2022 Issue 1

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A Message from the ISSA President

Dear colleagues,

I hope this newsletter greeting finds you well! While it is difficult speculate too much on what lies ahead for the field, there is reason for (careful) optimism in 2022. Sociology of sport academics worldwide have shown remarkable resilience in operating remotely, maintaining collaborations via distance and continuing the robust research programmes that have characterised our field for decades. While money will get tight for the next couple of years, I doubt even this will dissuade our collective growth and interconnectedness in the long term.

Perhaps one caveat should accompany this optimism.
Perhaps one caveat should accompany this optimism. COVID aside (if such a thing can be said these days), it seems fairly certain that our carbon footprint is going to be raised as an issue in the coming years, directly impacting travel budgets. Many universities are already (cynically) adopting ‘low emissions’ policies for their academics and funding for Congress attendance is likely going to be given out more parsimoniously. To this end, we will have to pay special attention to supporting early career scholars, who vitally need the interactions that Congresses, symposia and publishing consortia provide. ‘Finding the money’ is a continual struggle within our respective institutions, so we may have to become more assertive, creative or sacrificial to enable this support.

For ISSA, this may need a rethink on the frequency of Congresses (ISSA already subsidises them to keep registration costs down). However as we introduce these discussions, the Executive Board will continue to coordinate activities/events with our regional partners (e.g. EASS), with a view towards maximising the personal interactions we value so much. On behalf of the Executive, thank you for your continued support of ISSA. We’re hopeful that we can once again connect in person this June in Germany.

Mike Sam
President

ISSA Past President Honoured by IOC

We are delighted to convey the news that Prof Kari Fasting, ISSA Past President and Honorary Member, has received the 2021 IOC Women and Sport Award for Europe.


This is Prof Fasting’s response to her award:

From a human rights perspective, I believe that all the Women and Sport Awards signal the importance of ridding sport of discrimination and harassment against women. I therefore hope that the media attention the award gets will emphasize the importance of increasing knowledge and research about different aspects of gender equality in sport, in the long run, making sport a better place for girls and women.
For me, the award is an inspiration to continue applying research on gender equality into practice. I also look upon it as an acceptance of the research area, which has been my primary focus in the last 25 years—documenting the harassment and abuse that girls and women, as well as boys and men, experience in sport. It is imperative that we investigate the perpetrators and their motivations, as well as the victims and their reactions to their abuse. We must then work to find the most effective therapies for dealing with the physical, psychological and sociological ramifications of the various types of abuse.

Our research and its influence on policies can assist us in preventing future abuse and in safeguarding athletes at every level of competition. This may seem obvious for many people and sport organizations today, but it wasn’t the case only a few decades ago. In some parts of the world there is still denial of its prevalence, and unwillingness to follow up cases. So, whilst some countries and sports still ask for prevalence data, the impact of the policies and action plans that have been developed in many countries for many years are still poorly known.

Obituary — Klaus Heinemann 1937-2022

On January 23, 2022, the much loved professor Klaus Heinemann, husband of Dra. Núria Puig, left us. Teacher of all of us, collaborator of the group since its beginnings. Klaus, you will be missed.

He was born in Hamburg on 15 October 1937. He held the chair of Sociology in the Institut für Soziologie at the University of Hamburg, where he promoted, among other aspects, Research on Sport Sociology. He was a visiting professor at various universities in France, Italy, Uruguay, United States and at INEFC.

During his very productive academic career he held the post of editor of the International Review for the Sociology of Sport between 1981 and 1990, and was the author of more than 30 books and 150 articles some of which, written in Spanish, became masterpieces, such as: Introducción a la Economía del Deporte (Barcelona, Paidotribo, 1998), Sociología de las organizaciones voluntarias. El
ejemplo del club deportivo (Valencia, Tirant lo Blanch, 1999) and Introducción a la metodología de la investigación empírica. En las Ciencias del Deporte (Barcelona, Paidotribo, 2003).

Klaus, you will be missed.

His relationship with INEF Catalunya began in the 1990s, and since then he has collaborated with our institution for more than thirty years in an intense and multifaceted way: as a guest lecturer, as a guest speaker, as an advisor on research projects, as a promoter of the intensive Erasmus exchange courses, as a co-author of several articles and books, as a member of the editorial board of Apunts magazine, and as a thesis supervisor.

Passionate about everything he did, his role as a mentor to students and early career teachers he helped us integrate the world of research and international work. He was generous and selfless, always ready to provide comments and reflections to help us grow, to improve, and to go further; not to dwell on what we already knew, to have the need to seek more, and to move forward.

It has been a privilege and a pleasure to learn with Professor Klaus Heinemann.

Beyond all his wisdom and know-how, we will always remember his conversations, his curious outlook, his photographs, his passion for sport, the sea and the mountains, his love for life and his desire to enjoy it.

Klaus, your legacy, and your memory will be with us forever.

Rest in peace.

ISSA Conference News

Brent McDonald, our VP Conferences

Reflexions on ISSA/ALESDE/CLACSO 2021 Conference

COVID-19 can’t stop Chile! After postponing the 2020 conference in Vin del Mar the local organising committee persevered and in 2021 from the 15th to 19th of November, in conjunction with the Latin American Association of Socio-Cultural Studies of Sport (ALESDE) and the Latin American Council of Social Sciences (CLASCO), ISSA went virtual. The result for those who attended can only be described as an outstanding success. In total there were 280 registrations representing scholars from 35 countries including 85 from Brazil, 53 from Chile, 18 from Colombia, 13 from Mexico and 11 from Argentina. The conference was headlined by keynote from Dr Pablo Alabarces, and punctuated daily with Round Table discussions, all of which were simultaneously translated into English, Spanish, or Portuguese, depending on the language of the presenter. The session program continued the theme of multi-lingual communication as sessions contained presentations in all three of the above-
mentioned languages. Using a combination of zoom and Microsoft teams as delivery platforms, the LOC should be congratulated for the brilliant coordination and vision that resulted in such a great (virtual) conference.

ISSA World Congress of Sociology of Sport 2022

In 2022, in conjunction with the European Association for the Sociology of Sport (EASS), we see the conference return to a face-to-face format in Tübingen. When abstracts closed there had been over 250 submissions. The LOC have put together an exciting program including a pre-conference Early Career Researchers workshop (on 6th June), keynote from Prof. Cassie Phoenix (Durham University, UK) and Prof. Jeremy Freese (Stanford University, USA), and Panel Discussion titled: Why does (sport) sociology matter? For many of us the real attraction of the conference will be the opportunity to reconnect in person with friends and colleagues that we have missed over the past 2 years, and to this end the LOC have also put together a fabulous social program. Early Bird registration closes in March so make sure your ISSA membership is current and register ASAP.

Travel recommendations

As restrictions on our lives are being relaxed, and in some cases removed almost completely, we can begin to make plans for travelling with a wee bit more certainty. Nevertheless things can change at the last minute. We would therefore recommend vigilance and checking entry requirements issued by the German government regularly. You can do so here:

https://www.bundesgesundheitsministerium.de/en/coronavirus/infos-reisende/faq-tests-einreisende.html?fbclid=IwAR0Pee9VnIWaMTf2rMc4x4eYhx_phEXfZ8x-w1IKJoOF704y5yAtGaBLzI

The German authorities have drawn up a classification of countries based on estimated risk: 1. Areas of variants of concern, 2. High-risk areas and 3. The others.

For the current list of countries in this classification, check this website (note that the list of high-risk areas has been updated):

https://www.rki.de/DE/Content/InfAZ/N/Neuartiges_Coronavirus/Transport/Archiv_Risikogebiete/Risikogebiete_aktuell_en.pdf?__blob=publicationFile

Please check with your airline or other carrier what rights to refunds or rebooking you would be entitled to should your travel plans change at the last minute. Make sure you have travel insurance that covers you adequately.

But above all, we wish you good health and look forward to seeing as many of you in Tübingen as possible.
Inclusion and Diversity in Research – A Personal Reflection

Jacco van Sterkenburg
Advisory Board Member ISSA
Endowed Professor ‘Race’, Inclusion and Communication, Erasmus University Rotterdam, The Netherlands

As an ISSA advisory board member and researcher in the field of sports and racism, I was asked how the concepts of diversity and inclusion play a role in my academic work. First of all, most of the projects I do address diversity and inclusion. For example, one of my current projects addresses meanings given to race in European televised football (a project funded by the Dutch Research Council NWO). Another focuses on gender equality and the inclusion of ethnic minorities in football leadership positions. The wider aim of such projects is to use gained knowledge to further explore and, where needed, critically discuss and challenge racialized/ethnicized mindsets and structures in football in order to make football a more inclusive and diverse space. This is important because, even though especially national sports such as football have the potential to be a unifying force, numerous studies have also shown how professional sport incorporates everyday and institutional forms of discrimination based *inter alia* on race, gender, sexual orientation or (dis)able-bodiedness. For instance, one of the main overarching findings in my studies is that while football media professionals often see themselves as objective and neutral, research reveals how football journalism also incorporates common sense racial/ethnic and gendered stereotypes and myths that can have exclusionary effects on minority groups in and beyond football (Longas Luque & Van Sterkenburg, 2020; Van Lienden & Van Sterkenburg, 2020; Van Sterkenburg, De Heer & Mashigo, 2021).

Secondly, this type of research also requires self-reflexivity on my own role in the research process. Being a White male researcher myself, I realize I do not experience racial and gender discrimination as do many of the participants in my studies. It means that I might fail to recognize racialized
stereotypes and implicit processes of Othering that are part of a hegemonic (White-situated) discourse in society (Van Sterkenburg & Walder, 2021). For that reason, I have to remind myself of the importance of being open to critical feedback and attending to issues of racial/ethnic and gender diversity in the composition of research teams; to ‘organize’ different experiences and perspectives in the knowledge production process. This also means giving primacy to theoretical perspectives that help me in widening the reservoir of possible discourses to draw on when interpreting and theorizing my research data (Van Sterkenburg & Walder, 2021). In my case, it means applying insights from Cultural Studies perspectives and Critical Race Theory which keep me attentive to racialized inequities and power relations embedded in sport and media practices. And not least of all, these theoretical resources help me go beyond my own taken-for-granted racialized knowledge and blind spots, being situated in a privileged position.

Thirdly, such attention for diversity and inclusion extends to my teaching. At Erasmus University Rotterdam, we have an international student population and I therefore try to include scholarly literature that is diverse, with sources from Western and non-Western contexts. Diversity in learning resources makes it easier for an international student population in the classroom to recognize themselves in the course literature and feel acknowledged. I feel I am not always entirely successful in this, as much of the English-language literature still comes from a selective number of Western countries, Nevertheless, including diversity in learning resources remains necessary when we take diversity seriously and want to connect with the diverse backgrounds of our student population.


Conference Announcements

**XX ISA World Congress of Sociology**: Resurgent Authoritarianism: The Sociology of New Entanglements of Religions, Politics, and Economies

The **XX ISA World Congress of Sociology** in Melbourne, Australia has been postponed to June 25-July 1, 2023 in hybrid format. The theme is **Resurgent Authoritarianism: Sociology of New Entanglements of Religions, Politics, and Economies**.

More details to follow.

**XX ISA World Congress of Sociology**

**Members’ News**

**A New Research Observatory for Women and Sport**

Lucie Schoch

A Global Observatory for women, sport, physical education and physical activity has been established in Lausanne, in partnership with UNESCO (The United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization). The University of Lausanne is the academic partner of this Observatory (Lucie Schoch & Fabien Ohl are leading the project). It will work to create an international network of experts to put in place data and research that will make it possible to measure the evolution of gender inequalities in sport, identify the difficulties and facilitate changes for greater equality between men and women in and through sport. More information will follow!

**Symposium: Sports diplomacy from PyeongChang 2018 to Gangwon 2024: Inter-Korean communication and collaboration through sport mega-events**

Jung Woo Lee
Date: 19-20 May 2022

Venue: Outreach Centre on Holyrood Campus, University of Edinburgh

Moray House School of Education and Sport at the University of Edinburgh, Scotland will host an international symposium on sport mega-events and the relations between North and South Korea. While this symposium has a specific regional focus, research presentations and academic discussions at this symposium will cover various theoretical and topical issues concerning sport, diplomacy and geopolitics. Scholars whose research interests lie in sport, politics and international relations may find this academic event particularly interesting.

The List of Invited Speakers:

Professor Alan Bairner (Loughborough University)
Dr Ik Young Chang (Korea National Sport University)
Dr Koji Kobayashi (Otaru University of Commerce)
Dr Jörg Krieger (Arhus University)
Dr Dae Hee Kwak (University of Michigan)
Professor Guy Podoler (University of Haifa)
Dr Verity Postlethwaite (Hartpury University)
Professor John Horne (Waseda University)
Dr J. Simon Rofe (SOAS, University of London)
Professor David Rowe (Western Sydney University)
Dr Sarah Son (University of Sheffield)
Dr Sang Keon Yoo (Sangmyung University)

This in-person event is free to attend but registration is required (the registration site will be launched soon).

Please contact Jung Woo (Jay) Lee for further information at J.W.Lee@ed.ac.uk.

*This symposium is supported by the 2022 Korean Studies Grant Program of the Academy of Korean Studies (AKS-2022-C-004).
IRSS Call for Proposals

Special Issues

Special issues are an opportunity for

• an in-depth and sustained engagement with a particular topic
• promoting ground-breaking, innovative and important developments within the field
• developing any topic which falls within the remit of the journal as defined in the journal’s Aims and Scope https://journals.sagepub.com/aims-scope/IRS
• bring together between 6 and 10 articles covering your theme.

The deadline for receipt of proposals is 1 May 2022. The Editor-in-Chief will chair a panel consisting of 5 representatives of the IRSS Editorial Board and ISSA Executive Committee to evaluate proposals. Our current expectation is that the Guest Editor(s) will be chosen within 4 weeks and that a call for contributions can be issued in June 2022, with initial article submissions received in early 2023.

Proposals should be up to 2000 words and include the following information:

• The title of the Special Issue.
• An outline of the topic.
• A statement explaining the thinking behind the proposed special issue and/or a rationale why the IRSS should promote this topic in a Special Issue of the journal.
• The name(s) of the proposed Guest Editor(s) and a brief biographical note detailing relevant background and experience.
• A draft call for papers (up to 400 words) containing the above information and identifying indicative topics.

About being a Guest Editor:

Guest Editor(s) will be responsible for issuing a Call for Papers, liaising with potential contributors, and answering author enquiries. Working through Manuscriptcentral, the Guest Editor(s) will ensure that submissions conform to the journal style, co-ordinate a rigorous review process for all manuscripts, and make recommendations to the Editor-in-Chief about the acceptance, revision or rejection of manuscripts. The Guest Editor(s) will communicate with the journal Editor-in-Chief regarding any developments in the schedule and ensure the timely delivery of manuscript submissions, copyright forms and article proofs. The Guest Editor(s) will write an editorial for the
Special Issue and will take an active role in publicising the special issue both before and after publication.

**Virtual Special Issues**

Would you like the journal to promote a topic from the existing IRSS catalogue of publications, namely Research Articles, Editorials, Research Notes and Book Reviews that have previously been published in the journal?

Virtual Special Issues lend themselves to a timely alignment with particular sports events, anniversaries, topics of contemporary relevance that might require rapid review, etc. The VSI Editors’ introduction is an excellent way to synthesise the topic and demonstrate the continued relevance of our journal’s catalogue.

Virtual Special Issues will normally be hosted solely on the journal’s website.

We are particularly keen to develop one or more Virtual Special Issues that draw attention to the contribution of the journal to debates around *Equality, Diversity and Inclusion*.

Have you been promoted recently? Have you received a prize or other recognition for your achievements as a sociologist of sport? Have you had success in an application for research funding in a sport-related area? Let us know and send your news to communications@issa1965.org. Your news will be featured in bulletins on a rolling basis.

**Requests for contributions**

Tell us about your promotion, new position, research grant success and recognition

**New Book Announcements**

Sports Studies in India: Expanding the Field

*Edited by* Padma Prakash, Meena Gopal, and *Series edited by* Sujata Patel
Sports Studies in India, as a part of The Oxford India Studies in Contemporary Society, emerges from a sociological curiosity about sporting experience in terms of participation in sports as well as its theorization in scholarship. This volume aims to forge interest in the field of sports studies and offers a platform for a wide range of studies on sports, employing a variety of approaches, perspectives, and methodologies. The contributions in this volume sport as a microcosm of society, which affords an opportunity to understand the complex nexus of society-state-media. They also examine sport within a political economy perspective through lenses of religion, gender, and class, among others. Interspersed in this collection are case studies, critical explorations of sports in Bollywood, and autobiographical accounts that not only enrich the narrative, but also demonstrate the value of that different genres bring to the discourse of sports studies. In a pandemic-afflicted world where sports is taking new shape, when new norms may well come into being, this collection establishes a framework for understanding change in the realm of sports and society in India

https://global.oup.com/academic/product/sports-studies-in-india-9780190130640?lang=en&cc=in

Gender Equity in UK Sport Leadership and Governance

Edited by Philippa Velija and Lucy Piggott

Gender Equity in UK Sport Leadership and Governance goes beyond the headlines to provide timely analyses of current strategy, policy, structure, and practice relating to gender equity in the leadership and governance of sport in the UK. It brings together the expertise and empirical insights from the work of scholars who are researching in this field.

books.emeraldinsight.com
Serving Equality: Feminism, Media, and Women’s Sports

Series: Communication, Sport, and Society, Volume 10

By Cheryl Cooky and Dunja Antunovic

Serving Equality: Feminism, Media, and Women’s Sports offers a much-needed methodological innovation to sports media research by expanding the focus beyond traditional sports media outlets to examine the diversity of media outlets writing about sports. In doing so, Serving Equality draws analytical attention to the ways in which feminism and feminist principles such as equality, progress, empowerment, and intersectionality shape media narratives of women’s sports. With a focus on networked sports media spaces, including news coverage, promotional cultures, and sports films, chapters examine narratives of Title IX, the Olympics, the treatment of women sports journalists, the activism of women athletes, the routine coverage of the sports world, as well as the COVID-19 global pandemic. Serving Equality illustrates how feminism informs not only the media narratives of women’s sports, but how women’s sports contribute to and mobilize feminism in networked media spaces. Serving Equality ultimately encourages students, instructors, researchers, athletes, sport media content producers, and those in the sports industry to consider the ways we can tell stories differently about sportswomen and women’s sports.
Warren Buffett once opined that "only when the tide rolls out do you discover who’s been swimming naked." In a similar vein, American Sport in the Shadow of a Pandemic focuses on how communication practices, structures, and principles change when a key locus—sport—has much of its cultural and political-economic power disrupted. How intertwined is the economic viability of an American collegiate institution to the communicative enactment of the regular staging of collegiate sports? What proportion of a sports media contract is for the competition itself, as opposed to the documentation of fans being “fanatic” as they witness contests live and in-person? Who and what is deemed most disposable, and how do such decisions play out for athletes of different genders, races, and abilities? Questions such as these form the core foci of this volume. As many have observed, out of crisis comes opportunity. In this instance, this volume provides an opportunity for leading scholars of communication and sport to consider which principles should be rethought or reconceptualized based on the effects of the pandemic on our culture, politics, and economy.
Tifo refers to the artistic renderings that supporters at football/soccer matches perform. This can involve large banners, coordinated mosaic displays, and pyrotechnics. Originating in Europe, the tradition has spread across the world and to other sports. Tifos vary in size, content, and execution, but all emerge from the desire supporters have for signaling and displaying their collective community, specific identities, and extensive devotion to their clubs. Fans fashion tifos to communicate publicly about identity, sense of place, past success, politics, and heated rivalries. Their assorted content makes tifos a distinctive form of fan-generated communication. Traditionally, supporters display tifos only momentarily before football/soccer matches. Yet they have become increasingly complex, sophisticated, and competitive—requiring dozens of people to create them, financial investments usually from fans to procure the materials needed to finance them, and on-site, in-stadium coordination to display them. These factors contribute to a unique, complex, and globalized form of fan communication that captures not only the obvious and intended messages of tifos, but also demonstrates the effort and devotion needed to execute them. This book examines the history and evolution of tifos, their social significance for clubs, places, and communities, the identities and associated affiliations they discursively perform, and the explicit and implicit symbolism they contain. Given the demanding practices surrounding the development and execution of tifos, and their overall captivating nature, this book should appeal to a broad audience including students and scholars working in sport as well as fans of it.
Regular ISSA Calls

Call for Nominations

International Sociology of Sport Association Honorary Member Award 2022

The Executive Board invites nominations for an Honorary Member award in the International Sociology of Sport Association. This award honours outstanding contributions to the International Sociology of Sport Association and to the sociological study of sport. The recipient of this award must meet both of the following criteria:

- a long career of service to the International Sociology of Sport Association, and
- a distinguished international academic career as a sociologist of sport.

Individuals who are retired from formal academic positions are eligible for Honorary Member awards. In addition, the International Sociology of Sport Association will consider retrospectively honouring an individual’s service and scholarship with a ceremonial posthumous Honorary Member award. Honorary Members in the International Sociology of Sport Association receive:

- Full, lifetime membership in the International Sociology of Sport Association, including subscription to the International Review for the Sociology of Sport;
- Free, lifetime registration to the International Sociology of Sport Association’s annual conference.

The list of current Honorary Members can be found at [https://issa1965.org/awards/#Honorary%20Member%20Award](https://issa1965.org/awards/#Honorary%20Member%20Award)

**How to nominate**

Nominators should submit a 1 to 2-page document (letter) that describes in as much detail as possible how the nominee meets the International Sociology of Sport Association’s Honorary Member criteria. Submit nominations by email to Mike Sam at president@issa1965.org There is no deadline for nominations. We will be considering them on their own merit, as they come in. So get nominating!

Our journal’s general editor, Dominic Malcolm, encourages the submission of diverse research articles seated in the sociology of sport, broadly defined, that shed light on social and cultural understandings of sport.

**Book/Media Reviews**

Authors wishing to review books or media (films, videos, interactive media) or contribute to a comparative review, please contact the book and media reviews editor directly: Dr. Kass Gibson, Plymouth Marjon University, kgibson@marjon.ac.uk

Manuscripts for both research articles and book/media reviews may be submitted [here](https://issa1965.org/submission/).
**Becoming a Reviewer**

Being a reviewer gives you an insight into the publication process and a better understanding of how to develop your own research and publications. The easiest way to become a reviewer is to create an account through [this link](#).

**Managing your Account**

If you already have an account for the IRSS do remember to keep it updated.

Please visit the journal website for more information about its Aims & Scope, the Editorial Board, manuscript submission guidelines, and sample issues [here](#).

**Call for ISSA Archives**

The ISSA Executive Board is calling on all past and current members to submit photos, documents and other materials that document the history of the association, congresses and journal. We will gladly accept any items either in digital or hard copy format. We will be happy to copy and return these to you, or to add relevant items to the ISSA Archive as part of our ongoing efforts to record the history of the ISSA and IRSS. We are particularly hoping to obtain copies of ISSA Congress programs and Books of Abstract prior to 2011. For further information about the Archive and/or to donate items, please contact Mike Sam [president@issa1965.org](mailto:president@issa1965.org).

**Share Your Reading Recommendations**

Have you read a good sports related book lately? Send us your favourite titles (not your own books, see earlier announcement!) that you think ISSA colleagues might also be interested in reading, with a short blurb to entice us.

Contact Emmanuelle Tulle [communications@issa1965.org](mailto:communications@issa1965.org)

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ISSA's Affiliate Organisations:

- Sub-Committee of ICSSPE
- Research Committee 27 of ISA
- Affiliated with UNESCO