympisme. En fin 2002 la première ANOR (Académie Nationale Olympique Rwandaise) vu le jour grâce a l'effort inouïe de Florent Gwigema, Brigitte Kanyange et moi même.

Pour L'ANOR , le sport n'est pas seulement un ensemble de manifestation compétitif ou un moyen pour atteindre un développement physique. Mais il est surtout une fonction qui vise l'épanouissement de l'âme des Rwandais.

Notre Olympisme se veut créateur d'un style de vie fondé sur la valeur éducative du bon exemple et du respect des principe ethiques universels. Les valeurs Olympiques ne peuvent pas imposer l'entente entre mes frères mais elles peuvent inspirer le respect mutuel et la compréhension qui sont la base de la Paix entre les hommes.

C'est mon souhait le plus cher,

Ntwali Thierry

Singapore Olympic Academy 2004 A Great Opportunity for IOAPA member Elizabeth ("Betz") Hanley (USA)!

In October 2004, I was invited by Professor Nick Aplin, Head of Olympic Studies and professor of physical education and sports science at Nanyang Technological University, to speak at the 2004 Singapore Olympic Academy. The dates for the Academy were November 22-24, at the Costa Sands Resort on Sentosa Island. On Thursday November 18 I was off to Singapore from State College, via Detroit and Tokyo. After arriving very early Saturday morning, I was taken to a lovely resort on Sentosa Island, just off the main island of Singapore, where I enjoyed a much-needed night of sleep. Most of Saturday was used to "adjust" to this part of the world: tropical heat and humidity (I actually **liked** that), interesting flora and fauna (three monkeys visited the resort's balconies, including mine!), and the variety of food in that part of the world (the fruits were wonderful).

Sunday was a briefing day, and on Monday the more than 120 physical education students arrived from the university and settled into their Sentosa resort, a mere 10 minute walk down the beach from mine. The Singapore Olympic Academy commenced with a briefing about the Academy, a short film about the ancient Olympic Games, and was followed by a "Beach Olympics" competition (the participants had been put into groups with 'leaders' who had previously attended the SOA). That proved to be great fun and an excellent way to get acquainted, particularly with the invited participants from Cambodia, Brunei, Laos, Vietnam, Taiwan, Thailand, Philippines, and other neighboring Asian countries.

Monday's opening ceremony was held outdoors that evening (around the pool!) with the Chairman of the Singapore Sports Council as guest of honor. Tuesday was a full day of lectures and discussion groups. As guest speaker, I chose "DanceSport and its Quest for Inclusion in the Olympic Games" - and included a brief background for the students on the ancient Games, Olympism, sports that have been deleted over the years, plus the growing number of sports that are attempting to gain admission to the Games. This was followed by a short dance class on American jitterbug/swing - a class I enjoyed teaching, of course!

Discussion groups were then given time to prepare for the Cultural Evening and I had the pleasure of assisting the groups with their ideas, several of which included dance. Tuesday afternoon was devoted to lectures by university faculty, Singapore Olympians, and practical ideas for Olympic Education activities in the schools. Tuesday's Cultural Evening proved to be entertaining, and was followed by a dinner where lecturers and participants had an opportunity to interact with one another.

Wednesday was the final day of the Academy. A lecture on Olympism was followed by the formal closing ceremony, final 'good-byes,' and departure from Sentosa Island to Singapore. It was an excellent Olympic Academy for all!

I was delighted to have two days prior to departure for the States and enjoyed a Night Safari at the Singapore Zoo, the beautiful Botanic Gardens, as well as a tour of the outstanding facilities at the university. Singapore proved to be a rewarding and enriching experience, not only because it was my first visit to SE Asia, but because the Academy participants, Singapore Olympians, and lecturers were positive examples of Olympism.

Elizabeth A. Hanley

What Have They Been Doing? News from IOAPA Members

On September 26 **Leo Tsu** (TPA) and his colleagues at the Olympic Studies Centre at Da-Yeh University worked hard in the world's largest lake swimming event, which was held in Sun Moon Lake, Nanto, Taiwan. The Olympic Studies Centre successfully set up a reception desk to assist swimmers as well as to promote a program called 'Peace through Sport, Swimming for Peace'. Their desk also provided sports massage, health consultation, and questionnaires on sports tourism. More than 17,000 swimmers participated in the event.



Left: Leo Tsu, second from the left, poses behind the reception desk with assistants. *Right:* Leo happily smile after his participation in the Sun Moon Lake swimming event.

Silvia Dalotto (ARG) has sent us her new contact information. Take good note:

Av. Cordoba 2444, Piso 7 "B"
Ciudad de Buenos Aires
Argentina

Telephone: 54-11-4962-5889
Mobile: 549-11-5759-5006

Alastair Cameron (AUS) is on the move again, this time to Qatar. He is going to work for the Organizing Committee of the 2006 Asian Games. From now on, the only valid e-mail address for Alastair is alastair@globalnomad.com.au

Early this year **Jeremy Cross** (GBR), our secretary, successfully defended his Ph.D. dissertation. The title was "The elite British student-athlete experience: Identity, commitment and role conflict." Jeremy obtained his Ph.D. from the School of Sport and Exercise Sciences at Loughborough University in the United Kingdom. Also notice Jeremy's new e-mail address: jeremy.cross@lane4.co.uk

Doug McLaughlin (USA) has been recently appointed lecturer in physical education and sport at the California State University at Northridge. His new e-mail address is: douglas.mclaughlin@csun.edu

A few months after his participation in the Athens 2004 Paralympic Games, **Eli Wolff (USA)** was invited to the Athlete Forum of Right to Play, which was held in Dar EL Salam, Tanzania. Eli is an Athlete Ambassador as well as a trainer for Right to Play. He facilitated a disability awareness session on December 3, International Disability Day.

Keep in touch and send us your news and updates!

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contingent from my country. The experience was exciting and unexplainable; being in the stadiums cheering the athletes was something extraordinary and fantastic. The crowds were cheering their athletes to make them attain the impossible. Whenever there was a game that involved the home country the roaring of "Hellas, Hellas" was thunderous and deafening.

People were always cordial in their manners and volunteers always had a smile on their face. I was asked many times directions to venues and other information about the games. The problem was that most of the time people were asking questions in Greek since they thought I was one of them. After some explanations, mostly by using the international sign language, I managed to answer their queries and they left feeling better and more secure. The IOAPA organised its reunion and it was great to see so many IOAPA members at the games. New friendships were made and old ones renewed.

However, I did not know that the best experience of my life had still to come.

August 29, the last day of the games arrived like a flash and all of a sudden I realised that the games were about to finish. I saw the final marathon race in the best possible scenario of the old marble stadium that was full of spectators. It was like making a jump in the past over decades and go back to the ancient games. After the end of the marathon I made my way to the closing ceremony. The thousands of spectators in the stadium and the billions of viewers all over the world witnessed a great closing ceremony filled with Greek culture, history, and music. It was fantastic and when the IOC President made his speech and thanked all the volunteers that had made these games become a reality I realised that my eyes were wet, and that I had tears rolling down my cheeks. The atmosphere, the crowd, the music, and the realisation that I was there, finally living this experience in body and soul, made me feel ecstatic.

Well done Athens, well done Greece, well done IOC, well done to all the nations and their athletes. You have offered us a great spectacle that will live on in the years and centuries to come. Well done to the volunteers for making all this happen. Well done ATHOC for making us be part of this great moment in the history of your country. Thank you.

Beijing here we come!

Carlo Farrugia



Carlo enjoying the company of Athena

Our IOAPA Conference is due once again

First of all I would like to wish all the IOAPA members a healthy year full of those things that you desire. Secondly I would like to inform you that the time to take the plane and travel to Olympia once again has finally arrived. All of us have to travel to arrive to Olympia for our regular meeting once very two years. This will be a special year since it will be the year following the Athens 2004 Olympic Games. Greece has hosted great games and some of the IOAPA members were there to give their contribution. The time to share these experiences has arrived. The time to plan the future of the IOAPA has also arrived. The time to meet friends once again has come. So let us all meet in Olympia once again. Come and bring with you your experiences so that we can all share and learn more.

This year the IOAPA conference will be held between the August 11-15 2005. It is planned that we will meet on the August 11 at 08:30 hs. near the Niki Hotel in Athens and we will catch the bus to Olympia. We will return to Athens on the August 15 in the early afternoon. There is the possibility that the IOAPA conference be reduced by one day i.e. till the August 16. If there are any changes to these dates we will inform you accordingly. Book your flights early so that you will not be disappointed. This year we are also going to take care of the hotel booking in Athens. The Niki Hotel has been upgraded and is now much nicer. We are planning to book the hotel for the IOAPA members on the night of the August 10 and the night of the August 15 (or 16) for those that will arrive before or depart after. Therefore you are requested to send in your planned date of arrival and departure so that we will be able to book the hotel in Athens as well. We would also need to know if you want to share the room with others or if you prefer to have a single room. At this stage we do not have the prices of the Niki Hotel for the summer of 2005 but we will try to make a block booking to get a reduced price. Anybody that will be staying longer is requested to inform us accordingly.

The conference this year will be the ninth working session of our Association since its beginning, way back in summer 1989 through our founder members. This has been possible through the constant work of some of our long time members as well as the constant support and help given by the International Olympic Academy, especially by Dr. Nikos Filaretos, President of the IOA and Dr. Kostas Georgiadis, Dean of the IOA, who were an inspiration for our association.

The preparations for the conference in 2005 have started and you will find the application to apply for the conference with this issue of the Arete. If you would like to attend the 2005 conference to renew that wonderful feeling and at the same time meet old friends as well as make new friends you are most welcome to apply. Try and book as early as possible since once again the places for the conference are restricted. The topics to be discussed this year at the conference are:

- 1) Our plans for the IOAPA future and
- 2) From Athens 2004 to Beijing 2008.

The IOAPA conference will evolve over the five days with various discussions, presentations by members and workshops. However there will be various other activities including sports, dancing, special social evenings and pool party. Any proposals for changes in the bye-laws will be put forward to the members and can be approved by a majority vote. The new Executive Board of the IOAPA will also be elected during the conference for another two-year term.

The Executive Board of the IOAPA would like to invite you to attend our conference and we all hope and wish that it will be a big success with everybody's contribution. I will be waiting for your applications from those of you that can make it. Remember that you have to make your own way to Olympia, out of your own pocket. You are requested to send in your deposit of USD65 (or €50) to secure your booking for a place at the conference. This fee will be deducted from the payment of the accommodation and food at the IOA, in Olympia. Please send cash if possible or a bank draft with the same country address and currency. Please note that this year all participants have to pay the accommodation and food fee amounting to €184 requested by the IOA. Those wishing to sleep in a single or double room will also have to pay an additional fee.

You can contact the undersigned by e-mail at carlo@ioapa.org by phone to 3569-945-3434. You can send your application and deposit or mail to Carlo Farrugia, Mosta PO Box 25, Mosta, Malta.

I wish you good luck in all your work and I am sure that deep in your heart you will always have a special place for Olympia, Olympism and the International Olympic Academy. See you in Olympia,

Carlo Farrugia

2005 IOAPA APPLICATION FORM

The ninth IOAPA conference will be held in Olympia from August 11-15, 2005. Since housing at the IOA is limited, acceptance for the conference will be conducted on a first come first served basis. Because of this we encourage you to fill out the application form and return it to IOAPA Vice-President Carlo Farrugia as soon as possible. Each application must be accompanied by a participation fee of €50 or USD65. If you pay by eurocheque please issue it in your own country's currency equivalent to €50 or USD65 to avoid charges for the IOAPA. We encourage participants to pay using their credit cards. *The deadline for applications is April 30, 2005.*

Carlo Farrugia, Mosta PO Box 25, Mosta, Malta Tel 3569-945-3434 E-mail: carlo@ioapa.org

~~~~~ PLEASE PRINT CLEARLY ~~~~~

NAME \_\_\_\_\_

FULL ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

TEL \_\_\_\_\_ FAX \_\_\_\_\_

E-MAIL ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

What year(s) did you attend the IOA? \_\_\_\_\_

Have you attended an IOAPA conference? Yes/No If yes, when? 1989 1991 1993 1995 1997 1999 2001 2003

Which of the following conference activities would you be willing to assist:

Sports \_\_\_ Social Evening \_\_\_ Pool Party \_\_\_ Typing of report \_\_\_ Dance group \_\_\_

*Would you be interested in making a presentation?*

If yes what would be your topic? \_\_\_\_\_

Are you interested in running for a position on the IOAPA Executive Board? Is yes, for which position?

President \_\_\_ Vice President \_\_\_ Secretary \_\_\_ Treasurer \_\_\_ IOA Liaison \_\_\_

Newsletter Editor \_\_\_ Website Officer \_\_\_ Website Officer \_\_\_ Country Representative Officer \_\_\_

(Those interested in elected office please supply a resume before the conference)

Will you make use of the following:

Bus from Athens to Olympia Village on 11 August? Yes/No

Bus from IOA to Athens on 15 August? Yes/No

Go to the post-conference excursions? Yes/No

The IOAPA will be trying to make a block booking for the Hotel in Athens for the dates before and after the conference. The name of the hotel is the Niki Hotel.

Will you be staying at this Hotel? Yes/No

Do you want us to make your hotel booking on 10/08? Yes/No

Do you want us to make your hotel booking on 15/08? Yes/No

The price for the food at the IOA will amount to €144 (August 11-15). Are you willing to pay for the food? Yes/No

The price for accommodation in the dormitories will amount to €40 for our stay. Those wishing to stay in a single or double room will have to pay an addition fee (€160 and €104 respectively). Where would you like to sleep?

Dormitory €40

Double - Additional charge per person €104

Single - Additional charge per person €160

## CONFERENCE DATES: 11-15 August 2005

# Did you know?

That on February 3 the IOC Evaluation Commission for the 2012 Olympic Games started its visits to the Candidates Cities. For the first time, the Commission is led by a woman, Olympic champion, IOC member, and IAAF Council member Nawal El Moutawakel (MAR).

That 202 National Olympic Committees marched in the Athens 2004 Parade of Nations at the Opening Ceremony. Traditionally Greece leads the parade and the host team goes last. Because Greece was the host, they occupied both positions, as weightlifter Pyrros Dimas opened the parade and the rest of the Greek athletes entered at the end.



## Errata

In the Fall 2004 issue of Arete, Cardiff University was erroneously located in Scotland. Cardiff University is in Wales.

## Executive Board News

We have opportunely informed that **Penelope Amelidu** (GRE) is spending the 2004-2005 academic year at the University of Chicago, USA pursuing a Masters degree in social sciences. Not living in Greece make her work as Greek Liaison quite difficult. Therefore, the Executive Board decided to ask **Panos Vassilaras** (GRE), who has long served the association, to replace her in that position until the next conference. Panos was very gracious in accepting the proposal and is working diligently with the organization of the 2005 IOAPA Conference. Welcome back Panos!

