

## *Editorial Preface*

In this second issue of *International Sports Studies* issues raised by Steven Wright in the last issue concerning physical education pre-service training and specifically the nature and role of teaching practice experience within this are readdressed. The paper by Chow and Fry extends debates about these matters to new training settings and critically, different cultural contexts. This contribution provides a timely reminder of the insights that can be gained from international collaborative research. We hope that, in part, this journal will establish itself as a forum for international physical education communities to collectively address issues of common concern and interest. The issues considered in another contribution in this journal, namely, the links between physical activity and alcohol consumption, may well fall into this category. Jeffrey Lake and Göran Patriksson prompt further investigation of the way in which different curricula position and define physical education and health education, what such curricula identify as 'health issues' and the ways in which these are then addressed in teaching. In relation to these matters there may again be a wealth of innovative developments that regrettably, reach only limited audiences in the light of both national and disciplinary boundaries. Therefore, it is pleasing to have a contribution on women and sport in Nigeria. Unfortunately, the study by Oku shows that Nigerian women face many similar and some additional impediments to sporting opportunity when compared with women in other countries. A powerful reminder of the potential for good comparative analysis is provided in the lead article by Douglas Booth where he examines nationalism, sport and ethnicity in Australia and South Africa incorporating a range of disciplinary knowledge bases and theories. In seeking to cross national and disciplinary boundaries, this journal and the International Society for Comparative Physical Education and Sport undoubtedly have important contributions to make to many academic fields. Whether or not this potential is realised depends on continued support for, and specifically, submissions to, the Journal. As editors, we hope that you will be encouraged to seek publication of your work in *International Sports Studies* and look forward to receiving contributions for future issues. Thank you to all the reviewers for their hard work and to ISCPES for their support in this transitional period.

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