

### **General assembly of the International Pierre de Coubertin Committee (Fondation de Coubertin in Saint-Rémy-lès-Cheverese 28 – 30 March 2003)**

This year's general assembly of the *International Pierre de Coubertin Committee* took place at the *Fondation de Coubertin* in Saint-Rémy-lès-Cheverese which is a small town in the Paris region. Each year the *Fondation de Coubertin* welcomes gifted young men practising a manual craft as boarders. After the completion of their apprenticeships the *Fondation* offers them theoretical and practical classes which should lead the 'students' close to perfection in their manual craft. The idea for this institution was born in an encounter between Yvonne de COUBERTIN, a niece of Pierre de COUBERTIN, and the artist Jean BERNARD in 1949.

The place consisting of the *Chateau de Coubertin*, the outbuildings and a beautiful garden of sculptures in bronze which definitely expresses the artistic sense of the COUBERTIN family was a well chosen location for the assembly, attended by almost 50 members coming from 15 different countries. As President, Professor Dr. Norbert MÜLLER

chaired the meeting. After the report of the board, future projects were outlined. These include the publication of an e-journal, the *International Coubertin Youth Forum* in Genoa, and the international implementation of the *Pierre de Coubertin Prize*. Furthermore various projects successfully run by the different national sections of the *International Pierre de Coubertin Committee* were presented.

The day before the main session of the assembly, Prof. Dr. Otto SCHANTZ had been asked to hold a lecture for the students of the *Coubertin Foundation*. The lecture was entitled *Pierre de Coubertin as an educator* and led to a fruitful discussion among the students and among committee members who had already arrived. The discussions amongst the students in particular demonstrated that Pierre de COUBERTIN and his theories of education still have much to offer to young people in their study of the Olympic Games.

*Stephan Wassong*