

8TH CONGRESS OF THE INTERNATIONAL SOCIETY FOR THE HISTORY OF EDUCATION AND SPORT URBINO, ITALY - 9 - 13 JULY, 2003

The conference took place in the medieval town Urbino, Italy. The topic was, "Sport and Education in History". Although some ISOH-members participated in the conference, Olympic History – as often at International Conferences – played a marginal role in Urbino. Out of 135 presentations only very few dealt with Olympic History and Olympic Education. R. Mazeikiene (Lithuania) presented a topic on "Olympic Ideas in Lithuania", Renata Freccero (Italy) spoke about Olympic Education at schools in regard to the forthcoming Olympic Games in Athens and Turin, and Karl Lennartz (Germany) held a speech on "Olympic Victories. Medals – Diploma – Prizes".

Once again it became obvious that academic research in Sport History is not dealing very much with Olympic History. If and when this topic is scheduled the Olympic Games are critically investigated from a sociological perspective. It is even often demanded to abolish them. It is definitely a good idea that we should participate more actively in these congresses to present positive aspects of Olympism.

Karl Lennartz