

Army Medical Corps. By the War's end, McKenzie had impacted upon literally thousands of people, through his work in the Royal Army, and his writings on physical therapies and rehabilitation from disabilities. Wider societal pressures to rehabilitate injured soldiers, with roots in both humanitarian and economic concerns, were at work during this time and had a great impact on the medical field.

R. Tait McKenzie was one of the first promoters of the therapeutic value of exercise, and significant in the development of physical activity and exercise programs for people with disabilities. Despite being a great figure in the field, he was still subject to wider societal discourses and currents, which influenced the type of work he did, and the forms of disability he was concerned with. These influences helped create and define the meaning of physical activity for people with disabilities in its beginnings as therapy, for McKenzie and the rest of the medical field.

Douglas W. McLaughlin
Penn State University

**The Concept of Self in the Science of Sport
Performance: An Analysis of Research on Muscular
Strength Development from 1955 to 1988**

Muscles belong to an organism (for our purposes a human organism). Based on this premise, two major questions emerge about the research on muscular strength development in regards to human performance. First, how is the self conceived in the research regarding muscular development? What notions of the person, both implicit and explicit, inform and direct the research on muscular physiology? Secondly, what implications does this research have in terms of understanding and defining human performance? How do we interpret the conclusions of science for real persons?

From the founding of the American College of Sport Medicine to the 1988 Summer Olympics, science emerged as a vitally important discipline for investigating physical development and sport performance. With a proliferation of research (found in a proliferation of articles in a plethora of research journals) on muscular development, not to mention other forms of human performance, scientists questioned both how muscles function and

how to maximize their capabilities. These articles provide the basis for investigating how researchers investigating muscular development were concerned with the human organism as well as determining what consequences their notions of self had in regard to conceptualizing performance. Philosophical developments during this period that were concerned with notions of the self will be used to contextualize the scientific research.

The research on muscular development in humans is always carried out, at least implicitly, with some notion of who or what a person is. While concerns of reductionistic, materialistic, and mechanistic methods are not unwarranted, these concerns are often merely unfair and uncritical accusations. During this period, conceptions of human performance are generally understood as the domain of scientific research. Like concerns regarding the concept of self, concerns of dehumanization, reductionism, and abuse in the development of scientific methods of training should not be overstated. Researchers have provided much insight into human performance and have negotiated the difficult relations between self, science, and achievement in important ways.

Alison M. Wrynn

California State University, Long Beach

The Grand Tour: American Exercise Science and Sports Medicine Encounters the World, 1926-1966

Today American exercise science and sports medicine clearly have international connections. For example, the American College of Sports Medicine (ACSM) describes its membership as including "...2,300 international members from Argentina to Zimbabwe." The IOC World Congresses on Sport Sciences have been held since 1989, and the first was a cooperative effort between the USOC and the IOC. When did these international connections begin in American exercise science and sports medicine? A century ago, at the end of the nineteenth century, American physicians sought to enhance their understanding of medicine by studying and consulting with European physicians. How does this process compare with attempts by American exercise scientists to initiate connections with researchers throughout the world in the middle decades of the twentieth century? Why did Americans feel it was important to work in partnership with the international exercise science community?