

The International Olympic Academy

Five sessions in the summer period of 1973

by Otto Szymiczek, dean of the IOA.



Under the presidency of Lord Killanin, the IOC Commission for the International Olympic Academy meets the IOA Ephoria. From left to right:—Epaminondas Panas, Director-General of the IOA; Alexandru Siperco, member of the IOC for Rumania; Lord Killanin, President of the IOC; Ivar Emil Vind, member of the IOC for Denmark and President of the IOC Commission for the IOA; Dr. Giorgio de Stefani, member of the IOC for Italy; Epaminondas Petralias, Chairman of the IOA, Otto Szymiczek, Dean of the IOA; Cleanthis Paleologos, Vice-Dean of the IOA, Theodosios Papatthanasias, President of the Hellenic Olympic Committee, and Monique Berlioux, Director of the IOC.

It is well-known that the IOA first operated in 1961 and until 1966 the participants of the sessions were accommodated in tents and the daily working sessions were held in the shade of the old pine-trees on the slopes of the Kronion Hill. It was in

1967, for the first time, that the permanent dormitories were available for the participants and in 1968 the modern lecture hall with simultaneous translation system and the up-to-date dining-room, recreation hall, sports facilities and swimming pool

were at the disposal of the attendants.

In the meantime, the rich olympic library was opened and the olympic museum containing valuable historical items of the Modern Olympic Movement was inaugurated and opened for visitors who come to Ancient Olympia on a pilgrimage to the cradle of the Olympic Games.

The activities of the Academy become more diverse

The Hellenic Olympic Committee submitted in 1972 to the International Olympic Committee's Executive Board through the IOC Commission for the International Olympic Academy a memorandum concerning the expansion and development of the activities and objectives of the IOA. The memorandum has been composed in conformity with views expressed by the members of the IOC Commission for the IOA and the Ephoria of the IOA as well as taking into consideration the fact that the permanent installations of the IOA with all facilities have been completed according to the original plans of 1961.

The memorandum which has been approved by the IOC Executive Board defines that the mission of the IOA is the study and promotion of the Olympic Movement, the teaching of olympic principles in relation to the present social and technical achievements, under the protection and in co-operation with the IOC.

The role of the Academy is the study and dissemination of the olympic philosophy, the contribution in defining the principles

of Olympism as well as finding the best way for the application of these noble principles in our rapidly developing society. The IOA is the intellectual centre of the Olympic Movement, the home of new inspired teachers, adepts and preachers of Olympism. It contributes to the formation of uniform conception and interpretation of the Olympic principles so as to avoid misinterpretation or dogmatic divergencies.

The IOA builds a bridge between the ancient culture and the modern civilisation.

It is an urgent need that all those who are connected in some form with the Olympic Movement should be aware of the essence of the olympic philosophy and apply the olympic principles in their special fields in conformity with the uniform interpretation. Thus Olympism will impose its magnificent endeavours and be really beneficial to all individuals, all nations and the whole of mankind.

In the first years of operation only one general session was held every year. In 1969 a special session was added, as an experiment, for a track and field coaches group. The success of this meeting encouraged the Ephoria to contact International Federations and other organisations with the co-operation of which special sessions could be organized. The successful sessions-for olympic medical officers, sports doctors, coaches, football referees, proved that this anticipation was right. In the last three years special sessions for greek educationists have been regularly held with the aim of introducing them to the pedagogical purposes of the Olympic Movement. The greek educationists expressed the view that the Olym-



The lecturers of the sessions are authorities in their subjects and are invited by the IOA. For the technical sessions the lecturers on technical subjects are designated by the respective International Federations.

The five sessions in 1973 are as follows:

1. International Weight-lifting Clinic for Referees and Coaches from 23 June to the 1st of July.

The curriculum includes the subjects: refereeing, techniques of weight-lifting and training, with lecturers:

Mr. Oscar State, secretary general of the international weight-lifting federation;
Mr. A. Dupont, national coach of Belgium;
Mr. E. Pignatti, national coach of Italy.

Apart from the technical matters lectures will be given on the philosophy and history of the Olympic Movement. In the evening hours film projections will take place on technical items and on the Ancient and Modern Olympic Movement.

The session is organized in co-operation with the international and the hellenic weight-lifting federation.

Participation: 60 from 16 nations.

2. International Basket-Ball Seminar for Coaches. From 1 to 6 of July

The curriculum includes the subjects: The development of modern basketball; the personality of the coach; the technique of modern basketball; basketball coaching.

pic Philosophy should become a part of the Programme of General Education and asked for the establishment of contacts with Educationists on International level.

On the programmes of the sessions

The operations of the IOA in the summer of 1973 will cover an expanded programme of activity including the regular International Session, and 4 special sessions amongst which two technical sessions in co-operation with the competent International Federations.

The curriculum of the Technical sessions consists of two parts:

the Olympic Movement, with two lectures, one on the olympic philosophy and one on the history of the Olympic Games; it includes also sightseeing in the Sacred Altis, visits to the archaeological and the Olympic museums and film projections on the ancient and modern Olympic Games; technical problems, judging, coaching etc.

Speakers:

R. William Jones (GBr), secretary general of the FIBA;

Gian-Carlo Primo (Ita), national coach;

Robert Busnel (Fra), president, french basketball federation, member of FIBA;

R. Moll (Bel), national coach;

Witold Zagorsky (Pol), national coach.

The curriculum includes also lectures on the philosophy and history of the Olympic Movement as well as film projections on related subjects.

It is hoped that all those who participate in the technical sessions organized at the very place of the Ancient Olympic Games will disseminate the true olympic spirit in the field of their future activities.

Participation: 90 from 22 national federations.

3. *The 13th Session of the International Olympic Academy: from 13 to 29 july*

Basic subject: The Philosophy, History, Administration etc. of the International Olympic Movement;

Special subject: The Contribution of the Intellectual World to the Olympic Movement.

Lecturers on the basic subject:

Epaminondas Petralias (Gre), president of the IOA, secretary general of the Hellenic Olympic Committee;

Dr. Arpad Csanadi (Hun), member of IOC;

Alexandre Siperco (Rum), member of IOC;

Mrs. Monique Berlioux (Fra), director of IOC;

Walther Tröger (Ger), secretary general NOC Germany;

Prof. Josef Recla (Aut);

Dr. Henri Pouret (Fra), laureate of the French Academy;

Otto Szymiczek (Gre), dean of the IOA;

Cleanthis Paleologos (Gre), deputy dean of the IOA;

Prof. Alex J. Young (Can).

Lecturers on the special subject:

Prof. Nikolaos Yalouris (Gre), archaeologist;

Sisto Favre (Ita), author;

Michel Droit (Fra), author;

Prof. D. W. Masterson (GBr), University of Salford;

Prof. Liselott Diem (Ger), Sporthochschule Köln;

Chris Brasher (GBr), olympic gold medalist;

Miss Lia Manoliou (Rum), olympic gold medallist.

The programme includes: discussions in study groups, film projections, sightseeing, excursions, sport activities etc.

Participation: 180 from 35 NOC's.

4. *First International Session for Educationists: from 30 July to 6 August*

The outstanding event of this year will be the first International Session for Educationists which will have the character of a symposium rather than a teaching session because of the high level of the educationists present and because it will be an exchange of views amongst competent educationists.

This is the first time that educationists and olympic specialists meet with the purpose of creating a firm belief as concerns the connection between the endeavours of general education and the olympic principles. It is hoped that valuable conclusions will be reached for establishing the form in which educational and olympic authorities could co-operate for the benefit of both education and olympism.

The curriculum includes lectures, short reports and discussions on the contribution of education to the Olympic Movement on the history—principles and ideals of the Olympic Movement, on the olympic principles in the service of education and on the co-operation of educational and olympic authorities.

Lecturers:

Emil Ivar Vind (Dan), IOC member, president of the IOC committee for the IOA;
Epaminondas Petralias (Gre), president of the IOA, secretary general of the HOC;
Otto Szymiczek (Gre), dean of the IOA;
Cleanthis Paleologos (Gre), deputy Dean of the IOA;
Dr. Pierre Seurin (Fra), president of the *fédération internationale d'éducation physique*;

Dr. A. Andreas (Aut), ministry of education and Arts;
Prof. Frantz Lotz (Ger), University of Würzburg;
Prof. Liselott Diem (Ger), Sporthochschule Köln;
Mrs. Sarah Jernigan (USA), Stetson University;
I. Xanthinakis (Gre), ministry of education;
I. Serafetinidis (Gre), inspector of education;
G. Economakos (Gre), inspector of education;
T. Karatassakis (Gre), inspector of education.

Participation: 75 from 25 NOC's.

5. *4th Session of Greek Educationists: from 5 to 11 August*

Subject: The Olympic Movement and Education.

Lecturers:

Epaminondas Petralias, president of the IOA;
Otto Szymiczek, dean of IOA;
Cleanthis Paleologos, deputy dean of IOA;
I. Xanthinakis, Director, Phys. Ed. Dept., ministry of education;
I. Serafetinidis, inspector of education;
Dr. Nikolaos Papareskos, 2nd vice-president of IOA;
Prof. Nikolaos Yalouris, archaeologist and others.

O. S.