

Für Rosa
Mit den besten Wünschen
(für eine feministische Zukunft)
Julius

HONORING THE LEGACY

Fifty Years of the International Association of
Physical Education and Sport for Girls and Women

M. Ann Hall and Gertrud Pfister



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PREFACE

The idea for this book came from Gertrud Pfister, who currently chairs the IAPESGW Board of Consultants. We needed some way, she argued, in addition to the conference at Smith College in July 1999, to celebrate the 50th anniversary of the International Association of Physical Education and Sport for Girls and Women. She persuaded her friend and colleague, Ann Hall, to help compile and write the book. Since we had so little time, we had to work quickly to acquire the necessary information, locate others who could also contribute to the book, and in some cases, get material translated. We could not have completed this project on time without electronic mail, and the ability to send large computer files back and forth between Germany and Canada, indeed other parts of the world.

Compiling the material we needed was the most difficult task because IAPESGW does not have a central source for its records and historical material. In fact, we discovered that unfortunately much of this has been lost, or was simply not available to us. We would like to thank Nanci Young, archivist at the Smith College Archives in Northampton, Massachusetts and Michie Shaw, archivist at AAHPERD in Reston, Virginia for their very able assistance, as well as staff at the Carl and Liselott Diem Archives in Köln, Germany. Steve Bailey at Winchester College in England willingly shared material with us. Also extremely helpful were Ruth Schellberg in the United States, Isabelle Nel in South Africa, Helene Tollich in Austria, and Patricia Bowen-West in England. We would also like to thank the many country representatives who responded to our call for a short personal essay on what IAPESGW has meant to them. Finally, we are grateful to Jane Haslett for editorial assistance, and to translators Gerald Nixon in Berlin and Richard Krause in Edmonton for working quickly under pressure.

We hope that what we have written is an accurate, fair, and engaging account of IAPESGW's history. Obviously, we wished to make as few mistakes as possible, but no doubt there are some, and we would not be offended in any way if they were pointed out to us. We also hope that what we have written here will encourage other scholars to write a more comprehensive history of the Association as well as accounts of the many remarkable women who have been involved with it over the years.

Ann Hall
Gertrud Pfister

May 1999

Chapter 1

FIFTY YEARS OF IAPESGW: CHRONOLOGY-CONTEXT-CRITIQUE

We believe that the idea of an International Congress on Physical Education for Girls and Women is a new one. Heretofore women have taken part in courses, in demonstrations, in competitions and in meetings on more general topics, but never before, to my knowledge, have women met as an international group to discuss the problems particular and peculiar to physical education for women. From the letters I have received, I believe there is, among our delegates and guests, considerable interest and curiosity in regard to these questions. We have been kept apart all too long by the years of the war. Now, we are indeed happy to bring together the ideas from these many countries.¹

With these words, Dorothy Ainsworth from Smith College in the United States opened an international Congress on Physical Education for Girls and Women, held in Copenhagen in the summer of 1949. Over 200 delegates from 24 countries gathered as guests of the University of Copenhagen to take part in an exchange of ideas about the plans, methods, and objectives of physical education in various countries around the world. Unlike other international conferences of this era, only women delegates gave talks, presentations, and demonstrations. On the last afternoon, a delegate was selected from each of the participating nations to form a continuing committee headed by Dorothy Ainsworth, assisted by Doris Plewes from Canada, to investigate the possibility of establishing an international association. They also voted to hold another

congress sometime in the next three to five years, and to examine the prospect of affiliating with an established international organization in a related field.²

Pre-1949 Dreams and Plans

Before the war, the American Association for the Physical Education of College Women (later called the National Association of Physical Education for College Women) in the United States discussed the possibility of an international meeting because its members wished to know more about their colleagues in other parts of the world. They had considered a meeting in Finland in 1940 at the time of the summer Olympics, but these were cancelled due to the war. Association members also realized that there was little opportunity in the predominantly male-organized conferences in Europe for them to present papers and to discuss issues of concern to them. An international association was needed that would allow women to organize their own international conference at which to give papers and report on their research. These ideas were again revived after the war, primarily by Dorothy Ainsworth in her role as chair of the International Relations Committee.³ A trip to France in the summer of 1947 with a group of Smith College students to the International Work Camp in Le Cambon-Sur-Lignon gave Ainsworth the opportunity to meet women physical educators in Europe and discuss the feasibility of an international congress. Later, she sent a letter (in French, Spanish and English) to the Ministries of Education in various countries inquiring about the interest in such a conference.⁴ Ainsworth and her group hoped to have the Congress in the United States but responses to their letter made clear the financial difficulties of Europeans travelling abroad so soon after the war.

One of these letters reached Agnete Bertram,⁵ head of women's gymnastics at the University of Copenhagen, who promptly offered the use of her university for the congress. Delegates would also be able to attend the second Lingiad (gymnastics festival) in Stockholm, which honored the famous Swedish teacher Per Hendrik Ling. In the summer of 1948, Ainsworth attended the International Conference on Health, Physical Education, and Rehabilitation in London, as a representative of the American Association of Health, Physical Education and Recreation.⁶ Afterwards she traveled to Copenhagen to meet with officials from the university and Agnete Bertram, who agreed to take care of the local arrangements for the women's congress, while NAPECW (principally Ainsworth) was responsible for the conference papers, demonstrations, and discussions. Letters of invitation were sent to all nations with an embassy in Washington as well as to the Ministries of Education in each country with, unfortunately, minimal response.⁷

Copenhagen Congress - Focus on Physical Education

Under the patronage of Queen Ingrid of Denmark, the Copenhagen congress opened on July 18, 1949. Anticipating a small group of delegates mainly from Denmark and the United States, conference organizers were surprised when 235 delegates from 24 countries attended. Although each of the five continents was represented, many parts of the world were not; for example, there were no representatives from eastern European countries, nor was anyone from Germany in attendance.⁸ In her opening address (see extract in box), Ainsworth reiterated the purpose of the Congress, which was to explore the many ways in which physical education helped girls and young women to refine their "natural" qualities, and to prepare them to become useful citizens in the world.

Although the term *sport* would later become part of the name given to this organization in 1953 at its next congress in Paris, the initial focus was mostly on *physical education*, which for the American women organizing the conference included "sports, dance, corrective exercises, gymnastics, camping, etc.," within the educational setting.⁹ The program also reflected the importance of physical education with topics ranging from the contribution of physical education to the education of girls and women, professional training, dance and rhythmic gymnastics, international exchanges of physical education students and faculty, research in physical education, health education and posture training, and the contributions of physical education to mental hygiene. Only a few presentations discussed sport for women outside the school system, although several delegates commented upon the role and status of women's sports in the various national reports about physical education. The overriding concern, however, was always how to provide as many girls and women as possible with a variety of movement opportunities. Special interest groups representing dance, sports, gymnastics, correctives, and administration met throughout the congress.

Another purpose of the Copenhagen congress was to strengthen the international connections and interest in international affairs among the women who attended. It was the sharing of information and practices about physical education that formed the basis of their common goals. As Ainsworth wrote later in an assessment of the Congress:

This group in Copenhagen had not come together to see the work of one school nor of one country. Instead the important thing for them was to hear of physical education in many countries and to learn of different and varying ideas and ways of teaching so that they could learn of the ideas and knowledge of others and discuss the reasons for their differences. Each could then select from these ideas that which would be most helpful for the girls and women of her

own country, and to the teacher in her work for the physical excellence of her students. Not only the broad program of Physical Education activities was discussed, but also Research, Philosophy, Practice Teaching and other aspects of our field. It was indeed exciting and fascinating to hear the representatives from each country speak even briefly on Physical Education in their land at this first conference, and no plan or talk was a duplicate of the other.¹⁰

Dorothy Ainsworth at the Copenhagen Congress, 1949

Many of us in the various professions, and particularly those of us concerned with the education of girls, are eager indeed that women should bring to these new fields their own particular contributions. Much as we admire the work and special contributions of men, we believe that women have a different and special contribution to add to civic and professional life. The traditional, admirable qualities of women such as thought for others as shown by their care of the young (or old), adaptability, graciousness, and great strength of character have made our finer women the core and joy of the home. Should we not take these qualities with us into our professional and civic life, into the world outside as well as retain them in the home?

We who teach the girl from the beginning to the end of her school days, need to be aware of these qualities and to emphasize them. In doing so we will help to prepare our students for the opportunities and responsibilities they will meet in the future. We need to think of ways in which physical education will help to strengthen the qualities the girl will need if she is to be of the greatest value and to be most content in the world today. She will need strength of character and body, but she should not be a rigid person. She needs



Delegates at the 1949 Congress, Copenhagen, Denmark

adaptability but not weakness of character or physique. What we wish for her is the golden mean—the balance point between under and over development.

This search for the golden mean in the development of the child and girl, and the education which is designed to bring out the finer qualities inherent in the nature of the girl are, in my opinion, the more important goals of physical education for girls and women.

The times in which we live are important in the progress of women in society. Women are merging from total absorption in home and family life to greater professional and community responsibilities, even to state, national and international responsibilities. It is important that, as they accept these new responsibilities and opportunities, they show their best and most constructive qualities. In fact, it is essential for women to do well if they are to retain the position they have now achieved.

This ultimate or further goal of physical education, the part that physical education may play in preparing women for their place in society today, is, I believe, of primary importance. We shall in different countries use different types of work, but we are all preparing girls to take their place in the world today. Therefore, this further objective, this ultimate goal, may be international, for it may apply to all women in all countries.

We do not expect to emerge from the conference with an exact chart of physical education for all women of all nations. We hope only to hear and see many things, and that from this, each delegate will select that which is valuable and useful to her and her country. The program has grown out of the requests and interests of the delegates. It is, in fact, your program.

Source: Dorothy S. Ainsworth, "The Function and Purpose of the Congress," *Report of the International Congress on the Physical Education of Girls and Women* (Washington, DC: AAHPER, 1950), pp. 26-28.



(Smith College Archives)

Delegates left the Congress with a view to forming an international association, having another meeting in a few years, initiating a journal in which they could exchange information, exploring the possibility of exchanges among students and teachers, aiding in international research, and affiliating with a related and established international organization. Ainsworth headed up a continuing committee charged with keeping delegates at the Congress informed of their progress. The following October she attended the Pan American Congress in Uruguay and met with South American women in physical education, whom she convinced to either join or obtain representation from their countries. She also saw that a report of the Copenhagen congress, edited by NAPECW members Marion Broer and Anna Hiss, was published in 1950 and sent to those who had attended. It was followed by a series of newsletters containing reports on physical education for girls and women in a variety of countries. Ainsworth used every possible means to promote the new movement, making use of her international contacts and developing new ones.

One of her contacts was Marie Thérèse Eyquem who worked in the French Ministry of Education as an inspector for youth and sport. She and Ainsworth had met in Paris in the summer of 1947, thereafter keeping in touch about the congress in Copenhagen where they met again. By 1951, Eyquem had convinced her Ministry that they should host the second congress in Paris in 1953. Then there began a remarkable series of letters back and forth between Eyquem and Ainsworth as the two of them, along with a small committee, planned the next congress.¹¹ While Eyquem wrote in French, Ainsworth responded in English advising her on every facet of the upcoming congress – whom should be invited to speak (as few men as possible); how the program should be designed (little talk and much discussion); the cost of the conference (about \$1,500 US); what should be exhibited; and most important, how to guarantee the attendance of delegates from all corners of the world.

New Association Created, Paris 1953

The Paris congress, held at the beautiful Cité Universitaire, attracted over 500 delegates from 37 countries. In her opening address (see extract in box), Ainsworth's remarks were consistent with her philosophy that it is through physical education, not competitive sport, that womanly qualities like grace, balance, and poise could be nurtured and enhanced. She presents, in other words, an "essentialist" view of gender; women have some inherent qualities that men do not possess, which will lead them to make significant contributions to society whether as mothers or as workers. Women in physical education all over the world, although their approaches, methods, and curricula may be

different, need to work together to ensure that it is women, not men, who are the teachers, leaders, and innovators in girls' physical education. This was a particularly North American and also British orientation towards physical education and certainly women's sport, whereas the European heritage favored both a feminine gymnastics movement culture and a competitive sport system either sexually separated, as in France, or totally integrated, as in Germany.¹²

Important decisions were taken at the Paris Congress including the name of the new organization, which was clearly a compromise: The International Association of Physical Education and Sports for Girls and

Dorothy Ainsworth Opens the Paris Congress, 1953

There is strong feeling that the opportunities which have come to women in the world should be reflected and anticipated in our programs and that our objectives may well be changing and enlarging to meet the needs of women today. We really have two possibilities; one a program which is a weak imitation of that for men; the other, the building of a strong curriculum appropriate for women, which will help them to be better able to make their special contribution to society today.

For women, whether they be the center of a family or in a profession where they are working with other groups, need the same qualities. They need not only good health, vitality and skill but also poise, balance and grace of spirit and body) ... the understanding and thought for others which the admirable woman has had traditionally in her own home. They should carry these same fine qualities with them as they move out from the home into the affairs of community and nation. We in physical education must encourage and enhance these qualities which are indeed the great strength of women and their contribution to society, that they may serve and at the same time enjoy life fully. In doing so they will complement but not copy the more aggressive and competitive masculine traditions.

Many of us have the same purpose and objectives in our work for girls and women, but we also recognize the many different methods by which we may work towards the same ends. We see and marvel at the great variety of types and kinds of programs. But no country could possibly take over in total the program of another and have it fit all situations. No two situations are identical, wither as to condition or ideas concerning women. But we can, by comparisons and discussion of our work, enlarge and develop better programs. The study of these differences contributes to the clarification of our own ideas and stimulates experimentation and research. Let us accept differences and learn from them, that we may come closer to our common purpose in physical education for girls and women.

Source: Dorothy S. Ainsworth, "Open Session Address," *Report of the Second International Congress on Physical Education for Girls and Women* (Washington, DC: IAPESGW, AAHPER, 1961), pp.13-14.

Women. Ainsworth complained later in a letter to Doris Plewes in Canada that "we added 'sports' at the request of the Europeans."¹³ Moreover, the purposes of the new association made no mention of sport: (1) the promotion and development of the profession of physical education; (2) intercommunication between women physical educators in different countries; (3) the upgrading of standards of physical education; and (4) the interpretation of our program to the public.¹⁴ Organizationally, they decided to have a small Executive Committee headed by a President (Dorothy Ainsworth), a Vice-president (Marie Thérèse Eyquem), and Secretary (eventually Helen Hazelton), and an International Committee comprised of the official representatives from each country to function as a legislative body. A third congress would be held in three to five years, but IAPESGW's chief function between meetings was the exchange of ideas and information about, for example, trends or new developments in physical education, research projects and studies, recent books and films, upcoming courses, congresses and competitions, available scholarships, and opportunities for exchange among teachers. Very pleased with the second congress and its outcome, Ainsworth heaped praise on its organizer, Marie Thérèse Eyquem. "To be present at this Congress," she wrote in a published report, "was a valuable and stimulating experience."¹⁵

Consolidation, Expansion, and Problems, 1954-1961

There was much to do following the Paris Congress, and as the first president of IAPESGW, Ainsworth continued her work towards putting the new association on a solid footing. In April 1954, she used the opportunity of an international congress on physical education for youth, organized by the Connecticut Valley Colleges (Smith was one of these) and sponsored by AAPHER, to bring together members of her ad-hoc executive committee. Marie Thérèse Eyquem (France), Gilda Romero Brest (Argentina), Liselott Diem (Germany), and Muriel Webster and Ruth Foster from the United Kingdom all came to the Connecticut Valley congress as well as AAHPER meetings in New York City shortly after. These women had obviously met before since they attended one or both of the IAPESGW congresses, but in some cases their friendships began earlier. Muriel Webster, from Anstey Physical Training College in England, had first met Ainsworth in 1948 when she was an exchange lecturer at the University of Iowa. Ruth Foster, an inspector of physical education in the UK Ministry of Education, had responded to Ainsworth's initial inquiry in 1948, and attended both congresses. Diem first met Ainsworth during a three-month visit to the United States in 1952, and a year earlier Eyquem spent time with Diem at the Deutsche Sporthochschule in Köln. Gilda Romera Brest, secretary to the

Association of Physical Education Teachers in Argentina, had attended the first congress in Copenhagen. She later wrote Ainsworth a letter which began "Do you remember a very charming lady called Gilda?" With her husband (a physical education professor), she had also visited Diem in 1953. These six women became a close knit group; curiously for some reason they called themselves the "Blue-Eyed Club" after an evening at Dorothy Ainsworth home in Northhampton in April 1954.¹⁶ They were an important group in the sense that they communicated regularly, tried to meet as often as possible, and we believe, held the Association together during its initial years.

The executive committee recognized the importance of communicating with members between congresses; indeed this was the Association's chief function. From 1950 onwards, Ainsworth put out a sporadic yet informative newsletter, parts of which were translated into Spanish in a concerted effort, we assume, to promote the association in South America. After the 1953 Paris congress Eyquem was to publish a proper "revue" from France, but unfortunately she never did. In October 1955, Ainsworth sent out a detailed questionnaire to members seeking information from their countries, which finally came out early in 1956 in both French and English.

An inveterate traveler, Ainsworth made many trips on behalf of IAPESGW as well as the other national and international associations with which she was involved (see chapter 2 which includes a short biography). In the summer of 1955, she went to Paris for a "Jours d'Etude" organized by Eyquem at the National Institute of Sport. The meeting was in some ways an extension of discussions at the Paris congress, but focussed on physical education for girls at puberty. It also served as an interim meeting for some of the IAPESGW ad-hoc executive. Ainsworth later complained about too many men on the program: "if, after all, this is a meeting for and about women, the big majority of speakers, if not all, should be women." She also thought there had been too many medical doctors present in Paris, giving a "very medical slant to the whole series of meetings."¹⁷ She relayed her feelings to both Muriel Webster and Phyllis Colson in England, because they were responsible for organizing the next IAPESGW congress in London. In the fall of 1955, Ainsworth represented IAPESGW at a conference in Guatemala where she arranged for a teacher exchange between the United States and Guatemala, something she often tried to do in her travels.¹⁸ On sabbatical leave from her college, Ainsworth embarked in September 1956 on a world trip taking her through much of Asia, Australia and New Zealand, Africa, (she could not go to the Middle East because of the Suez crisis), southern Europe, then on to Paris, and ending in London for the third congress in the summer of 1957. On route she met with IAPESGW members from the countries she visited and encouraged many more to join.

Isabelle Nel, Kathleen (Gordon) McDonald, Francisca Aquino, Iveagh Munro, and Gilda Romero Brest representing, respectively, Europe, Africa, Australia, Asia, North and South America.²¹

Along with her involvement in IAPESGW, Ainsworth was also very active in two groups working towards the foundation of an international organization in physical education that would have a direct link to UNESCO. One of these was the World Confederation of Organizations of the Teaching Profession (WCOTP) where Ainsworth chaired a special committee looking at the prospect of forming an international association under WCOTP's framework. The fact that WCOTP held consultative status within UNESCO was particularly attractive.²² She was also a member of the provisional committee that established the International Council of Physical Education (later ICSPÉ, and later still ICSSPE), whose main proponents were Carl Diem, Fritz Duras, and Ernst Jökl from Germany, and William Jones, Director of the UNESCO Youth Institute in Götting, Germany. Ainsworth eventually resigned from this committee because ICSPÉ intended to emphasize sport and research, whereas her focus was physical education. One of her primary aims regarding IAPESGW was to make certain it had a strong link with UNESCO: "If we do not get into UNESCO before the Jones-Jökl crowd sets up their Council of Physical Education," she wrote to Elyquem in 1958, "we may never get in at all."²³ Ainsworth shifted her focus, and became the driving force behind the foundation of the International Council for Health, Physical Education and Recreation (ICHPER) as a branch of the World Confederation of Organizations of the Teaching Profession. In 1959, through a vote by the Council members, IAPESGW became a member of ICHPER. Ainsworth remained adamantly opposed to ICSPÉ. When Elyquem suggested that IAPESGW join ICSPÉ, Ainsworth argued that "our main objective in the Woman's Association is to work with all levels, and all abilities, and not be too fascinated with the great events."²⁴ Besides, she argued, the leadership of ICSPÉ was composed entirely of men, and this meant that "the door is closed to women for effective work in that organization."

European Leadership, 1961-1977

By 1961, and at the time of the fourth congress in Washington, the IAPESGW membership had grown to 156. Still absent was any representation from Eastern European countries, although early in 1960 Ainsworth answered an inquiry from the Vice-chairman of the Commission of Physical Education and Sports for Women in the USSR, who had read the first issue of the *Review*, and was questioning how countries became members of IAPESGW.²⁵ Over 500 delegates attended

The third congress, held at Bedford College for Women in London, was a huge success with more than 400 delegates from 65 countries attending, which was nearly double the number of countries at the Paris congress in 1953. Impressively, all preliminary information for the conference had been sent out in English, French, and Spanish. Prior to the conference, Ainsworth had appointed several committees to explore various administrative aspects of the association such as the need for a constitution, how to organize the finances, nominations for executive officers, and invitations to host the next congress. A constitution was accepted that formalized the Association and laid out its aims: (1) to bring together women of many countries, working in the field of physical education and sports; (2) to co-operate with other organizations which are encouraging the particular services of women to society; (3) to strengthen international contacts; (4) to afford opportunities for the discussion of mutual problems; and (5) to promote activity in such fields as the exchange of persons and ideas between member countries and research into problems affecting physical education and sports for women.¹⁹

The government and control of the Association was vested in the Council of Representatives (comprised of one delegate from each member country), the Officers (president, two vice-presidents, secretary-treasurer), and an Executive Board (the Officers and six persons selected by the Council from diversified areas of the world). The most difficult and controversial problem was how to insure the selection of "appropriate" representatives from the member countries to form the Council of Representatives. In the end, the constitution mandated that "each country may become a member of the Association upon the selection of a woman qualified in the field of Physical Education," but the method of selection was left to the individual countries. In some countries, representatives were chosen by an appropriate physical education organization; in others, they were selected by the government, or in some cases, IAPESGW requested that a particular individual be chosen, usually someone who had attended a congress and was willing to represent her country. Fees were set at \$5.00 US (or equivalent) for member countries and \$3.00 for individuals. They also voted to publish a *Review* twice a year, which would be compiled in the USA (at Smith College). Edited by Eunice Way, the first issue appeared in Spring 1958 and continued for 7 issues until Spring 1961, with all issues containing material in French and Spanish as well as English. Articles in the *Review* were mostly reports of various aspects of women's physical education, sport, gymnastics, or dance from a variety of countries.²⁰

Ainsworth was re-elected President with Maria Therèse Elyquem and Muriel Webster as the vice-presidents, and Helen Hazelton (USA) as secretary-treasurer. The first Executive Board included Liselott Diem,

time—she held their profound respect and appreciation for what she had accomplished. Perhaps Hara Tokura of Japan summed up her contribution best: "It is because of Miss Ainsworth that the International Congress has progressed to this point. Each continent is like a kite, with one string holding them together. This string would be the personal qualities of Miss Ainsworth."²⁹

Ainsworth did not leave her successor to chance. As early as 1957 at the London congress, arguing that "it should be a younger person and from another country," she was unsuccessful in persuading Liselott Diem Marie Therèse Eyquem was interested. Eventually, both Diem and Eyquem were nominated by the Association members with Eyquem elected through a vote. Precisely why Ainsworth promoted Eyquem will probably never be known, but it is clear that she had serious concerns about her suitability for the presidency long before this. In a letter to Muriel Webster in early 1956, she stated:

... but although I wish very much indeed we could have Marie Therèse as a candidate for our presidency, I feel that she has so many things that she is doing it would be too much for her to be burdened with this. I have twice expected certain things to come through from her and she has been unable to complete them. I fear our letters which must go out at least once a year, might be seriously delayed under these circumstances. She is a wonderful person, and I am very, very, fond of her, but I think there is too much detail in the presidency for her to manage. As you know the report of our last meeting has never come out, and we had to give up on the Review. This is no fault of hers, but the fact remains that this did not occur. I think she is a great inspiration and I hope she will always be one of most active members; and she is a wonderful organizer too.³¹

Unfortunately, Ainsworth's fears came to pass between the years 1961 and 1965 when Eyquem was president. As far as we could ascertain, although it is difficult to track, Eyquem was by then far too busy with her political activities in France to be an effective president of IAPESGW. There are no newsletters until June 1964, when one appears in both French and English, clearly written by Eyquem, where she reports on how she has represented the Association.³² She was not, we believe, as interested in physical education as she was in women's sports especially at the highest levels. She confided to Ainsworth in early 1961 that she aspired to be the first woman member of the International Olympic Committee; Ainsworth thought this a fine idea and suggested she would be an excellent choice.³³ Eyquem also gave a paper entitled "Women and the Olympic Games" at the Washington congress where she discussed



Delegates at the 1961 Congress, Washington, D.C. (Smith College Archives)

the Washington congress with 150 arriving from 25 other countries. Held at the new National Education Association building, it was organized by an AAHPER-NAPFCW planning committee headed by Rachel Bryant, a consultant in sports for girls and women at the AAHPER, and Mabel Shirley of St. Olaf College in Minnesota. The general theme of the conference was "Expanding Horizons in Physical Education" with more emphasis and concern for research in physical education than was evident at previous meetings.²⁶ Very impressively, all speeches were simultaneously translated into five languages—English, French, Spanish, German, and Japanese.

Minutes from the Council of Representative meetings show that similar problems were beginning to reappear as time went on, such as the best publication to communicate to members, how to select official delegates, how to increase the membership, which international associations to join, how to enhance the Association's financial position, the procedure for selecting future congress sites, and how to garner publicity for the Association.²⁷

Ainsworth's term as president came to an end at the Washington congress. By all accounts, she realized that after twelve years at the helm of the Association it was time to turn over the organization to another leader, and specifically one from Europe. She had carefully guided IAPESGW's growth and development, laid the foundation for an infrastructure, and spent a good deal of time and personal resources on developing an extensive network of women physical educators all over the world dedicated to common goals.²⁸ Forthright and diplomatic, determined and pragmatic, forceful and charming—all at the same

the evolution of women's participation in the modern Olympics, why "masculinization" in women competitors, and why women's events should not imitate those of men. In 1962, at a European conference in Berlin on women and competitive sport, she promoted the idea that IAPESGW was the logical successor to the long defunct Fédération Sportive Féminine Internationale.³⁴ Given the era, she had interesting if not contradictory ideas, and a political orientation towards social change. She consistently argued for women's right to compete at the highest possible levels, but, on the other hand, she fervently believed that athletic women were restricted by their biology, and should never display anything but the most feminine of qualities. She wrote a book about the life of Pierre de Coubertin, founder of the modern Olympics, and for some reason did not discuss his opposition to women competing in the Olympics.³⁵

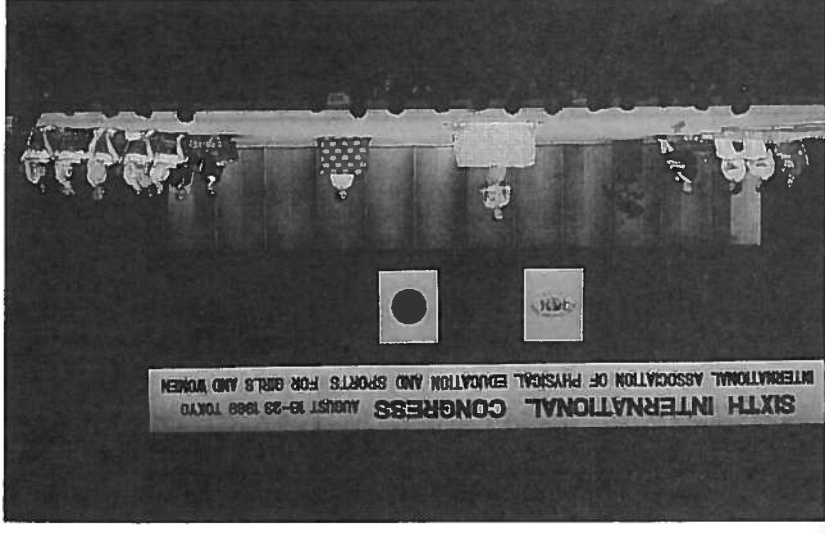
Despite her political connections (especially, for example, with UNESCO), and her obvious organizational abilities and enthusiasm, Eyquem simply could not meet her commitments as president. In a letter to Liselott Diem, Ainsworth complained that she wrote very seldom and didn't even have the time to meet with Muriel Webster, one of the vice-presidents who was in Paris.³⁶ In June 1965 and before the next congress in Köln, Eyquem wrote to the membership indicating that she could no longer continue as president of the Association. She argued that she would be unable to attend the Köln congress due to her political activity in France, and it was only after some pressure from Diem that she appeared for a short period at the opening session.³⁷

Liselott Diem assumed the presidency at the Köln congress in August 1965. She had been mainly responsible for the success (700 delegates from 40 nations) of the fifth international meeting held at the German University of Sport.³⁸ It was also the first congress to take a particular theme (The Adolescents of Today: Problems of Physical Education) and develop it throughout the congress. Diem received financial support from several governmental sources in Germany, and her many connections made it possible to attract leading speakers to the congress like Margarete Streicher, a highly respected Austrian physical educator who had developed "natural gymnastics." Also invited was the famous German modern dance expert Mary Wigman, of whom an Australian delegate wrote: ". . . the Main Hall was packed for this session, with former students, colleagues and teachers from all over the world applauding her to the echo."³⁹

In her role as president, Diem suffered some initial problems in obtaining essential information about the Association from Eyquem, including a membership list, and it took a very long time to transfer the Association's money to the new secretary-treasurer Gwendolyn Drew in

the United States.⁴⁰ It was almost a year before Diem communicated with the Executive Board and Council of Representatives; her practice was to send out short, "round" letters (mostly in English, sometimes in German) once or twice a year about upcoming international meetings and conferences, and mentioning new representatives to the Association. Obviously these letters were better than no communication at all from Eyquem, but they were a far cry from the chatty, information-packed, and often amusing newsletters sent out by Ainsworth to all members when she was president. Moreover, as mentioned previously, Eyquem had sent out only one newsletter to the membership in June 1964, and the earlier *Review* had not been revived. In fact, it does not appear that newsletters or anything like a yearly publication were sent to the Association's membership between 1965 and 1982 when the *Bulletin of IAPESGW* first appears.

Diem's priorities as president included recruiting and supporting women who could represent the Association in their country. She wrote numerous letters asking women she knew, or those suggested to her, asking them to serve; she supported them by making requests on their behalf to ministries of education or other governmental and non-governmental bodies for travel support so they could attend the congresses and other international meetings. Like Ainsworth, she was actively involved in the planning of the four congresses held during her presidency in Tokyo (1969), Teheran (1973), Cape Town (1977), and Buenos Aires (1981). She developed an expansive network of colleagues around the world; she would often combine travel to a congress or



Opening ceremonies, 1969 Congress, Tokyo, Japan

(Smith College Archives)

international meeting with a lecture tour at various universities and colleges. Finally, she sought financial support from the government in (then) West Germany for the office of president, as well as for her various travels on behalf of the Association.

The congresses were the highlights of Diem's term as president. The 1969 Tokyo conference was in many ways a memorial to Haru Tokura, who died in 1968. She had been active in IAPESGW since the Paris conference in 1953, and as a founding member of the Japanese Association of Physical Education for Women, she had encouraged many Japanese women physical educators to become involved in IAPESGW. Organized by a committee headed by Chiyo Matsumoto, the congress attracted over 600 delegates, including some 250 from 26 nations.⁴¹ Her Imperial Highness the Crown Princess of Japan welcomed all delegates at the inaugural session, and with a theme of "Traditional and Modern Forms of Physical Education," the wonderfully organized and presented conference was an obvious success. As Catherine Allen, a delegate from the USA wrote:

This has been a magnificent week—a week of friendships renewed and of new friendships; a week of beauty in movement and music, in art and costume; a week of joy in the pursuit of knowledge and of skill; a week of gracious hospitality, of smiling faces, of courtesy, of sincerity; a week of revelation in the perfection of organization and demonstration; and a week of unity among us, sharing what we know, what we believe, what we are. Each country has given unselfishly of her culture. We have seen and heard and experienced so much. We leave with feelings of pride, of modesty, and of humility.⁴²

Membership-wise, the Association appeared to be in a fairly healthy state with over 300 paid-up members from 41 countries. However, the vast majority of members were located in a just a few countries: USA (152), Japan (41), Canada (31), Germany (13) and the UK (12). With the exception of one member from Czechoslovakia, there was still no representation from Eastern Europe.⁴³ Diem was unchallenged as president and re-elected for another four years.

In 1973, the seventh congress in Teheran, Iran attracted some 200 delegates from 30 countries and over 250 participants from Iran. Her Imperial Majesty, the Shahbanou of Iran opened the congress, the theme of which was "Sports for All." There was a significant improvement in the representation from Eastern Europe with delegates attending from Czechoslovakia, Poland, Romania, and the USSR. The congress had been preceded by a workshop in Jerusalem on Israeli folklore and dance organized by Eli Friedmann, the first of many pre and post-congresses to



Dorothy Ainsworth, Liselott Diem, and Isabelle Nel in Tokyo, 1969

allow those from far away the opportunity to meet their colleagues and experience the culture of yet another part of the world.

Towards the end of her second term in office, Diem was looking to end her presidency in 1973 and turn the Association over to someone else. In her tenth "round" letter to the Officers, Members of the Executive Board, and Council of Representatives, dated June 1972, she asks them to think about who might become the next president. Several names came forward, including vice-presidents Isabelle Nel from South Africa and Ezzat Pirnia from Iran, Board member Catherine Allen from the United States, and also Gwen Drew, the secretary-treasurer.⁴⁴ It is unclear what became of these suggestions because Diem was re-elected President in Teheran, and, as far as we can ascertain, was again unchallenged.

In her third term of office, between the years 1973 and 1977, Diem traveled extensively, often combining advising and lecturing with work on behalf of the Association (see her June 1975 letter to members in box). A scientific congress in connection with the Gymnaestrada in Berlin in the summer of 1975 provided an opportunity for some of the Association's officers, executive board, and council of representatives to meet. The most important item of business discussed here was the next congress, planned for South Africa in 1977.

Diem Writes to IAPESGW Members

Dear Colleagues,

It is a long time since I had the opportunity to write to you. In the meantime I was in many places all over the world and met some of our delegates. I was together with Ezzat Pirnia who is really hard working in the Iran Sports Federation on International Affairs . . . I also met with our delegates in South America . . . I was also in Chile and saw how difficult the restoration of their work is for our colleagues. I was sent by our government to work there with the department of Physical Education and I had an excellent exchange of ideas referring the studies, elementary and postgraduate studies at the University of Chile.

Also in Venezuela we had a very good cooperation in the development of leadership in physical education at different places with a pilot project of 2100 hours and also in the direction of qualification of sport coaching. With the help of the Ministry of Education we established a Committee for Sports Sciences and we hope that step by step we can build up with our Venezuela colleagues the sports teaching education together with the postgraduate studies.

You see I am not only working in different countries but also busy in different research projects. One of them is a longitudinal study on the influence of early motor stimulation on the development of the personality of children. Another project is the development of curricula for the pre-school and elementary-school level in combination with evaluation and films as well as film-spots for children.

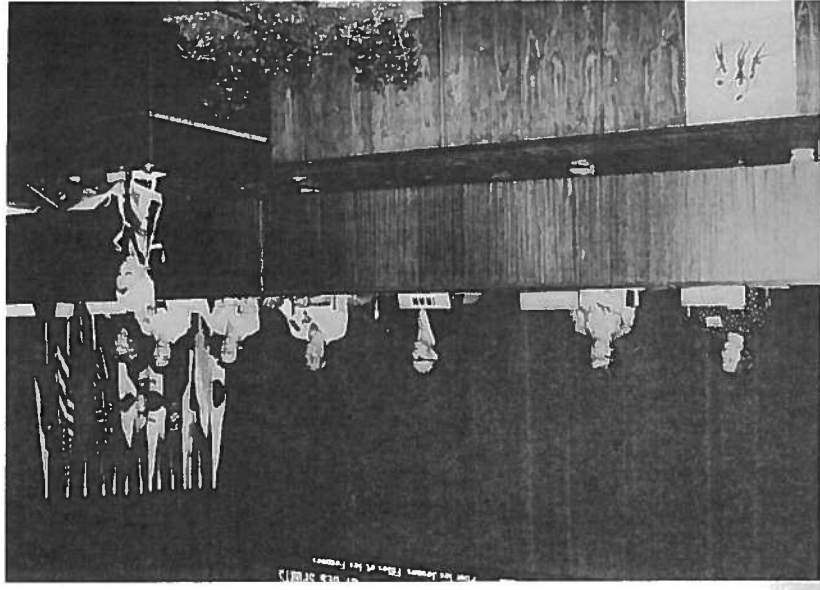
Our business now is directed to our next congress in 1977 in South Africa. Isabelle Nel will visit Europe and will meet our colleagues in the United Kingdom, the Federal Republic of Germany and Austria and some other places. She is very successfully working in an integrated preparation committee, where are working together the South African black, Indian, and white people. We shall hope that everything shall lead to international cooperation.

Please, excuse my long silence and take my best greetings.

Source: From a letter dated June 13, 1975 from Liselott Diem to "all Members of our Association."



Queen Farah of Iran receiving Liselott Diem, Mette Winkler, Aisha Murad, and Lisa Orko



Opening ceremonies, 1973 Congress, Tehran, Iran

Controversial Issues, 1977-1981

The possibility of hosting a congress in South Africa was discussed in 1971 by the Women's Section of the South African Association of Physical Education, Health, and Recreation. As chair of the section, Isabelle Nel compiled the bid for presentation to IAPESGW and found the necessary funding.⁴⁵ Australia also prepared a bid presented by Eunice Gill, a member of the Executive Board. Although considerable lobbying took place in Teheran on behalf of both bids, South Africa was chosen through a vote taken by the Council of Representatives. Diem suggested later that South Africa was selected out of respect for Nel and her long association with the Association, and because a committee under her leadership would organize an excellent conference. Also helpful was the appearance in Teheran of a mixed-race group of schoolgirls from South Africa who performed in a dance demonstration.⁴⁶ IAPESGW did not see itself as a political organization, hence the decision to go to South Africa appears not to have caused concern among its members except to make certain that everyone, regardless of color, would be welcome.⁴⁷ We do not know whether the issue was discussed in member countries, but in the United States, for example, a NAFPCW committee studied the implications and eventually gave its full support to IAPESGW.⁴⁸

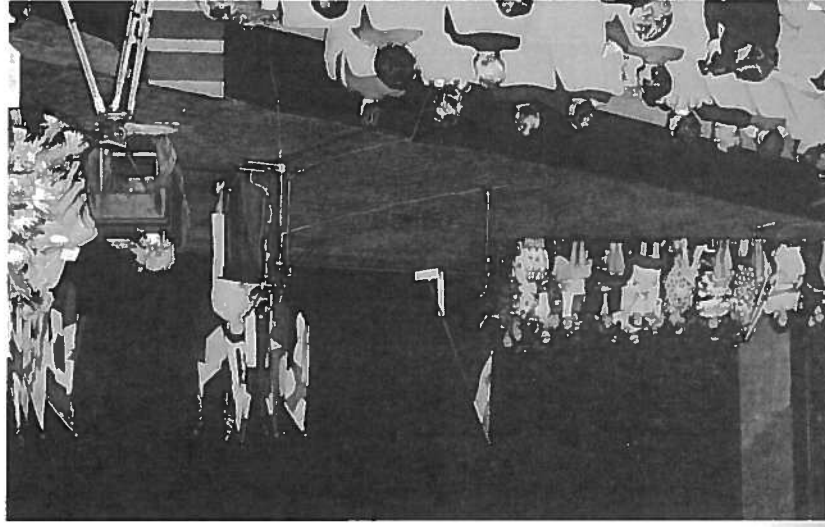
Diem was involved in major decisions relating to the congress, and she resolutely defended the choice of South Africa to all critics. The congress, she argued, was to be a model of cooperation among races without any discrimination or prejudice. Diem had visited South Africa with her husband in 1967, and when she returned ten years later she noted considerable progress in the relaxation of apartheid laws. Although she admitted that South Africa had made mistakes in the repression of human rights, so had many other countries in her opinion, and therefore South Africa should not be singled out for condemnation.⁴⁹ Isabelle Nel's intentions were clearly political, in that congress planning would provide opportunities for cooperation among women from the various "national" groups (i.e., white, black, colored, Indian, etc.) in South Africa. In early 1975 she wrote Diem: "for the first time in the history of our women's Association, we will sit together round a table with a group of white and non-white members."⁵⁰ She went on to explain how, in her view, the situation in South Africa was rapidly changing:

Politically things are moving fast in this country. I foresee that anti-South African countries may be old-fashioned by 1977. For instance, our venue, the Nico Malan Theatre and our other large theatres, were declared open for mixed race gatherings a few weeks ago. This is already so with sport and to some extent in certain hotels. I hope you can convince some representatives if their reasons are political.⁵¹

The South African Government did everything in its power to guarantee that the congress would take place as planned. The Department of Sport and Recreation supported it financially, and attached no political strings to the grant.⁵² There would be no restrictions on travel, and participants regardless of color would have the same rights. More cynical observers noted that to circumvent the political isolation resulting from its policy of racial discrimination, South Africa temporarily relaxed the restrictions of apartheid in unimportant areas such as the IAPESGW congress.⁵³ The choice of Swaziland, in southern Africa between Mozambique and South Africa, for the pre-congress was strategic for several reasons. Most importantly, delegates unable to enter South Africa directly because their government banned all "sporting" contact with South Africa, would be able to do so via Swaziland.⁵⁴ This would be especially true for IAPESGW members from communist countries.

The Cape Town congress with the theme "Better Teaching and Coaching" attracted some 500 participants from 35 nations, but none from Eastern Europe.⁵⁵ Well over half the delegates came from African countries, selected by Departments of Education in their own countries and funded partly by the South African Government.⁵⁶ All races were included in the program performances, lectures, visits, and accommodations, and for the first time, a mix-race children's choir performed in public. The pre-congress in Swaziland brought together 200 participants from 30 countries.

After the congress, Diem sent a twelve-page report to a variety of governmental and sport bodies in the Federal Republic of Germany



Opening ceremonies, 1977 Congress, Cape Town, South Africa

and again; it was, she stated, one of the best congresses ever organized by an international association. There had been no dissonance at the congress, she concluded, only harmony, mutual respect, and trust—a contribution towards communication between peoples through physical education and sport.

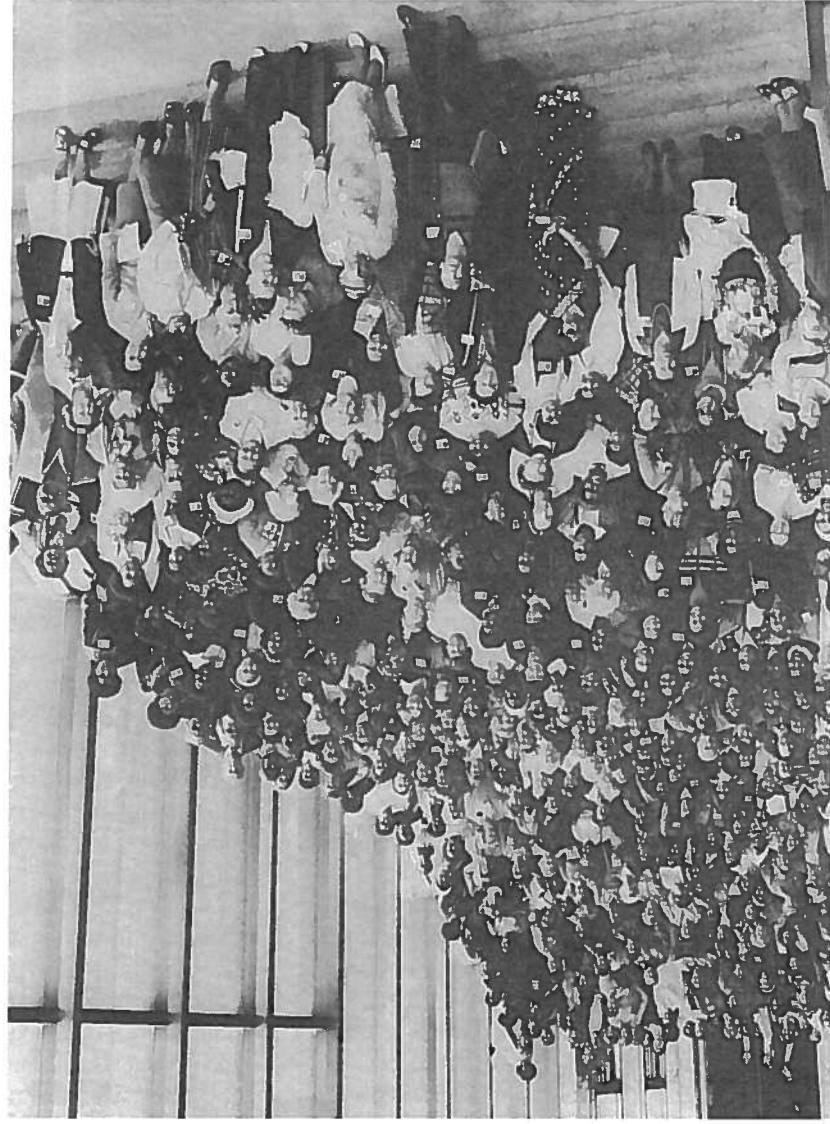
At the Cape Town congress, minutes from the Executive Board and Council of Representative meetings show that a number of controversies over the election procedure of the Association's officers and executive, revising the constitution, keeping members informed through a newsletter or bulletin between congresses, and creating archives to avoid losing the history of the Association. There was also much discussion over the site of the next congress in 1981, with Austria wishing to host the meeting but unable to obtain the necessary money and resources to do so.⁵⁸ Argentina very much wanted to have the congress, but the United States proposed that a six month delay in the decision take place so that they could investigate holding the next congress there. On a more positive note, the Dorothy Sears Ainsworth Honor Award (Ainsworth had died in 1976) was founded, which would be awarded to an Association member writing the best paper on "non-discrimination." In the end, a committee was set up to revise the constitution in order to deal with at least some of the problems. Despite the growing discontent, and challenged by Catherine Allen of the United States and Ezzat Firnia of Iran, Diem was again re-elected to the presidency by a considerable margin.⁵⁹

Democratizing the Association, 1981-1989

During the last years of Diem's term of office, bitter conflicts arose over her leadership style, looked upon by some as undemocratic. The issues were clearly laid out by Mette Winkler, the very efficient secretary-treasurer from Denmark. In a frank, but perhaps overstated, letter to Diem, she wanted definite rules on how decisions were taken, inclusive decision-making by all members, and limited terms for the executive officers. The entire future of IAPESGW, she argued, was at stake if changes were not made:

...if we want to build an international association we cannot run as one woman show. In the past we have really not been an association, but rather a council or a club, with more or less handpicked leaders. You know that evil tongues have called us a club of old, rich women. Belonging myself - at least for the first part - to the category, I realise that just this type of persons are the ones who can put in a lot of work. But we cannot survive as an association with this image.⁶⁰

including the ministries of internal and foreign affairs, as well as to the German ambassador in South Africa.⁵⁷ She carefully outlined why South Africa had been chosen for the congress, the planning and arrangements, what had happened at the congress, who was there and how they got there, and the important people from South Africa who had attended. Her pride in IAPESGW and praise for the congress come through time



Participants at the Cape Town Congress, 1977

Dorothy Massey from the United States and others, who complained that the general information about the award had been delayed and that the whole procedure was faulty. In her view, neither the IAPESGW officers or executive board should be eligible. As a compromise, an honorary award was given to Diem for her book, *Frau und Sport: Ein Beitrag zur Frauenbewegung* published in 1980, but the prize money (\$500) and the commendation went to Atara Sherman of Israel for her essay entitled "The Status of Women in Sport: A Social Connotation."

As the new president, Helene Tollitch sought to distance herself from the controversies and conflicts of the previous few years. She emphasized the need for tolerance and cooperation; she delegated responsibility and tasks to others; she sought advice on how to make the Association better; she encouraged regional and informal meetings of members; and most important of all, she communicated regularly with the membership. The new (1981) constitution mandated that all members were entitled to a news bulletin at least once a year, which must include a letter from the president. In the first issue of the *Bulletin of IAPESGW* (edited by Audrey Bambara in England), Tollitch stressed the importance and purpose of the new publication—to extend the influence of the Association in the years between the congresses, to keep professional friendships alive, and to ensure that members are kept informed of all developments.⁶⁶

Another of Tollitch's innovations were regional seminars, and the first of these was the "snow seminar" (unwittingly advertised as a "seminary") in January 1983, organized by Julika Ullmann at the Hochkar Ski Center in Austria. Participants in the seminar received instruction in alpine skiing from an Austrian professional ski instructor, and took part



Mette Winkler, Bede Barford, Margaret Talbot, and Pat Bowen-West in Buenos Aires, 1981

Diem fervently opposed this more democratic approach, and she expressed her concerns to the German-speaking members of the Executive Committee. In her view, the extensive personal relations and network of the president were IAPESGW's most important capital, which could not be nurtured and used if the president changed too often.⁶¹ Diem, by all accounts, was very effective in using her connections especially to gain resources and prestige for the Association.⁶² She had ably represented the Association at both ICHPER and ICSPF, gaining much stature and respect among her colleagues. Diem also opposed a ruling that would restrict a country's vote unless they had at least three paid-up members arguing that it was vital to include as many countries as possible, and that it would be difficult for impoverished countries, like those in Africa and Eastern Europe, to send more than one representative to congresses. Finally, she was especially proud of integrating a few Eastern European countries into the Association. Diem was outnumbered, and during an Executive Board Meeting held at a women and sport congress in Rome in 1980, a decision was made to canvass the membership through a mail vote on the new statutes, which were overwhelming approved.

The ninth congress, and the last one under Diem's leadership, was held in Buenos Aires in 1981 but the meetings and elections took place according to the new constitution. Long before the congress took place, Diem had sought out her successor. Her choice was Helene Tollitch of Austria, whom she began to recruit as early as 1977. Tollitch hesitated, because among other things she felt too old to take over this duty, and it required considerable persuasion on Diem's part to convince her. "You are," she pleaded, "the only person who in this complicated situation can steer—at least for a while—this women's organization through the waves of political discrepancies."⁶³ Helene Tollitch was elected president by acclamation in Buenos Aires in the summer of 1981.

Rio de Janeiro in Brazil was the site of the third pre-congress, organized by Fernanda Beltrão and focussed on Brazilian folk dance and culture. The ninth congress, arranged by Helga Holze and her committee in Buenos Aires, had a multi-purpose theme focussing on new dimensions in family and school sport, teacher training, curricula, research and scientific projects, and post-graduate studies.⁶⁴ Interestingly, Eunice Gill from Australia wrote in her report published in the first issue of the *Bulletin of IAPESGW*: "It is always a little surprising to find men speaking at women's conferences for the standard of the women speakers would indicate that there is not a need for their inclusion."⁶⁵ Had she been alive, Dorothy Ainsworth would no doubt have commented to the same effect. Neither would she have been too pleased about the controversy surrounding the awarding of the first Dorothy Sears Ainsworth Honor Award. Liselott Diem applied for the award and was criticized by

in social gatherings and discussions about IAPESGW. It was also a good opportunity for Tollich to provide an assessment of the Association from her vantage as president (see extract in box).

Tollich's View of IAPESGW

In the following statements I will try to give a short survey

of the aims of our Association
of the purpose of our Association
of the problems of our Association
of the difficulties of our Association
not as they are mentioned in the constitution but as I myself have experienced them.

When I was elected as President of IAPESGW in 1981 in Buenos Aires I was well aware of the great demands of this international leading position and I promised to do my best to lead the Association to further success.

And then I reflected upon and I considered: What does it mean "further success"?
In which way can the Association be effective or successful?

At present I consider 2 great problems vital and interesting for our Association:

- The first question concerns a trend of our time:
Has a merely feminine association still its justification in our time?
- The second question is rather an interval one:
How can contacts among members be improved?

Now I will start with the first question:

"Is a feminine Association still justified?"

Recently – first of all in Europe – coeducation for girls and boys – I mean common schools and education in all subjects as well as going in for all kinds of sports together – is promoted: at a time in which the woman is said to be enjoying equal rights everywhere a merely feminine organisation does not seem to be of topical interest any longer. You know that this question is put very often: Why does this Association exist?

We could learn personally from the experiences of the congresses in all parts of the world.

- that the position of the woman still differs very much;
- that partnership and equal standing is even not prevailing in those states where emancipation de jure is existing.

Don't misunderstand me!

I do not speak in favour of suffragettes' organisations but I believe it is our task to achieve a strengthening of our own self-comprehension by professional scientific and personal contacts. In this way we may contribute

to an invigoration of our own position in our country.
Further, I think, is our task to achieve understanding and toleration for other persons, things and proceedings.

• Our congresses have always been of a high level, above the average, as an insight into the practices of Physical Education of girls in various countries. For all these reasons this separate association does not mean a seclusion against male colleagues, but our organisation could and should be the source of impulses for physical education that come up with other aspects of Sport and Physical Education not only contests and competitive sports.

And now the second question:

"How can the contact among members be improved?"

This is more a practical than a theoretical question. I regard it as a task of the Association to leave no stone unturned to improve the personal contacts among members.

This improvement would result in a better personal understanding and in a better knowledge and information about various countries and customs. Therefore the Association should be a kind of clearing house that offers opportunities for professional as well as personal contacts for visits to various countries to learn from the work of others.

I am deeply convinced that mutual understanding is not possible if one is not prepared to respect the view and opinion of other people or one is not prepared to learn from one another.

I come back to my question put at the beginning:

Of what kind could the success of our Association be?

I will summarize:

- The reputation of our association must be based on professional quality and atmosphere
- An unchallenged position among international associations must be secured.

The success could also be displayed by

- the professional work of our members not only in the Association but also in our home countries
- by an increase of the number of our members
- by contributions and impulses for Physical Education and Sport
- by representing our Association at many International Congresses (giving papers, taking part in discussions etc.)

The greatest success should be

- to improve mutual and personal understanding that may lead to real international understanding.

Source: Helene Tollich, "The President's View of IAPESGW," Presentation given at the Snow Seminar, Hochkar, Austria, January 6-13, 1983.

simply not enough money to run the affairs of the Association properly over the next four years. At this point, Association dues were still quite minimal: \$7 US for one year and \$25 US for four years.⁷⁰ The dire financial situation was alleviated a couple of years later, after the sale of the 1985 congress report contributed over \$15,000 US to the general coffers.⁷¹ Following a successful and energetic first term, Helene Tollich was re-elected President in 1985 for another four years.

In the summer of 1997, an important conference took place at the University of Jyväskylä in Finland with IAPESGW's support. The theme was "Movement and Sport in Women's Life," and over 250 participants (about a quarter were men) came from around the world to present research papers, take part in workshops and seminars, and enjoy many social events. Over two thirds of the presenters were women, many of whom were younger scholars and researchers in the flourishing "women and sport" research area.⁷²

Although originally planned for Canada in 1989, the eleventh congress took place in Bali, Indonesia.⁷³ Organized by the Indonesian Association of Physical Education and Sport for Girls and Women, under the leadership of Mien Condowidjo and Mans Muskita, the theme was "Better Family Life Through Physical Education and Sports." The congress, opened by Madame Tien Suharto, wife of the President of the Republic of Indonesia, was the usual mix of a varied and colorful program consisting of papers, practical demonstrations, films and exhibitions, discussions and excursions.⁷⁴ Some 200 delegates attended from 19 countries, a smaller number than at past conferences. Among the missing



Gertrud Pfister being greeted by Madame Tien Suharto, Bali, 1989

During the tenth congress in 1985, held at the University of Warwick in England, members present at the general assembly issued the following "message to the world," which they hoped to see given wide publicity within their own countries:

The opportunities for girls and women to participate in physical education, sport and dance have increased in recent years. There are many qualified women in the world of physical education, sport and dance. They must be encouraged and helped to take posts of responsibility and leadership. We invite all girls and women in the world to join in sport activities to promote understanding and friendship without discrimination by reason of race, religion, or political opinion. Sharing in these activities will make a major contribution to peace and happiness worldwide.⁷⁵

This statement represented a more openly feminist orientation for the Association, although it is unlikely that IAPESGW saw itself as a feminist organization. At an Executive Board meeting a year later, a decision was taken that IAPESGW "should work to nominate professional women for positions in international associations in which IAPESGW is represented."⁷⁶ The organizations involved were groups such as ICSSPE (International Council of Sport Science and Physical Education), ICHPER (International Council of Health, Physical Education and Recreation), ICSP (International Committee on Sport Pedagogy), ISCPES (International Society on Comparative Physical Education and Sport), and FIEP (International Federation of Physical Education).

The Warwick congress attracted some 300 participants from 30 different nations, and the resulting report reflects a well-organized program (coordinated by Patricia Bowen-West) focussing on lifelong participation in physical activity from early childhood years through adulthood to retirement. Unfortunately, Britain's longstanding opposition to apartheid in South Africa meant that the South African delegates could not officially present papers, nor did they report on developments in their country.⁷⁷ There was a pre-congress in Brussels and the Netherlands involving some 50 participants who took part in research seminars and cultural events. The second Dorothy Sears Ainsworth Honor Award went to one of the authors of this book, Gertrud Pfister from Germany, for her scholarly treatise, *Geschlechtsspezifische Sozialisation und Koedukation im Sport* (Berlin: Bartels and Wernitz, 1983).

From an organizational standpoint, the Association could now count representatives from 62 nations among its members. However, secretary/treasurer Mette Winkler reported its finances to "very critical," and in her usual no-nonsense fashion she announced that there was

Bowen-West's approach was much the same as Tollich's, democratic yet firm, visionary yet practical. She possessed, as one admirer wrote, "a tremendous capacity for hard work . . . enthusiastic and resilient no matter how difficult the situation . . . perceptive and leaves nothing to chance, preparing for every eventuality."⁷⁶ She would certainly need all these qualities and more in the years to come.

Resolutions from the Eleventh Congress,

Bali Indonesia, July 1989 (*Bulletin of IAPESGW*, Vol. 3, No. 1, p. 8)

IAPESGW affirms the value of sport, dance, physical education and recreation in enriching the lives of people of all ages, stages, and social groups and especially for women and girls.

Mr. Gandhi:

If we educate a man, then we build a strong person, but if we educate a woman, we will build a strong family and a strong nation.

IAPESGW recommends:

1. That physical education should be an integral part of children's education at every stage, from preschool through to university.
2. Physical activity and educational opportunities for girls and women should be part of the overall programs to change social attitudes, which will encourage girls and women to realize their full potential.
3. National Governments take seriously the role of physical education and sports for girls and women, and provide adequate resources for:

- Developing programs for girls and women to enhance awareness of good diet, rest and exercise to promote a healthy lifestyle.

- Developing programs for girls and women to develop good habits of posture and efficiency in performing everyday tasks.
- Developing guidelines for encouraging health-related exercise in the school curriculum at all levels.
- Developing programs of physical education and community recreation which encourage the qualities of co-operation, mutual understanding and respect for the environment.
- Developing programs of sport, dance and recreation located in communities, which will encourage girls and women to become involved in appropriate physical exercise.

were delegates from South African, who were prevented from entering Indonesia by Suharto's government due to its anti-apartheid stance.

A number of resolutions (see box) aimed at national governments, which demonstrate how little the Association's philosophy had changed over the years, were formulated at this congress. Sport, dance, physical education and recreation will enrich the lives of girls and women, and encourage them to reach their full potential. The Japan Association of Physical Education for Women hosted a post-congress seminar on "Exploring Movement from Childhood through Adulthood" at the University of Tsukuba in celebration of their 35th anniversary. The 1989 Dorothy Sears Ainsworth Honor Award went to Catherine Allen for her extensive work with IAPESGW, and her many contributions as an outstanding professional leader in the United States.

Since the constitution mandated that officers of the Association were not eligible for re-election after two terms in office, a new president was elected at Bali in 1989, namely Patricia Bowen-West from the United Kingdom. In thanking Helene Tollich for her significant contribution over the previous eight years, she used words like commitment, generosity, determination, skill, and humor.⁷⁵ The Association was clearly in better shape—organizationally, financially, and communication-wise—through Tollich's leadership, hard work, and most importantly, her democratic and teambuilding style.



Ruth Schellberg in Bali, 1989

Competition and Loss of Influence, 1989-1999

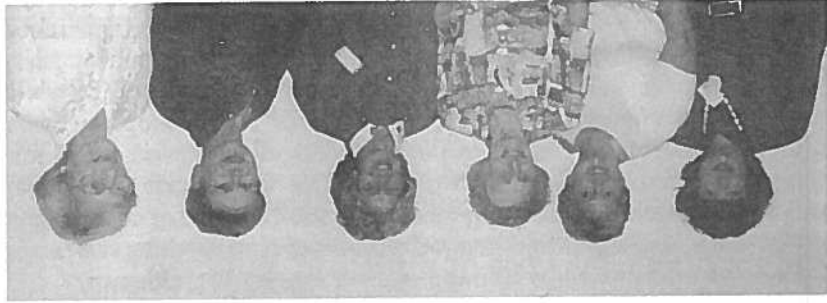
In her first letter to the membership, Bowen-West indicated that she planned to build on the team approach to running the Association promoted by her predecessor.⁷⁷ Guidelines were developed to assist and support members on the Council of Representatives, and, more significantly, the Board of Consultants, the group used for advice and special projects, was re-instituted. Bowen-West placed a great deal of emphasis on the need to recruit new members to the Association, and particularly on the role of the Council of Representatives in this crucial task. "You will note," she wrote in 1993, "that there is an encouraging number of new members this year, but it is disappointing that, despite vigorous efforts to restore communications, we have lost too many people over recent years."⁷⁸ Her hope was to see the Association reinforced from within, not only in numbers, but also in vigor through extending and strengthening international contacts, exchanging ideas, and working together on projects of mutual benefit.⁷⁹

Until this point, the Association seems neither to have been influenced by the increasingly global women's movement, nor was there much indication among its members that women's sport and physical education should be part of a wider feminist and political agenda.⁸⁰ In addition, more feminist oriented women's sport advocacy organizations had begun to sprout up around the world, mostly in western, English-speaking nations like the United States, Canada, Australia, and the United Kingdom.⁸¹ A few IAPESGW members, influenced by their work in these other organizations, began to perceive the Association as too conservative and inward looking. At the annual conference of the USA Women's Sports Foundation in April 1992, an international ad-hoc group met to form a new organization, a coalition of existing groups, called the Women's International Sports Coalition (WISC—"to stir things up"), whose purpose was to "harness the energy and resources of our many separate organizations." Celia Brackenridge, an IAPESGW member from England and one of the main instigators of this new coalition, reported on its founding in the *Bulletin*.⁸² The initial objectives of WISC were to: (1) raise awareness of the need for equitable opportunities for all women in sport at all levels in all societies; (2) to facilitate communication and build a network of support amongst national and international sports organizations for women; (3) to develop and maintain a data base which details state/provincial, national and international women's sport organizations; and (4) to facilitate the sharing of information about good practices and programs and resources that concern/target women. Talks were also held about WISC with over 30 women delegates who attended the IAPESGW symposium of the ICSSPE Olympic Scientific Congress in Malaga, Spain in July 1992.

Although IAPESGW, mainly through its president Pat Bowen-West, was supportive of these more political global developments, it was still not seen to address important issues that have a detrimental effect on females in sport, such as gender discrimination, sexual harassment, unhealthy practices, homophobia, and so forth. The idea of a coalition was abandoned, and at the 1993 North American Society for the Sociology of Sport in Toronto, Canada, a decision was taken by some of the delegates attending to set up a new organization called Womensport International (WSI), which was officially launched at an international conference in Brighton, England, the following year.

The twelfth congress in Melbourne, Australia brought together 500 delegates from 27 countries with over 160 presentations around the theme "Women Moving Ahead in Changing Times." Organized by Janet Greer and her committee, there were several focus areas including physical education, dance and aesthetics, sport, recreation, health and activity, and sports medicine and sport science. Dance performances have always had a high profile at IAPESGW congresses and this one was no exception, with demonstration groups from Finland, Japan, Korea, South Africa, and Australia performing. A pre-congress had been held in Kobe City, Japan, in connection with the International College Dance Festival, organized by Chiyo Matsunoto with the support of IAPESGW. After serving as the editor of the *Bulletin of IAPESGW* since 1982, Audrey Bamba from the UK had compiled twelve issues of a snappy, information-packed, but modest magazine. As mentioned previously, the new constitution in 1981 mandated that members were entitled to a news bulletin once a year including a letter from the president. Apparently much discussion preceded the acceptance of this clause because some doubted whether the Association could afford such a publication or be able to sustain it.⁸³ With her last issue in January 1994, Bamba managed to secure a full-page commercial advertisement to offset the cost of producing the *Bulletin*, a practice continued by Edith Katzenellenbogen of South Africa, who took over as the next editor and continued it in the same fine tradition until her last issue in January 1998.

On the international front, the global women's sport movement was developing momentum. It must have been difficult for IAPESGW's leadership to stand by and watch the new initiatives, often funded by governments, as their Association was left behind in the dust so to speak. The 1994 Brighton Conference, for example, entitled "Women and Sport: The Challenge for Change" brought together nearly 300 mostly sports policy and decision-makers from all five continents, some of whom, especially from developing nations, were subsidized to come. Organized and supported by the British Sports Council and the International Olympic Committee, it produced the Brighton Declaration, a statement of position aimed at governments and sports bodies around the world in an



1993-97 Executive Board: A tara Sherman, Janet Grier, Pat Bowen-West, Arnevi Lassila, Jultika Ullmann, Edith Katzenellenbogen, Missing is Margaret Talbot

attempt bring about equality for women and sport.⁸⁴ The International Working Group on Women and Sport was also formed at Brighton to monitor the progress of the Declaration and the International Women and Sport Strategy, and to help plan the Second World Conference on Women and Sport held in Windhoek, Namibia in May, 1998.

Although IAPESGW was entirely supportive of these global initiatives, and repeatedly stated that it would work with groups like WomenSport International on projects of mutual concern and interest, it was not seen as particularly progressive, nor in many cases able to take action. The thirteenth congress held in Lahti, Finland in 1997 is a good example of at least some of the problems. The Finnish Women's Physical Education Association, convened by Arnevi Lassila, was responsible for organizing the event, although three other organizations were also involved in overseeing the congress—the Finnish Sports for All Association, the Finnish Society for Research in Sport and Physical Education, and the Faculty of Sport and Health Sciences at the University of Jyväskylä. The proposed program, with a theme of "Movement and Sport in the Life-Cycle of Woman," lacked a feminist or even woman-centered perspective and contained several male keynote speakers, prompting IAPESGW officers to intervene and invite more women speakers, but the men stayed on the program. Through resolutions passed at its quadrennial congresses, IAPESGW was able to endorse initiatives brought to it from outside the organization (for example, a 1993 endorsement taking action against health hazards experienced by young female athletes), but it was rarely able to actually do anything mainly due to limited resources. It was seen, therefore, as reactive and not proactive.⁸⁵

Prior to the congress in Finland, a very successful pre-congress on "Women and Sport" was held in Gdansk, Poland organized by Zdzisława Wyznikiiewicz-Kopp and the "Circle of IAPESGW." This was the first time in IAPESGW's history that its members had met in Eastern



1997 pre-congress in Gdansk, Poland

Europe, and it attracted some 60 participants mainly from Estonia, Germany, Great Britain, Japan, Russia, Slovakia, Switzerland, and of course, Poland.⁸⁶ From the conference came a plea for IAPESGW to intensify its exchange with women in physical education, sport, and recreation in Eastern Europe.

As an established member of ICSSPE, the Association was becoming increasingly more visible within that organization. The president of IAPESGW has always sat on the Executive Board of ICSSPE, but in July 1996, two more IAPESGW members, Darlene Kiuka (USA) and Anita White (UK) were elected to the Board. There also were the highly successful IAPESGW symposiums at the ICSSPE pre-Olympic scientific congress in Malaga, Spain in 1992 and in Dallas in 1996. The theme of the latter was "Physical Activity, Sport and Health for Girls and Women: Issues and Perspectives" where several members presented their research.⁸⁷

Patricia Bowen-West's term of office came to an end in 1997, and Margaret Talbot, also from the UK, was elected to lead the Association through the end of the millennium and into the next. In her eight years as president, Bowen-West had earned the esteem and affection of many through her "exemplary leadership, generosity and inspired, conscientious service."⁸⁸ She had been through some difficult and stressful times in the history of the Association, but she had continued to promote her vision of a better organization through increased communication, widening the network, and practical co-operation between member countries.

Patricia Bowen-West on Her Years as President

In 1993, the present administration set out with the twin tasks of improving efficiency in the working of the Association and ensuring that it functions as an effective advocate on behalf of women and sport. The time has come to assess the progress.

The first steps taken by the Executive Board were to clarify the roles of the Officers, Board and Council and to promote better communication and cooperation throughout our organization. Representatives were consulted with regard to their responsibilities and Board members undertook to liaise with the Representatives in global areas, to give advice and support. This strategy is showing results in Eastern Europe and South America. Initiatives are now being taken to co-operate with the Arab states. Members have been encouraged to make a greater use of the Bulletin, to publish articles in journals on behalf of women and sport and to arrange meetings of members during conferences and seminars. The channels of communication are open and where members are actively engaged the association is alive and hopefully efficient!

An all embracing aim of our association is to represent the interests of girls and women at all levels and in all areas of physical education and sport. To be effective, we must continue to look outwards, be visible in the wider context and co-operate with others. Following the Brighton Conference in 1994, we became part of an International Women and Sport Strategy. As an established member of ICSSPE, we took part in the Pre-Olympic Scientific Congress in Dallas, July '96, contributing a symposium on the theme: "Physical Activity, Sport and Health for Girls and Women: Issues and Perspectives". The papers were wide-ranging, stimulating, and well received. At the General Assembly of ICSSPE, held prior to the Congress, our two IAPESGW candidates for election to the Executive Board, were successful. We congratulate Darlene Kukka (USA) and Anita White (UK) and wish them well in promoting the interests of women and sport in this influential world forum.

I acknowledge that there is no room for complacency in any area of our activity. The most significant progress is often in the number of small steps taken, in the right direction, and we still have far to travel.

Source: "President's Letter 1997," Bulletin of IAPESGW, 7(1), 1997, p.1.

Some Conclusions

Margaret Talbot, the current president of IAPESGW, addresses the present status and future direction of IAPESGW in chapter 4. Here, we make a few comments about the Association's past until 1997, which has been the focus of this chapter, and point to some obvious areas of concern. The first point is that IAPESGW has been a remarkably stable organization since its inception in 1949. It has certainly had its ups and downs, and has been forced to deal with controversy, perhaps not as openly as it might have, but it has survived. There have been periods in its history when its members have not been kept informed by their leaders. Yet, it has never failed to mount a successful congress, one every four years, and increasingly it supports and takes part in important conferences and research symposia between the congresses. It is visible on the world stage of physical education and sport through its own work, and as a longstanding member of other international organizations such as ICSSPE and ICHPER. Its leaders have been women of integrity, vision, and strength, who have garnered the respect of the membership for their hard work and dedication.

In chapter 3, IAPESGW representatives from a dozen countries provide short histories and personal reflections on their involvement in IAPESGW. If there is a common theme, it is that IAPESGW no longer has the same credibility, nor as many loyal members, in some countries as it once did. In places like Australia, the United States, Canada, the United Kingdom, and perhaps in other countries, newer women's sport advocacy organizations, more proactive and political, attract those who are interested in bringing about change in physical education and sport for girls and women. Yet in many countries, especially in northern and Eastern Europe, in Africa, and in some Muslim areas, there is a renewed interest in the work and importance of the Association. IAPESGW needs to decide whether it can revive interest in those areas of the world where once it was strong, and at the same time encourage increased participation, for example, in developing nations. It will need more resources than it currently has available to do either or both of these.

Whether it recognizes it or not, IAPESGW is part of a developing women's international sports movement. As British sports sociologist and historian Jennifer Hargreaves argues, the term 'movement' implies "a global dimension which transcends nationhood, encompassing on equal terms women from the East and the West, from the developed and developing worlds, women of different races and ethnicities, and of different religions and philosophies."⁸⁹ IAPESGW, along with other international organizations like Womensport International and the International Working Group, are part of this movement. These

organizations and groups struggle to be authentically global and inclusive, and analysts like Hargreaves ask whether or not a women's international sports movement can ever be truly representative of the women it purports to represent. For one thing, and this is certainly true of IAPESGW, there is a very narrow view of 'womanhood,' which has often excluded minority women such as lesbians and women with disabilities, and those marginalized within various nations through class and ethnicity, for example, Aboriginal women in Australia, First Nation women in North America, and Asian women in Britain.

With few exceptions, women who have been actively involved in IAPESGW over the years from both the developed and developing worlds, have come from elite class and educational backgrounds. Members have been trained mostly in the physical education colleges and university faculties in the developed world. As Hargreaves argues, the West has been the center of knowledge production, and those who come from outside the West, often celebrate sameness with the West, rather than difference. The consequences are that IAPESGW has "systematically privileged Western physical education discourse and constructions as universal."⁹⁰ One only has to read issues of the *Bulletin*, and in particular the various country reports (see also chapter 3) to know that this is true. IAPESGW needs to seriously consider this problem in a way that will also privilege non-Western views and discourse.

Finally, until recently IAPESGW has been ill at ease in locating physical education and sport within a broader social and political context. It has seen itself as proudly 'non-political,' which ironically is itself a political statement. The decision to hold the 1977 congress in South Africa, as one example, points clearly to the role of politics within the Association, but there are those who still insist that IAPESGW should have no political message or responsibility. On the other hand, IAPESGW does wish to bring about change for the better, and on a global scale, in physical education and sport for girls and women. It must, therefore, become more political, because it can no longer avoid important issues of power and difference if it wishes to affect change. It needs to connect with the larger, global women's movement, and at the same time, it needs to become sensitive to the particular experiences of women especially in the developing world.

Notes

1. Dorothy S. Ainsworth, "The Function and Purpose of the Congress," *Report of the International Congress on the Physical Education of Girls and Women* (Washington, DC: AAHPER, 1950), p. 25. In fact, this was not the first congress on women's sport. The Fédération Sportive Féminine Internationale (FSFI) held its founding congress in France in 1921. It subsequently held seven congresses, one every two years until 1928, with its last two in 1932 and 1936, before it was disbanded.
2. Dorothy S. Ainsworth, "The International Scene—Summer, 1949," *JOHNER Journal*, 20 (9), 1949, 573, 628-29.
3. Hazel C. Peterson, *Dorothy S. Ainsworth: Her Life, Professional Career and Contributions to Physical Education*. 2nd Edition. (Moscow, Idaho, ID: University of Idaho Press, 1975), p. 304.
4. Copy of this letter in the Dorothy Ainsworth Collection (abbreviated throughout as DAC), Smith College, Northampton, Massachusetts, Box 1, Scrapbook.
5. A short biography of Agnes Bertram can be found in the IAPESGW *Bulletin*, 1(3), 1984, p. 5.
6. It is interesting that even though Ainsworth was in London in the summer of 1948, she opted not to attend the Olympic Games: "I thought the games were inconsistent with my policy of not promoting big-time sports for women, but rather of having their participation in sports something that was everyday, something they could do and enjoy, rather than having a few people specialize." (Quoted in Peterson, *Dorothy S. Ainsworth* from an interview she gave in 1965.)
7. Dorothy S. Ainsworth, "The Organization and Growth of the International Association for Physical Education and Sports for Girls and Women," *Associations Internationales*, No. 9, 1960, 543-546.
8. It is clear that an attempt was made to have women from Germany attend the congress in Copenhagen. Correspondence between Dorothy Ainsworth and the Office of Military Government for Germany (US) dated February 27 and November 20, 1948 shows that the Education and Religious Affairs Branch of the Military Government "would do all that it could to facilitate the travel of German women to such a conference provided the necessary expenses of travel and living were carried out by your organization." Ainsworth replied that although it would be "highly desirable" to have German women attend, they did not have the funds to support them (DAC, Box 23, Folder 18).
9. See note 4.
10. Dorothy S. Ainsworth, "Contributions of Women to New Programs of Physical Excellence in the International Field," unpublished manuscript, May 5, 1961 (DAC, Box 6, Folder 6).
11. This correspondence is in the DAC, Box 23, Folder 2.
12. Good sources on these various traditions are Sheila Fletcher, *Women First*:

24. Letter from Dorothy Ainsworth to Marie Thérèse Eyquem, March 7, 1961 (DAC, Box 23, Folder 4).
25. Correspondence between A. Gorbacheva and Dorothy Ainsworth, December 28, 1959 and January 6, 1960 (DAC, Box 23, Folder 7).
26. *Expanding Horizons in Physical Education*, 4th International Congress on Physical Education and Sports for Girls and Women, August 6-1, 1961, Washington, D.C. (Washington: IAPESGW, 1962).
27. *Ibid.*, p.201-2.
28. See Peterson, *Dorothy S. Ainsworth*, pp. 350-61 for comments from several early IAPESGW leaders on Ainsworth's presidency.
29. *Ibid.*, p. 353.
30. Letter from Dorothy Ainsworth to Gilda Romero Brest, October 8, 1957 (DAC, Box 24, Folder 8).
31. Letter from Dorothy Ainsworth to Muriel Webster, March 12, 1956 (DAC, Box 24, Folder 20). It may be that as Eyquem's political connections grew (for example, she was close to UNESCO), Ainsworth felt that these would be an asset the Association despite her shortcomings.
32. I.A.P.E.S.G.W. *Newsletter*, No. 1, June 1964 (DAC, Box 27, Folder 9).
33. Correspondence between Marie Thérèse Eyquem and Dorothy Ainsworth, January 17, 1961 (DAC, Box 23, Folder 4).
34. See note 1.
35. Marie Thérèse Eyquem, *Pierre de Coubertin, l'opocé olympique* (Calmann-Lévy, 1966).
36. Letter from Dorothy Ainsworth to Liselott Diem, April 11, 1963 (Carl and Liselott Diem Archives, Deutsche Sporthochschule, Köln, Germany - abbreviated throughout as C&LDA)
37. Letters dated June 15 and July 26, 1965 in CLDA files. These events must have deeply disappointed Dorothy Ainsworth. Her correspondence file with Eyquem comes to an end after a flurry of letters regarding the 1961 congress in Washington (DAC, Box 23, Folder 4).
38. *Herrnansichende Jugend Heute: Probleme der Leibeserziehung*, Fünfter Internationaler Kongress International Association of Physical Education and Sport for Girls and Women, 2-7. August 1965, Deutsche Sporthochschule Köln (Verlag Karl Hofmann, 1965).
39. Helen E. Hughes, "Report of the Fifth Congress of the International Association of Physical Education and Sports for Girls and Women - Cologne," *Australian Journal of Physical Education*, No. 36, February-March, 1966, p.35.
40. The documentation for Diem's presidency is contained in 15 thick folders containing her letters, minutes and reports from all meetings, and housed in the Carl and Liselotte Diem Archives (C&LDA) at the Deutsche Sporthochschule in Köln, Germany.
41. In the congress proceedings, there is a very comprehensive and interesting report by Chiyo Matsumoto on exactly how the conference

- The Female Tradition in English Physical Education 1880-1980* (London: The Athlone Press, 1984); Susan K. Cabn, *Coming on Strong: Gender and Sexuality in Twentieth-Century Women's Sport* (New York: The Free Press, 1994), especially Chapter 3; Allen Guttmann, *Women's Sports: A History* (New York: Columbia University Press, 1991), Chapters 9 and 10.
13. Letter from Dorothy Ainsworth to Doris Flewes, September 21, 1953 (DAC, Box 24, Folder 4). It is also interesting that in a newsletter, dated November 13, 1953 and sent to everyone who had attended the Paris Congress, Ainsworth signs it as President, International Association for the Advancement of Physical Education and Sports for Girls and Women (DAC, Box 25, Folder 3).
14. Notes from Meetings of the Chiefs of Delegations, Second International Congress on Physical Education for Girls and Women, Paris, France, July 19-27, 1953 (DAC, Box 25, Folder 3). However, in a letter dated November 13, 1953, which Ainsworth sent to all delegates at the Paris meeting, she makes it clear that the purpose is to "bring together the women in the fields of Sport, Dance, and Physical Education" (DAC, Box 25, Folder 3).
15. Dorothy S. Ainsworth, "Paris Rendezvous: Second International Congress on Physical Education for Girls and Women," *Journal of the American Association for Health, Physical Education, Recreation*, October, 1953, pp.31-32.
16. There are many references to this club sprinkled throughout letters to and from Dorothy Ainsworth. There was also reference to a "famous" poem (in French) written by Marie-Thérèse Eyquem about the party at Barrett Place (Ainsworth's home), a copy of which was found in Liselott Diem's papers in the archives at the Sporthochschule in Köln. Reference to this club was also found in Diem's autobiography, *Leben als Herausforderung*, Vol. 1, Autobiographie 1906-1986 (Sankt Augustin: Richardz, 1986).
17. Letter from Dorothy Ainsworth to Phyllis Colson, August 8, 1955 (DAC, Box 22, Folder 13).
18. Peterson, *Dorothy S. Ainsworth*, p. 334-5.
19. IAPESGW constitution, printed in *A Report of the Third International Congress on Physical Education and Sports for Girl and Women*, London: July 15th to 20th 1957, pp.36-38.
20. A bound set of these issues can be found in the Smith College library.
21. In an interesting and amusing letter from Isobelle Nel to Dorothy Ainsworth dated October 1, 1954, she asks if she is responsible for the *whole of Africa*.
22. Steve Bailey, *Science in the Service of Physical Education and Sport* (Chichester: John Wiley, 1996).
23. *Ibid.*, p. 51.

60. Letter from Mette Winkler to Liselott Diem dated August 22, 1980 (C&LDA).
61. Letter dated July 7, 1980 in C&LDA.
62. Interview with Helene Tollich, Vienna, April 30, 1999 and correspondence with Isabelle Nel, May 8, 1999.
63. Letter from Liselott Diem to Helene Tollich dated August 8, 1979 (C&LDA).
64. IAPESGW, *Proceedings of the IX Congress*, Buenos Aires 1981-08-08/15.
65. *Bulletin of IAPESGW*, 1(1), 1982, p. 6.
66. *Ibid.*, p. 1.
67. *Physical Education, Recreation and Sport: Lifelong Participation*, Report of the Tenth International Congress of the International Association of Physical Education and Sport for Girls and Women, University of Warwick, Coventry, England, July 20th-27th 1985, p. 357.
68. *Bulletin of IAPESGW*, 2(2), 1987, p. 15.
69. According to Pat Bowen-West (interview on May 11, 1999), the opposition came most vehemently from the Student's Union at the University of Warwick. Concern was also expressed by one of their sponsors, the UK Sports Council. Understandably, the South Africans were offended and frustrated (interview with Helene Tollich Vienna, April 30, 1999). Also, no presentations by South Africans or a contribution to the "Reports from the nations" section are included in the 10th Congress proceedings (*Lifelong Participation*, University of Warwick, July 20-27, 1985).
70. *Bulletin of IAPESGW*, 2(1), 1986, p. 11.
71. *Bulletin of IAPESGW*, 2(4), 1989, p. 15.
72. *Bulletin of IAPESGW*, 2(3), 1988, p. 5-6.
73. The venue was changed after the chair of the Canadian organizing committee, Gladys Bean, became seriously ill and Canada withdrew their offer. Indonesia was then approached (see Helen Tollich's letter to membership in *Bulletin of IAPESGW*, 2(2), 1987, p.1).
74. Unfortunately, there is no report from the Bali congress in 1989. However the program and paper abstracts were available to us as well as a report in the *Bulletin*, 3(1), 1990, p. 4.
75. *Bulletin of IAPESGW*, 3(1), 1990, p. 7.
76. *Bulletin of IAPESGW*, 2(1), 1986, p. 2.
77. *Bulletin of IAPESGW*, 3(1), 1990, p. 1.
78. *Bulletin of IAPESGW*, 3(4), 1993, p. 1.
79. *Bulletin of IAPESGW*, 3(2), 1991, p. 3 (this issue is erroneously numbered as Vol. 4, No.1, 1991).
80. Jennifer Hargreaves, "The Women's International Sports Movement: Local-Global Strategies and Empowerment," Keynote presentation to the *Women and Sport: A Celebration* international conference, Adelaide, Australia, November 16-19, 1998.

- was organized (*Traditional and Modern Forms of Physical Education, Proceedings of Sixth International Congress, IAPESGW*, 1969, pp. 3-8).
42. *Ibid.*, p. 180.
43. Report of the Secretary-Treasurer (Gwendolyn Drew), August 1969 (found in C&LDA).
44. See letters: Ainsworth to Diem dated September 7, 1972 (C&LDA); Tollich to Diem dated July 11, 1972 (C&LDA); Ainsworth to Edith Betts (the USA representative), dated January 11, 1973 (DAC, Box 22, Folder 9); Catherine Allen to Diem dated April 11, 1973 (C&LDA).
45. Correspondence with Isabelle Nel, May 8, 1999.
46. Liselott Diem, *Internationaler Kongress des IAPESGW*, 14-20 August 1977 in Cape Town/Republik Südafrika Bericht, 31.8.1977 (C&LDA).
47. Letter from Dorothy Massey (USA Representative) to Liselott Diem, February 17, 1975 (C&LDA).
48. Memorandum from Myrtilis E. Herrdon, Chairperson of the Committee to Study the Implications of Stellenbosch, South Africa as the site for the IAPESGW meeting in 1977, June 27, 1975 (C&LDA). At a IAPESGW meeting at the pre-Olympic congress in Quebec City on July 13, 1976, Ann Hall remembers that although there was some concern about the unrest in South Africa, there was no discussion about changing the venue for political reasons.
49. Letter from Liselott Diem to Klaus von Dohnanyi, November 13, 1977. (C&LDA).
50. Letter from Isabelle Nel to Liselott Diem, March 24, 1975 (C&LDA).
51. *Ibid.*
52. Correspondence with Isabelle Nel, May 8, 1999.
53. Letter from Klaus von Dohnanyi (state minister in the foreign office) to Liselott Diem, October 3, 1977 (C&LDA).
54. Four delegates, from Egypt, India, South Korea, and New Zealand, did enter this way.
55. *Better Teaching and Coaching*, Proceedings of Eighth International Congress, IAPESGW, Nico Malan Theatre, Cape Town, Republic of South Africa, August 14-20, 1977.
56. Minutes of the IAPESGW General Meeting, August 19, 1977, Cape Town. See note 46.
57. See note 46.
58. Minutes of the Council of Representatives and Executive Board, August 14, 1977, Cape Town, South Africa (Item 5.5). The minutes state that Austria could not confirm their bid because their government "refuses to give a letter of invitation to the Association because of South Africa being a member country." However, in an interview (April 30, 1999), Helene Tollich informed us that this was not true.
59. In correspondence with Isabelle Nel (May 8, 1999) she indicates that in the later years especially, an attempt by her to become president would have been detrimental to the Association, and that they would have lost members.

81. See M. Ann Hall, "Feminist Activism in Sport: A Comparative Study of Women's Sport Advocacy Organizations," in Alan Tomlinson, *Gender, Sport and Leisure: Continuities and Challenges*. CSRC Topic Report 4 (Chelsea School Research Centre, University of Brighton, 1995), pp. 217-50.
82. Celia Brackenkridge, "Women's International Sports Coalition: A New Global Initiative for Women in Sport," *Bulletin of IAPESGW*, 3(4), 1993, p. 5-6.
83. *Bulletin of IAPESGW*, 3(4), 1993, p. 2.
84. Hargreaves, op. cit.
85. Interview with Pat Bowen-West, May 11, 1999.
86. *Bulletin of IAPESGW*, 8(1), 1998, p. 9-10.
87. *Bulletin of IAPESGW*, 7(1), 1997, p. 20-22.
88. "President's Letter 1998," *Bulletin of IAPESGW*, *ibid.*, p. 1.
89. Hargreaves, op. cit., p. 2.
90. Hargreaves, op. cit., p. 6.

Chapter 2

PAST PRESIDENTS AND THEIR LIVES

There have been five IAPESGW past-presidents during its fifty-year history: Dorothy Ainsworth (1949 - 1961) from the United States, Marie Therèse Eyquem (1961 - 1965) from France, Liselott Diem (1965 - 1981) from the former Federal Republic of Germany, Helene Tollich (1981 - 1989) from Austria, and finally Patricia Bowen-West (1989 - 1997) from the United Kingdom. Who were these women? What were their personal and professional backgrounds? Why did they become involved in IAPESGW? What else did they accomplish in their lives? What were (and are) they like as people?

In the previous chapter, we outline the contribution each president made to the Association and how, in our opinion, IAPESGW changed and grew under their leadership. Here we provide a glimpse into the background and lives of these five women. It is only a brief look because in some cases we have been hindered by a lack of information, and of course, time. Two of them, Helene Tollich and Patricia Bowen-West, are still alive, and we were fortunate to be able to interview them and obtain feedback on what we had written. As for Dorothy Ainsworth, there are many available sources, including the comprehensive work by Hazel Peterson. One of us visited the wonderful archives at Smith College in Northampton where Dorothy Ainsworth's correspondence and papers are preserved. Liselott Diem had written her autobiography, and since one of us is German-speaking, we had access to this marvelous source, as well as her papers and correspondence in the Carl and Liselott Diem Archives at the Deutschen Sporthochschule Köln. We knew least about Marie Therèse Eyquem when we started this project, but we found a good deal of information about her (almost all in French), and people still

alive who knew her well. Again, we do not see what we have written as definitive in any way, but hope it may encourage others to investigate the lives of these women more thoroughly in order to have fuller accounts.

Visionary and Internationalist: Dorothy S. Ainsworth (1894 - 1976)

Dr. Ainsworth's vision, energy, and perseverance stimulated her professional work at home and abroad. She was an inspiring leader and the only woman to serve as president of six national and international professional organizations. She was ahead of her time in the idea of worldwide professional cooperation. Miss Ainsworth traveled throughout the world seeking international understanding among people through health, physical education, and recreation.¹

Youth, education, and career

The facts of Dorothy Ainsworth's early life are reasonably well known. Born in 1894 into a comfortable environment in Moline, Illinois, she took a youthful interest in physical activity. Dancing lessons and German gymnastics at the local *Turnverein*, and later basketball and tennis in high school influenced her choice of career. In 1912 she enrolled at Smith College, majoring in history, and at the same time was active in a variety of extra-curricular activities including drama and basketball. She returned home to do volunteer work after graduation four years later, but soon began teaching gymnastics and coaching basketball at the local high school.

In the spring of 1919, Ainsworth went to France as part of the Smith College Relief Unit to assist in rehabilitation work following the war. Here she learned French, at the same time gaining a lasting appreciation for France and living in a foreign culture. After a year, she returned home to Moline, but was soon invited to return to Smith College to coach basketball and teach dance in the Department of Hygiene and Physical Education. After deciding that teaching was truly her profession, Ainsworth enrolled in Teacher's College at Columbia University in 1923, completing her studies with a master's degree two years later. Jesse Feiring Williams, the well-known American physical educator, was her advisor at Columbia. She taught briefly at Skidmore College, then took up an appointment as Director of Physical Education at Smith College in 1926.

¹ Peterson, p. 2.

where she served for twenty-six years until her retirement in 1960. She also earned a doctoral degree in physical education from Columbia University in 1930, one of the few women in the United States to do so at that time.

Ainsworth developed Smith into one of the best physical education departments of any women's college in the USA. Under her leadership, the undergraduate physical education course was extended, qualifications of physical education teachers were improved, facilities and equipment expanded, extensive extracurricular sports programs developed, a graduate course leading to a Master of Science degree in physical education established, and the enrolment of international students encouraged. In fact, by the time Ainsworth retired, more students from other countries had come to Smith for the graduate program in physical education than to any other campus.

Her philosophy on women's physical education and sport

Ainsworth's liberal arts background, her lifelong interest in theatre, opera, history, and art, and her training at Columbia provided grounds for her belief in "education through the physical." In her own words: "the ultimate aim of physical education was to make such contribution through education and development of the student as to enable her to live a richer, more abundant life, to meet the problems of the age in which she lives and to render service to others."² This was a theme she often repeated in her opening addresses to the various IAPESGW congresses she attended while president (see chapter 1).

Ainsworth was also a firm believer in the "game for every girl and every girl in a game" approach to women's sport, the position taken by the Women's Division of the National Amateur Athletic Federation in the 1920s. The Women's Division had two missions—to encourage the promotion of sports and games for all girls and women, and to make certain these games and sports were wisely chosen, promoted, and supervised (by women). They were not opposed to competition; in fact, they believed that competition was the very soul of athletics, sports, and games, and that without it, they would not exist. What they vehemently resisted was excessive, exploitative, high level competition (e.g., the Olympics) that favored only the few. Ainsworth's extracurricular sport program at Smith College mirrored this philosophy (see box), as did her view of the role of sport within IAPESGW, and in other international organizations. The college's opposition to intercollegiate athletics did not prevent the involvement of almost all students in well-organized, attractive intramural and recreational sport programs.

² Betts and Peterson, p. 64.

Recreation was formed to coordinate AAHPER's work in international affairs. She saw the need for an international organization of teachers of physical education. At the time, she was also a member of a provisional committee that would establish the International Council of Physical Education (later ICSP, and later still ICSSPE), but she resigned from this because she felt the proposed Council was too preoccupied with competitive sport rather than physical education. Eventually she chaired a special committee to examine the prospect of forming an international physical education association within the World Confederation of Organizations of the Teaching Profession. From this came the International Council for Health, Physical Education and Recreation (ICHPER) in 1959, and Ainsworth became its first president, a position she held until 1965 (note that she was also president of IAPESGW between 1949 and 1961). When she finished her second term as president, she was made Honorary President of ICHPER for her untiring work in establishing and directing the Council since its inception.

The public Dorothy Ainsworth

The list of Ainsworth's public addresses, conference presentations, journal articles, and books is far too long to enumerate here.³ She wrote all her speeches out in an almost indecipherable longhand, some of which were eventually published as articles. Her themes did not vary much from physical education and international relations, and more specifically the growth and development of IAPESGW. Her books included *The History of Physical Education in Colleges for Women* (A.S. Barnes, 1930), which was her doctoral dissertation, and published in several editions. In her files at the Smith College Archives is an incomplete and unpublished manuscript about the history of physical education in the United States. It is doubtful that her travels and international work and busy administrative schedule at Smith College allowed much time for research and scholarship.

The private Dorothy Ainsworth

There did not seem to be a great deal of difference between the private and public Ainsworth. Everything we have read about her points to a person with inexhaustible energy, tremendous enthusiasm, and an abiding interest in people, who engendered deep personal loyalty and affection. She worked exceedingly hard, but at the same time she was adventurous, and had a zest for travel. She combined business and pleasure wherever she went, and was great fun to be with. When at home, she loved parties and sharing her home in Northampton with Smith College students and staff, or the stream of international visitors

³ See Peterson, pp. 466-472.

Ainsworth's Smith College Sports Policy

The policy supports a program of sports planned so that every student has the same opportunity to participate in sports and games, to the same use of equipment, and to the time and coaching of equally good instructors. The program and policy is planned for all students, not just the particularly skilled students. For this reason there are no intercollegiate sports at Smith College.

On the other hand students have at all times been permitted to enter any open tournament but the college does not certify that the girl represents the college. She is not sent, not selected and not trained for this competition. She goes on her own. To enter the competition is her decision, her responsibility not that of the college. Smith College does not enter teams or individuals into intercollegiate competition. Students who enter open tournaments may say they are from Smith College but not selected nor trained representatives.

Also if on holidays they are in the vicinity of where there are informal games which are arranged on the spot they may enter these games. No students are to be picked nor sent for this purpose. To do so is contrary to the Smith College Sports Policy.

The time and interest of the Athletic Association and the Department of Physical Education are devoted to a varied program of athletics and sports for all students at Smith College.

Source: Hazel Peterson, *Dorothy S. Ainsworth: Her Life, Professional Career and Contributions to Physical Education*. (Moscow, Idaho: University of Idaho Press, 1975), p. 181-2.

A leader in the profession

Ainsworth was highly respected and influential in several professional organizations related to physical education in the United States. She was president of the National Association of Physical Education for College Women (NAPECW) from 1937 until 1941, and president of the Eastern District of HPER from 1948-49. As president-elect of AAHPER in 1949, she helped to create the office of Consultant for Girls and Women's Sports. She was president of AAHPER in 1950 and remained connected to that organization even after her retirement in 1960, when she was appointed Special Consultant in International Relations for AAHPER. She was also third vice-president of the National Council of Women in 1958.

International contributions (aside from IAPESGW)

During Ainsworth's term as AAHPER president in 1950, the Joint Council on International Affairs in Health, Physical Education, and

she entertained. She built an extensive network, keeping up a voluminous correspondence with colleagues and friends, and her letters often had both a professional and private side. After giving advice or answering questions regarding the organizations in which she was involved, she would report on her travels or visits to her family. In her final years she was forced to give up her active life, at least her travels. She still met friends, was driven about by her chauffeur, and to judge from her letters, did not seem lonely. Her mind began to drift away, and in September 1976 her relatives brought her back to Moline, where she died shortly afterwards.



Dorothy Ainsworth receiving award from Government of France, 1961 (Smith College Archives)

Honor and awards

For her outstanding achievements Ainsworth received numerous honors and awards, including an honorary doctorate from Smith College, the Per Henrik Ling Medal from the Swedish Gymnastics Society, in addition to awards from the Emperor of Japan and the United States government. She also received the highest award in the field of physical education and sport in France, the Cravate de Commandeur de l'Ordre de Mérite Sportif, presented to her in 1961 by Marie Therese Byquem at the IAPESGW congress in Washington.

Ainsworth Awarded Medal from Government of France, 1961

At the 1961 Congress in Washington, Dorothy Ainsworth was awarded the Cravate de Commandeur de l'Ordre du Mérite Sportif by the Government of France, its highest award in the area of sports. Below is an extract from the presentation made by Marie Therese Byquem:

But my country... is also aware of your qualities as a woman. Although these qualities are apparently contradictory, they create within you a marvelous balance and so seldom are found together within one human being: faith, but not blind faith, a faith which is moderated by knowledge of the human soul; dynamism, but measure; enthusiasm but wisdom, prudence; tenacity but pliancy; a sense of nuance and finesse which is a distinction of spirit; finally, a kindness, a generosity, a love which you tender without distinction of class, race, ideas, to each of these women leaders, these educators who form our International Association.

Source: *Expanding Horizons in Physical Education*, 4th International Congress on Physical Education and Sports for Girls and Women, August 6-12, 1961, Washington, D.C. (Washington: IAPESGW, 1962), p. 191-2.

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'Une militante exemplaire':

Marie Thérèse Eyquem (1913 - 1978)

Marie Thérèse Eyquem was an author, feminist and much respected political figure, the spirit of the development of female sport in France. A former gymnast, principal inspector for youth and sport, national secretary of the Socialist Party, she became through will power, conviction, energy and tolerance, one of the most respected of all sports leaders.⁵

Education and professional career

Marie Thérèse Eyquem was born in 1913 in La Teste de Buch (Gironde), France. By the time she was fourteen, she was earning her own living toiling in a shoe shop among other jobs. She continued her education while working, learning shorthand and typing as well as several languages, gaining a baccalauréat in Latin and Greek, and obtaining a licence de lettres. In her youth she was active in dance and sport, especially in gymnastics, basketball, and badminton.

In 1937, Eyquem became Secretary General of Le Rayon Sportif Féminin, a Catholic women's multisport federation in France, originally created in 1919, which grew to 200,000 members under her leadership. Her job also included editing the federation's bulletin for which she wrote numerous articles, all very poetic and religious. Here is a brief extract from one article about achieving bodily joy through joy in God:

Un athlète est donc un lutteur, prêt à tous les combats qui gagnés, font un homme: lutte pour la santé, pour la vertu, pour le ciel. En combattant pour les trois grandes choses, mes chères sœurs du RAYON SPORTIF FÉMININ, malgré les sueurs de l'effort, les difficultés du bien, les mérites que demande le ciel vous trouverez la grande joie Humaine qui commence par la joie du Corps, et s'achève par la joie en Dieu.⁶

Her ability to write led her to become a "rédactrice principale" (principal editor) in the ministry of information in 1939 during a very difficult time in France. There were many tensions caused by the war against Germany, capitulation, and the Vichy regime (1940-1944) under Henri Pétain, pitted against the resistance led by Charles de Gaulle. Surprisingly, Eyquem's professional career was not affected by the

⁵ Citation for the Olympic Order in Silver awarded posthumously to Eyquem (*Bulletin of IAPESGW*, 1984, p.3).

⁶ *Le Rayon Sportif Féminin, Bulletin mensuel*, November 15, 1937.

successive changes in regimes, ideologies, and political orientations. In 1940, she was given a post in the Commissariat Général à l'Éducation Physique et aux Sports, where she was responsible for physical education and sport for girls and women. She was also involved with the reorganization of sport federations in France since the women's sports organizations were required to merge with the men's federations. To insure communication and cooperation among the women within the different federations, an inter-federal commission was established, headed by Eyquem. In 1943, for example, she organized a "Journée de la sportive" where an astounding number of women (50,000) took part. Effective in her work, Eyquem moved up the bureaucracy. In 1949, she was appointed assistant head of the Commissariat Général à l'Éducation Physique et aux Sports, and in 1961 she was made senior general inspector at the Commissariat, which eventually became the Ministry of Youth and Sport. From 1967 onwards, she worked in the regional administration in Paris for youth, sport, and leisure.

Christianity and politics

A Roman Catholic, Eyquem was deeply religious and greatly interested in the reconciliation of Christian and socialist ideas. Her socialism grew from her experiences as a young woman, especially while working at menial jobs. Simone Weil (1909-1943) – philosopher, Christian mystic, socialist, and pacifist – was her idol. Becoming a member of the Socialist Party, Eyquem held several offices and performed many functions in the socialist movement. For example, she was general secretary of the committee for the election of François Mitterand during his run for the presidency in 1965. During his election campaign, Mitterand appointed Eyquem to his "shadow" cabinet as minister for work and social affairs, and, according to one source, the minister for the promotion of women's affairs. She supported and worked for Mitterand for many years, and they became close friends.

In her own political career, Eyquem was elected in 1960 the "maire adjoint" (a close aide to the mayor) in La Teste, the town in which she was born. This was mostly an honorary position, and Eyquem held a similar position later in Moustier Ventadour (Corrèze). Although she stood for election several times in an attempt to win a seat in the National Assembly on behalf of the Socialist Party, she was never successful. Politically active until her death, she was a member of the executive committee of the Socialist Party throughout the 1970s.

Women's movement work

Eyquem fought for women's rights all her adult life. Between 1962 and 1972, she was president of the Mouvement Démocratique Féminin

(MDF), which she helped found with some of her friends. The MDF, one of many left-wing organizations that mushroomed in France in the 1960s, had 3,000 members, most of them intellectuals living in the large cities. Its major purpose was to unify women on the left by fighting for the politicization of women as well as the democratization of families, the labor force, and politics. It promoted equal rights, opportunities, and equal pay for women. Among its activities was a campaign to improve girls' education, and parents were encouraged to put more emphasis on the education of their daughters. The MDF also encouraged women to stand for election. It organized seminars on different topics and published a monthly journal *La femme du XX siècle*. Eyquem was very proud of her brainchild, writing in a letter to Liselott Diem that the MDF "se développe énormément" (is growing enormously).

International links and commitments

Eyquem's work at the Commissariat Général à l'Éducation

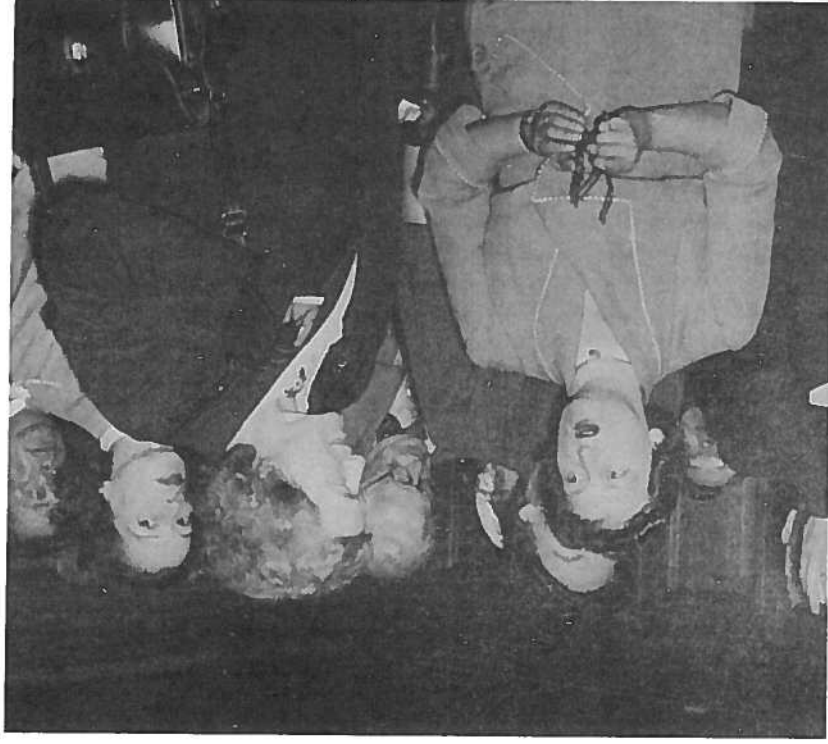
Physique et aux Sports gave her the opportunity to establish international contacts. As we mention in chapter 1, she first met Dorothy Ainsworth in Paris in 1947 when Ainsworth was in France with Smith College students. Subsequently she became a member of the International Committee, assisting with the 1949 IAPESGW congress in Copenhagen. She led the French delegation of five women sent to Copenhagen by Gaston Roux, General Director of the Commissariat. She also paid several visits to Germany beginning in the early 1950s, quite unusual for a French citizen at the time, where she first met Carl and Liselott Diem. In her autobiography, Liselott mentions a visit, surmising that it was probably the first German-French contact in the field of sport after the war.

The 1953 IAPESGW congress in Paris, organized by Eyquem and her team, was decidedly influenced by her position in the bureaucracy and by her political connections. She convinced her boss, Gaston Roux, to become president of the organizing committee in order to overcome opposition from certain quarters and to gain the necessary financial support. Muriel Webster later remembered about the Paris meeting: "Mlle Therese Eyquem . . . was determined that the 'high ups' in French Education should appreciate the work of the congress and invited many of them to attend. As they were also royally entertained I have memories of some rather long waits before evening performances. Meals in France are not to be hurried."⁷ The organization of a highly successful congress was certainly one of the reasons why Eyquem was elected vice-president of IAPESGW in 1953.

Between the Paris congress, and her term as president of IAPESGW in 1961, Eyquem was quite active internationally. In 1959 she attended an

⁷ *Bulletin of IAPESGW*, 2(4), 1989, p. 3.

international UNESCO conference on the "Contribution of Sports to the Improvement of Professional Abilities and to Cultural Development: Sport, Work and Culture," where, in a working group on the exchange of documentation, she suggested the establishment of an international ICHPER, and in 1961 was elected to its executive committee. Eyquem also played a role in the establishment of ICSPE when she took part in the preliminary meeting in Gauting, Germany, in 1957 on behalf of Ainsworth, and attended a follow-up meeting in Paris in 1958. After the inauguration of ICSPE in Rome in 1960, Eyquem was elected to its executive board. As her lectures and publications demonstrate, Eyquem developed a special interest in the Olympic movement. In 1956 she became vice-president of the Comité Pierre de Coubertin in France. Ainsworth agreed with her that there should be women on the IOC, and suggested that Eyquem would be the right person to join the IOC as its first female member. Unfortunately, this never came about (in fact, no women were appointed to the IOC until 1981).



Marie Therese Eyquem and Dorothy Ainsworth in Paris, 1953 (Carl and Liselott Diem Archives)

As we discuss in the first chapter, Eyquem was not a very active IAPESGW president. Her commitment was undoubtedly restricted because of her increasing political involvement, especially the enormous amount of effort she invested in the national elections when she supported and worked for Mitterand. After 1965, when Liselott Diem took over as IAPESGW president, Eyquem seemed to lose interest in the Association, and also in the international community of sport and physical education in general.

Eyquem the writer

Beginning in the 1930s, with the articles she wrote for the Rayon Sportif Féminin, Eyquem was a prolific writer. In 1944, she published *La femme et le sport*, where she discusses women's involvement in a great variety of sports. She wrote a biography of Pierre de Coubertin, *Pierre de Coubertin, l'époque olympique*, which in 1966 was awarded the Grand Prix de littérature sportive. Translated into several languages and published in numerous editions, she posthumously received the Olympic Order in Silver from the International Olympic Committee. She also wrote a book about the harmonic gymnastics for women developed by Irène Popard (*Irène Popard ou la Danse du Feu*). Her other works include several novels (for example, *Jeunes filles au soleil*), a dramatical essay about Simone Weil, and several plays for the theatre. She also made a film in 1955, *Physical Education and Space*, which was shown at the IAPESGW congress in London. Shortly before she died in 1976, Eyquem was planning a television program about Pierre de Coubertin.

Writings about women and sport

Eyquem's published work on women and sport is contradictory and inconsistent. In keeping with her views both as a socialist feminist and a fervent Catholic, she argued that women athletes should have the same rights and opportunities as males, but on the other hand, she was convinced they should be restricted to sports and physical activities in keeping with their traditional roles, ideals, and responsibilities as females. For example, articles in the bulletin of the Rayon Sportif Féminin which she edited, supported the view that women should not wear shorts and trousers when playing sports, and they should not participate together with members of the opposite sex. In her later writings, Eyquem was adamant that women athletes must maintain a graceful, feminine appearance to counter the accusations of masculinization.

Eyquem on Women and Sport

Should men monitors be put in charge of the training of women? The presence of men monitors, particularly in certain sports (apparatus work) will often seem necessary, especially if the training of women monitors is imperfect. However, the presence of a woman either as a supervisor or a teacher is to be recommended in a feminine section. Only a woman can be aware of the possibilities and of the limitations of the feminine organism and can avoid a too intensive training or the virile and graceless style which often characterizes the teaching solely given by men.

The presence of women is indispensable in every type of sport (club, country, federation), so that feminine representation in sports may equal the mistakes which we have already mentioned while dealing with the general effects of sports, we will first point out that women should give up sports which might cause violence: boxing, wrestling, eadli, rugby, football, jai alai, ice hockey, water polo, and competitive cycling. Among the sports that she may practice, she should avoid highly specialized exercises likely to have repercussions upon her internal organs. Example: high-jumping, pole-vaulting, broad-jumping, raing, down hill ski raing.

Physical education for normal girls, if it is well planned, should lead to this orientation, by giving an awareness of one's own capacities and introducing the student to a wide range of sports. A girl from 14 to 18 may test her own strength, master the elementary technique of classical and popular sports and their style. At 18, she will be able to choose with best chances of success the sports which satisfy her taste. It doesn't mean that she may not continue her athletic education, meant, above all, to keep her in good physical condition.

Great competitions (national and international) require specialization and a training which can only be undertaken by adults in full possession of their faculties.

All in all, it is the "woman" behind the athlete who will always be looked at by the sport fan. Therefore, he will be uncomfortable by a woman affecting military stiffness, and graceless, angular gestures, or a careless and badly groomed appearance. Although he admires on a man's face the marks of virile effort, on a woman's face they will mar its beauty and become incompatible with the idea the man has of feminine fragility.

We must, in order to avoid shocking the conceptions of the public and undermining feminine sports, train our athletic woman to control her efforts, to overcome their nervousness, in a word, to be natural without affectation.

Source: Marie Thèrese Eyquem, "Woman and Sports," Report of the International Congress on the Physical Education of Girls and Women (Washington, DC: AAHPER, 1950), pp. 52-54.

As seen by others

In France, Eyquem was looked upon as an "ardente zélatrice du

sport féminin" (ardent zealot of women's sport). Yet she was also a successful writer, whose talents ranged from poetry and novels to academic essays. She was undoubtedly a charismatic personality, if not a bit eccentric. Yvette Roudy, a friend and colleague of Eyquem in Mitterand's government, mentions in a book about the women's movement in France how Eyquem drove huge distances in her car to attend various meetings; for example, she would "do" Paris to Rome and back in one journey. She sometimes liked to smoke a pipe, and was unhappy that she could not do so in public. Jean Amster, a physical educator and old friend of Eyquem's, recalls that in 1954 at a congress on sport sociology in Beaune where Eyquem gave a paper, he was very impressed with Eyquem's speech during the congress dinner, which was given in fluent Spanish. Liselott Diem said of her: "She really is a strange character, but very good company when she is about," and a member of the MDF wrote: "With Marie Thérèse, everything was action and organization; she was always a woman on the move, a vibrant, brilliant, colorful, and very lyrical person."

Eyquem died of cancer in 1978 at the age of 64. The Socialist Party, François Mitterand, her family and friends paid tribute to her in a memorial ceremony in the building of French National Assembly at the Palais-Bourbon.

Sources

We are most grateful to Jean Amster of Paris for writing down his memories of Eyquem. We also wish to thank Gherardo Bonini, archivist at the Historical Archive of the European Community, and Geoffrey de Navacelle, former president of the Comité Pierre de Coubertin, for their assistance. Some of our information was taken from newspaper clippings obtained from the Parti Socialiste and from the Bibliothèque Marguerite Durand. Other sources include: Steve Bailey, *Science in the Service of Physical Education and Sport*. Chichester: John Wiley, 1996.

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'She was her own man': Liselott Diem (1906 - 1992)

With the death of Liselott Diem on 25 April 1992, German sport lost one of the key figures of the last 60 years. It is impossible to name even the most important activities Liselott Diem was engaged in during her life span, but one statement is beyond any doubt uncontroverted: Without her, German physical education and sport would look totally different... Liselott Diem also pioneered in giving women a fair chance to contribute to the development and success of German sports as equals. She was a celebrated and highly esteemed university teacher, untiring in promoting and carrying out research, and an energetic scientific manager... Her wonderful spirit will continue to be an inspiration to us all.⁸

"She is the inheritor of my endeavors," wrote her husband, Carl Diem, in his will. Some asserted that Liselott Diem had succeeded in doing both the obvious and the most difficult—stepping outside her husband's shadow and making a name for herself. Willi Daume, former president of the German Olympic Committee once said, "No one had an easy time with her." Diem made things hard for others because she never made things easy for herself, and within the German sport community, it was frequently acknowledged that "she was her own man." Never one to hold back criticism, she gave as much as she got. She had a passion for debate, mastered easily over the years, and she believed it was the "diversity of opinions" that made her life richer.⁹

The way is prepared: Education and career

Born in Wiesbaden in 1906, Liselott (Bail) Diem grew up in an upper middle-class home in Berlin, where her father had a high position in the city administration. He was her role model and awakened her passion for sport, especially tennis and skiing. From the age of 16 she dreamed of studying sport. After one year at the Höhere Handelsschule (a college offering commercial studies), she enrolled in 1924 as one of the first women to train at the newly founded Deutsche Hochschule für Leibübungen (German College of Physical Training) in Berlin. Although her parents were far from enthusiastic about this choice of study because of its uncertain career prospects, Diem managed to obtain their permission, promising to earn her own living.

⁸ Bulletin of IAPESGW, 3(4), 1993, p. 3 (written by Margot Crummenner).

⁹ From Diem's obituary published in the newsletter of the German Sport Federation (DSB Presse, Nr. 17, 28. 4. 1992, p. 11).

Liselott Diem about herself

How did I become what I am today? Perhaps I should highlight three reasons:

1. My life was characterized by two wars, the post-war periods, inflation and unemployment. I still have a letter, which I wrote to the president of the German College of Physical Education after the law prohibiting two wage earners was passed. From then on only one spouse per family could be gainfully employed, and I requested that I be permitted to go on working even without receiving a salary.

Things were never easy for us. Time after time we had to start from scratch again. However, I am now certain that people require obstacles rather than a smoothing of the way in order to make something of themselves. It is precisely the difficulties in life, the problems, which serve to produce fruitful self-reliance.

We did not talk about liberation very much, but I always felt that I was liberated and independent in spite of my occupation, family, and children. I was simultaneously free and restricted in my personal decisions. Linked to that was financial independence. At that time I earned every penny myself and paid for every sports trip out of my own pocket.

We questioned everything without being prodded to do so because we had an insatiable hunger for knowledge. Thus I was one of the first to openly challenge Carl Diem with my dissenting views in the classroom. That is how our friendship began. We belonged to different religious communities, we often espoused different political beliefs, but we were always united in pedagogical eros, in our love for sports.

2. We loved participation in sports – the cross-country skiing, the mountain climbing, the rowing expeditions. It would never have occurred to us to call it into question. At that time we were already rowing educationally in mixed eight. Sunday after Sunday we played handball on the Scheleuz team at Siemens'. With our rowing club 'Valkeyre' we took part in the first rowing regattas and were victorious both on the Havel and on the Elbe. We participated in the first Olympic ski race for women, running on extra-long skis without edges. Sport was an adventure for us, and an experience, a fulfillment of the competitive drive.

3. The third reason probably resides in the fact that I never felt repressed as a woman. I have never believed that men know more or are more capable than women. Rather, it has amused me to outmatch any male arrogant that rears its head, as I do in sports as well. So I now have a seat on the district council as the sole female representative, chair the sports committee and think that I can safely say that I enjoy the respect of all my colleagues, whatever their political leanings.

Source: Liselott Diem, *Leben als Herausforderung*, Vol. 1, Autobiographie 1906-1986 (Sankt Augustin: Richarz, 1986), pp. 244-246. Translated by Gertrud Pfister and Richard Krause.



Liselott Diem in 1926 (Carl and Liselott Diem Archives)

The Deutsche Hochschule had been initiated in 1920 by Carl Diem, secretary general of the Deutscher Reichsausschuss für Leibesübungen (German National Committee for Physical Training), which had founded this private institution as a progressive alternative to the traditional physical education training colleges. There was much skepticism about allowing women to enroll, but finally they were admitted, and alongside their male counterparts, were expected to question their mentors, debate, and form opinions. Diem and her fellow women students flourished in this atmosphere, and as pioneers were influential in gaining acceptance in the education of girls through sport and physical education.

countries either by visiting the country itself or inviting colleagues to the student of her year. Her graduating dissertation was entitled "The Importance of Physical Activity for Gaintfully Employed Women." In the same year, she was appointed the director of women's courses at the Deutsche Hochschule. Among other innovations, she instituted the first gymnastics courses for housewives and mothers, and she collaborated with a colleague in developing physical education courses for the family, which were designed to offer gymnastics, recreation, and health education to adults and children.

Despite the difference in their ages, Liselott and Carl Diem were married in 1930. She had laid down one condition—she would carry on working after their marriage. They eventually had a large family of three daughters and a son, as well as an adopted son.

The 1930s saw troubled political times in Germany, and in 1933 the Diems left the Deutsche Hochschule. Nevertheless, Carl Diem was one of the principal organizers behind the 1936 Olympic Games, and subsequently he took up a post as Director of the International Olympic Institute in Berlin. (His role under the National Socialist regime is a subject of controversy among German sport historians.) For her part, Liselott Diem worked as a physical education teacher at different schools, and she qualified as a teacher of rhythmic gymnastics.

After the war, Liselott Diem followed her husband to Köln, where he had been given the task of creating a new Deutsche Sporthochschule, and from 1948 until his death in 1962, he was the principal. His wife joined the staff in 1947 as head of women's teacher training. In 1965 she became a professor and was appointed to the Chair in Didactics and Methodology of Physical Education at the Sporthochschule. Between 1967 and 1969 she was Rektor (principal), and then Prorektor (deputy principal), before she retired in 1974.

Academic and other activities

Diem was as an organizer, scientific researcher, teacher, and pedagogue all rolled into one. She wrote numerous books and articles, gave countless lectures, organized meetings and conferences, and conducted workshops and demonstrations around the world. Her favorite topics were the motor development and physical activities of children, playgrounds for children, leisure and recreation, women and sport, the Olympic movement, and, later, physical activities in old age. She developed curricula and guidelines, wrote textbooks, and conducted empirical studies, especially on physical education and its effects on children. One of her main concerns was to encourage playful, natural physical activities and exercises for children. She also supported the establishment and development of physical education in different

International work and connections

Diem attended her first scientific conference in 1929 when she gave a paper at the Women's Gymnastics and Sport Congress in Berlin, one of the first where women were both the focus and the speakers. In the same year, she represented the Deutsche Hochschule für Leibesübungen at the International Gymnastics Festival in Helsinki. After the war, Diem began to build a continuously expanding, international network. Her increasing involvement in international activities and organizations was made possible by two factors—her position at the Deutsche Sporthochschule, which attracted many foreign visitors, and the many worldwide contacts of her husband Carl. Liselott, however, was never an appendage to her husband; although she made use of his contacts, she built a vast network of her own.

Like Dorothy Ainsworth and Marie Therese Eyquem, Diem was deeply involved in international organizations in the field of physical education and sport. She was elected to the executive board of ICSPE in 1960, at its first general assembly in Rome. According to her autobiography, she succeeded her husband, who had played a decisive role in the development of this organization and did not wish to continue. In 1963 she set up a working group on sport and leisure within ICSPE, then headed the group, organizing several successful international seminars on sport and leisure. She was also a member of the executive board of ICHPER from 1965 to 1981, and a member of the Board of Trustees of the International Olympic Academy. "Liselott Diem is internationally recognized," wrote Helen Tölich, "and her work has contributed enormously to professional understanding between nations all over the world."¹⁰

Diem's involvement with IAPESGW is thoroughly discussed in the previous chapter, from the time she first met Dorothy Ainsworth in 1952, to her appointment to the Executive Board in 1957, and her election as vice-president in 1961. She was elected president in 1965, a position she held for sixteen years. We mention her many achievements, such as the integration of Eastern European countries into the Association, as well as the dissension that marked the last years of Diem's tenure in part due to her undemocratic style of leadership. She was very much, in most everything she did, a "one woman show," and she interpreted the

¹⁰ *Bulletin of IAPESGW*, 1(1), 1982, p. 4.



Liselott Diem and Helene Tollich

initiatives to reform the Association along more democratic lines as a personal criticism. There are many signs that Diem lost her enthusiasm for IAPESGW at the end of her presidency. During a meeting of the Council of Representatives in 1980, for example, she raised the question of whether a single-sex association was necessary or useful in the present age. She also firmly believed that women could achieve anything if they tried hard enough. In her autobiography, the account of her involvement in IAPESGW ends with a reference to Dorothy Ainsworth. She points out that her book *Frau und Sport* was honored with the Dorothy Sears Ainsworth Award: "This was a worthy and gratifying culmination of my work as president in all these 16 years."¹¹

Major publications

Over her career, Diem wrote, edited, or co-authored over thirty books in addition to numerous research articles and scholarly papers. Her biography provides a complete listing until 1986, and some of her work is reprinted in the third volume. Her most important work includes: *Juchhei - die Kleinsten turnen. Ein Beitrag zur natürlichen Bewegungserziehung des Kleinkindes* (Berlin 1935);

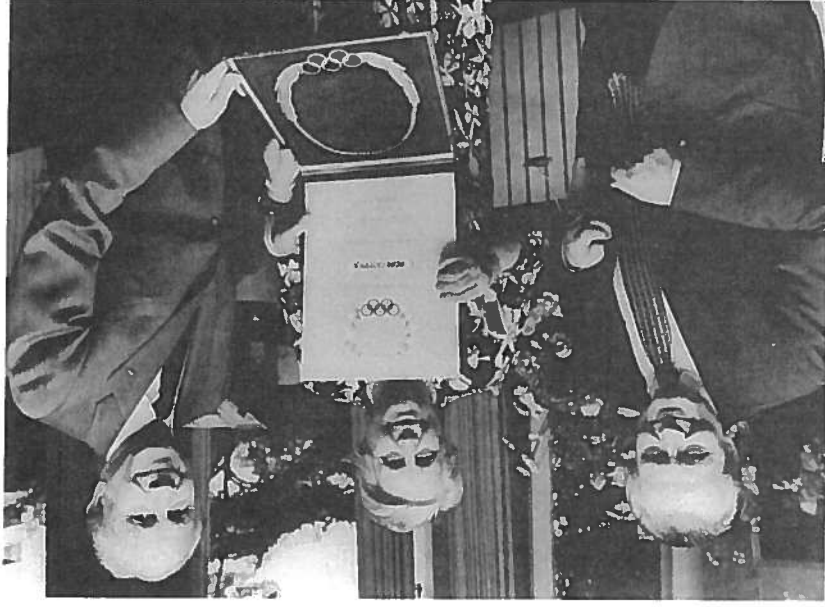
¹¹ Diem, 1986, p. 304.

- Madel beim Turnen und rhythmischen Spiel. Ein Beitrag der Leibes-
erziehung der 6-12 jährigen. Lehrplan für das 1.-6. Schuljahr*
(Frankfurt 1942);
Das Spiel. Spiegel des Menschlichen (Frankfurt 1960);
Vernünftige Leibeserziehung (Frankfurt 1962);
Sport für Kinder. Elemente einer Didaktik für das Alter von 0-10
(München 1973);
Aktiv bleiben. Lebenstechnik ab 40 (Stuttgart 1974);
Frau und Sport. Ein Beitrag zur Frauenbewegung (Freiburg 1980).

Ideas and attitudes about women and sport

There is no question that Diem made a notable contribution towards improving the training of female physical education teachers especially in Germany. Although she devoted a great deal of energy to furthering the integration of women into the male-dominated world of sport, she never saw herself as a feminist, and she rejected special rights for women. She firmly believed that there were no great differences between the sexes (see extract in box).

Although Diem had an extraordinary career, she was in many respects an exception to the discrimination women physical educators and sportswomen faced (and still endure) in Germany. Although she was the only woman principal of the Deutsche Sporthochschule in Köln, for



Liselott Diem receives IOC Silver Medal in 1986

example, this was largely without impact for the college itself and for the women who taught or studied there. Even today there is only one female professor at the college, and she holds the Chair of Women's Studies, established by means of a grant awarded to it by the Ministry of Science. Unfortunately, and despite her own achievements, Diem seemed totally unaware of the systemic discrimination women suffer under the prevailing gender hierarchy, so that women must always adjust to norms set by men.

Honors and awards

Among the many honours Diem received were the R. Tait McKenzie Medal from AAPHER in 1967, the Fourth Class of the Order of the Precious Crown by his Majesty the Emperor of Japan in 1970, the Große Verdienstkreuz des Verdienstordens der Bundesrepublik Deutschland in 1976, the Honor al merito Deportivo (the highest sports award of Venezuela) in 1980, the Philip Noel Baker Research Award in 1984, and the Olympic Order of Silver in 1986. She was also awarded an honorary doctorate from Springfield College in the United States. In all, she was presented with more than twenty awards, plaques, and honors from institutions all around the world.

The proceedings of the 1981 IAPESGW congress in Buenos Aires were dedicated to Diem, as outgoing president, "in appreciation of her outstanding work and relentless endeavours on behalf of Physical Education and Sport for Girls and Women the world over." In 1981, she was awarded the first honorary membership in IAPESGW. After her retirement from the Deutsche Sporthochschule in 1974, Diem continued to pursue her scientific work through various research projects, attending conferences, and writing books. She died in 1992 at the age of 86.

Sources

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 Liselott Diem, *Leben als Herausforderung*, Vol. 1, Autobiographie 1906-1986. Sankt Augustin: Richarz, 1986. (Note: *Life is a Challenge* contains three volumes – an autobiography, letters of Carl to Liselott Diem, and selected articles – published on the occasion of her 80th birthday.
 Material in the Carl and Liselott Diem Archives at the Deutsche Sporthochschule Köln.

Diem on Women and Sport

Just as in all other fields of knowledge, participation in sports requires independent critical thinking, decision-making skills and the ability to make choices. Sports can serve as a complement to everyday life, as a fulfilling leisure activity, and, as top-class competition, it can serve equally well to enrich a particular phase of one's life. Women's sports can only be properly evaluated with an eye to the possibilities that the individual woman gains from it for herself, i.e., with regard to the wealth of joy and freedom that it adds to her life. Women's sport is grounded in self-determination.

Women's sport is still suffering from being defined by outsiders. National and international periodicals in this field report on conferences having the theme "Women want more responsibility and a greater say in sports." The current state of affairs is described as follows: "The opportunity for women to participate in competitions is reduced by excluding certain types of sports or certain athletic disciplines and by reducing the number of entrants admitted to an event. For women the standards of eligibility are less discriminating, the standards of competition are lower... Labeling people as 'male' and 'female' stereotypes them and makes it difficult to appreciate the full range of human behavior which actually exists and which combines so-called masculine and feminine traits in each and every individual. From this perspective any gender-specific classification of different types of sports should be fundamentally prohibited, including the distinction between 'men's sports' and 'women's sports' as well as the narrowing of options for women (but also for men) that is linked to it."

The "question of women's rights" is therefore also a "question of men's rights." Why are there so-called "protective regulations" for women - and for a woman's working life as well as her social life? Women should become partners in the administration of national and international sports. They must learn to fill positions of leadership. Why do so many women in athletic organizations remain nothing but assistants, employees, leaders of practice sessions, clerks, secretaries? Seldom do we find women serving as president of a trade association, as chairperson of an organization, as a member of a council, or as premier or prime minister? Why must women constantly fight for their rights? In an egalitarian society athletic regulations, eligibility criteria and standards should apply to men just as they do to women. From a medical standpoint there are no longer any objections to women participating in any kind of sport. Today medical restrictions are directed at combating improper training regimes and, naturally, any type of doping or artificial influence on natural life processes such as menstruation, growth, etc.

Source: Extract from Liselott Diem, "Women and Sport – A Critical Study," *International Council of Sport Science and Physical Education Review*, 1984, pp. 11-15. Translated by Gertud Pfister and Richard Krause.

Team Builder and Diplomat: Helene Tollich

She has shared her sense of vocation through her contribution as lecturer and discussion leader. She is known for her enthusiasm which has ensured that there is a large Austrian group at every Congress... Hers is the dignified figure in the traditional Austrian dress which graces the Farwell Banquet. Dignity is also a quality which she has brought to committee meetings and to the office of Vice-President. But there is vigour too and a shrewd capacity for evaluating the situation. She has a real concern for harmony and for understanding and friendship.¹²

Education and professional career

Helene Tollich was born in Vienna in 1916 into a family of teachers. She was keen on all sorts of physical activities ranging from gymnastics to skiing and mountain climbing. She studied at a teacher's training college and started her professional career as a teacher in elementary and secondary schools in Vienna. At the same time, she enrolled at the University of Vienna where she started her studies in



Helene Tollich, Austria, President 1981-89
¹² *Bulletin of IAPESGW*, 1(1), 1982, p. 2-3.

law, but soon switched to psychology, pedagogy, and history. With her interest in teaching sport and physical education, she went on to a further qualification at the Institute of Physical Education in the University of Vienna. In 1941, she received a doctoral degree from the University of Vienna, and at the same time took her final examinations in history and physical education.

In 1957, Tollich was the first woman to be appointed Inspector of Physical Education for Girls in Austria (excluding Vienna). This was an enormous

amount of work, but later the position was restructured and she was responsible for only two provinces (Burgenland and Niederösterreich). Today, there is an inspector for every Austrian province, and as well for Vienna!

Tollich's views on the teaching of physical education were influenced by Margarete Streicher, a famous pedagogue noted for her work in reforming physical education in Austria. Streicher and her colleague Karl Gaulhofer developed the concept of *Natürliches Turnen* (natural gymnastics). Tollich's interest and field of expertise were always focused on the aims, content, and methods of girls' physical education, reflected in the teaching manuals and curricular studies she wrote for students and teachers, and in her numerous articles published in various journals.

After her retirement from active teaching in 1981, she by no means gave up her interest in and commitment to physical education. She was now open for new challenges, and willing to increase her involvement with IAPESGW.

Involvement in IAPESGW

Tollich attended her first IAPESGW congress in 1957 in London, where she fulfilled her responsibilities as a discussion group leader. She was impressed by the lectures, especially the demonstrations, and recalls how she learned to curtsy before the Duchess of Gloucester, the congress patron. With the exception of the next congress in Washington in 1961, Tollich has participated in every congress since, often presenting a paper, and accompanying a group of Austrian teachers and students.

Tollich became the Austrian representative in 1957, and was elected to the Executive Board in 1969, becoming a vice-president in 1973. In this position, she set about improving the exchange of ideas and communication among IAPESGW members. She tried, for example, to collect information on new publications and films, sending out a letter and a questionnaire in order to gather material, but it was difficult to motivate the IAPESGW representatives and members to participate in this initiative. Together with Mette Winkler and Audrey Bambara, Tollich was directly involved in the debates over constitutional reform, and she helped draft the new statutes approved in 1980.

As we discuss in chapter 1, Tollich was elected president in 1981 after being persuaded to consider the position by then president Liselott Diem. Tollich was hesitant at first, primarily because of her age (she was 65 at the time), but ultimately decided that she was probably among the few qualified candidates who would be accepted by the different factions within the Association, and be able to bring them back together. She did such a fine job that she was re-elected for a second term in 1985.

and discover the world following a time when it had been impossible. She has made many friends through IAPESGW, and still visits them all over the world.

Tollich's many contributions to physical education and to IAPESGW were recognized with the Hans Groll Medal, conferred by the Society of Sports Science of the University of Vienna. In 1993, she was also given an honorary membership in IAPESGW. Today she lives in retirement in Vienna, although she is still interested in IAPESGW and in physical education. Thankfully for us, she must be one of the few women over 80 years to use electronic mail!

Sources

Articles about and by Helen Tollich in the *Bulletin of IAPESGW*, 1982-1994. Interview with Helen Tollich in Vienna on April 30, 1999.

Resilient Communicator:

Patricia Bowen-West

Patricia Bowen-West has a tremendous capacity for hard work and she is enthusiastic and resilient, no matter how difficult the situation. She is perceptive and leaves nothing to chance, preparing for every eventuality. It is in the field of teacher training where she has made her major contribution, but she is also deeply concerned for the future of the physical education profession in these difficult times and gives generously of her time to sit on many committees at regional and national level.¹⁴

Education and professional career

Patricia Bowen-West trained as a teacher at Bedford College of Physical Education, qualifying in 1946. She undertook further study in the 1960s at the Laban Art of Movement Centre, and at the London University Institute of Education, where she took a post-graduate Diploma Course in the Philosophy of Education.

Following initial teaching experience in a school in Surrey, Bowen-West was appointed Physical Education Adviser to the Kent Local Education Authority in 1953. Between 1955 and 1971, she was a Lecturer at the Manchester College of Education, then Furzedown College, and finally Principal Lecturer at Bishop Lonsdale College of Education. At all

¹⁴ Eileen Alexander, predecessor of Bowen-West as Principal of Bedford College of Physical Education (*Bulletin of IAPESGW*, 2(1), 1986, p. 2).

The main purpose of the Association, in Tollich's view, is a forum for new ideas and a source for inspiration; it can provide opportunities for the exchange of ideas and knowledge, and encourage the use of proven methods in the teaching of physical education. IAPESGW, she believes, should not have any political message or mission. She practised tolerance and co-operation by involving officers, country representatives, and members in all discussions, and activities of the Association.



Helene Tollich in Lahiti, 1997

At the end of her first term as president, Tollich wrote in a letter to the membership: "We tried to improve the democratic style by doing some teamwork, appointing members or representatives to deputize for the Association at some events and by arranging formal and informal meetings as often as possible. We learned by discussing things face to face that communication is much easier in this way—even for letter writing afterwards—but we also learned that it is much more time consuming and more expensive as distances are very great."¹³ Yet despite the increasing democratization, Tollich complained that the Association's "inner life" was not lively enough, nor did the members take enough interest in the daily work of the Association.

Tollich's term as president ended in 1989 at the congress in Bali. Like other participants, she was overwhelmed by the hospitality of the Indonesian hosts and the friendly atmosphere at the congress. She was very glad, she told us, that the statutes restricted her term of office; otherwise she might have been persuaded to stand for election again: "And this I would have regretted afterwards."

When asked what she found most memorable about her work for IAPESGW, Tollich named the meeting of interesting people, the warm atmosphere during meetings and congresses, and the lasting social relationships. She remembered how, after the war, she loved to travel



Patricia Bowen-West and Audrey Bamba in Cape Town, 1977

visible by intensifying cooperation with ICSSPE by, for example, organizing symposia during the ICSSPE pre-Olympic congresses in Malaga in 1992 and Dallas in 1996. However, as we also explain, IAPESGW was faced with competition from other groups, such as Womensport International, more advocacy-oriented and political, within the emerging global women's sport movement.

Recognition and awards

In 1997, in recognition of her work with IAPESGW, and with ICSSPE, Bowen-West was awarded honorary memberships in both organizations. Her IAPESGW citation reads in part:

Pat Bowen-West had the ability to draw the Executive Board and members to become actively involved in IAPESGW initiatives and always consulted widely with Representatives and the Board of Consultants. Involving members and using a broad base for consultation within IAPESGW are typical of her style of leadership ... She gracefully steered IAPESGW into an open and democratic style of operation and succeeded in always creating an atmosphere of mutual trust and respect. Wherever she represented IAPESGW, she earned the admiration of all for her dignity, wisdom and well-spoken presentations leaving members with a great sense of pride.¹⁶

¹⁶ *Bulletin of IAPESGW*, 8(1), 1998, p. 5-6.

of these, she played a significant role in the development of teacher training courses. This led to her appointment as Principal of Bedford College of Physical Education, her alma mater, in 1971.

It was a difficult period in the history of specialist physical education colleges in England because they were in danger of losing their separate identities. While Principal, Bowen-West needed all her "resilience and talent for responding to change" during the merger of Bedford with two other colleges in 1976. She then became Deputy Director of Bedford College of Higher Education. Sheila Fletcher, in her historical account of the "female tradition" in English physical education, wrote that for the college and its principal, it was a question of survival: "Temperamentally, and from her own experience, Pat Bowen-West was a notable survivor. She had done what was relatively rare in the fifties: combine a career with marriage and motherhood. She had been widowed young, with young children."¹⁵ Bowen-West remained at Bedford until her retirement in 1986. Today, what used to be Bedford College is now the School of Physical Education, Sport, and Leisure at De Montfort University Bedford, and across the street from the original buildings is a new theatre named after Patricia Bowen-West.

In addition to her teaching and administrative responsibilities, Bowen-West served on many committees at the regional and national level including the Minister's Working Party on Centers of Excellence in Sport, and she was chair of the Physical Education Committee of the Association of Teachers in Colleges and Departments of Education. For her significant contribution to physical education, Bowen-West was appointed an officer of the Order of the British Empire in 1984.

Role in IAPESGW

Bowen-West became a member of IAPESGW in 1969 and was the UK Representative from 1979 to 1985. She has attended the congresses in Teheran, Buenos Aires, Bali, Melbourne, and Lahti. In 1985, she chaired the organizing committee for the superbly run tenth congress in Warwick. As so often happens with people who prove they are capable, efficient, and willing to work hard, she was asked to take on an even greater workload. Elected a vice-president in 1985, she was responsible among other things, for setting up the Dorothy Sears Ainsworth Award, and for liaising with the organizers of the next congress in Bali.

In 1989 she took over the presidency of IAPESGW from Helene Tollich. As we discuss in the previous chapter, her initiatives as president were to build on her predecessor's team approach by developing guidelines to assist the Council of Representatives, and renewing the role of the Board of Consultants. She also tried to make IAPESGW more

¹⁵ Fletcher, p. 143.

Today, at 73, she enjoys an active retirement in the Peak District of Derbyshire. She keeps busy with four demanding grandchildren, and swims all year round in an outdoor pool!

Sources

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Chapter 3

REMEMBERING IAPESGW AROUND THE WORLD

Invitations were sent to IAPESGW representatives around the world inviting them to contribute to this book. Specifically, we asked them to address the following questions:

- When and how did IAPESGW develop in your country (e.g., specific aims, activities, successes, and failures)?
- Who were the key individuals involved in IAPESGW in your country?
- How have you and others benefited from membership in IAPESGW?
- What are some of your personal memories and experiences with IAPESGW?

Although we were disappointed that we did not receive a response from more of those contacted, we are most grateful to those who submitted the following reports, which in some cases have been edited only to improve their readability.

AUSTRALIA

Lynn Embrey

Australian women have been members of IAPESGW since its inception in 1949. Three women in particular—Kathleen (Gordon) McDonald, Eunice Gill and Janet Grier have made significant contributions as longer serving members of the Council of Representatives. Often they wore two hats as both Council member and

in Melbourne immediately prior to the 1956 Olympic Games, and again in 1970 for the ICHPER Congress in Sydney.

The common characteristic of the Australian women who have played an active role in the IAPESGW is their ability to see the local picture in the context of the 'big' international picture, mostly because they traveled frequently. For example, Eunice Gill benefited from her work with the International Netball Federation.

Given the very high caliber of Australian representatives and their willingness to undertake considerable workloads on behalf of the IAPESGW, it is interesting to speculate why Australian membership and attendance at Congresses has seldom extended into double digits. The plausible explanation is 'the tyranny of distance,' which means not only is it costly to travel to Congresses held in the northern hemisphere, but the Congresses are also held in the northern summer, which coincides with peak teaching time in the Australian education system. Obtaining leave and financial support has often been problematic.

Participation by Australian women was supported by the APFA through articles in its quarterly journal giving advance notice of forthcoming congresses and the reporting of congress proceedings. In preparation for the 1974 Congress in Teheran, for example, the IAPESGW Congress Secretariat published a brief item on "Women in Modern Iran," which was reprinted in the March 1971 issue of the *Australian Journal of Physical Education*. Unfortunately, the promised updates were either not forthcoming or no longer appropriate to the revamped *ACHPER Journal*. Following the restructuring of APFA in 1970, which became the Australian Council for Health, Physical Education and Recreation (ACHPER), the format of its publications changed to reflect the worldwide trend towards academic articles rather than news items. After this, IAPESGW news became less visible. In 1979, ACHPER gave formal recognition to a Special Interest Group in Women and Sport with Wendy Ey of South Australia taking the major leadership role. In hindsight, it is easy to identify a missed opportunity to formally structure a national Association of Physical Education and Sport for Australian Girls and Women, and thus provide a clear hierarchical link to the international body. Paying membership fees individually or through a representative did not foster a strong sense of belonging and one *Bulletin* per year, although perhaps the cheapest available international publication, did not sustain interest.

During the 1980s support for women and sport in Australia gained momentum as both the federal and state governments funded special initiatives within their relevant recreation departments and ministries. Volunteer advisory committees focused on Australian issues and turned increasingly to North America for ideas and leadership rather than to the then UK-based IAPESGW. By and large, the women stepping forward for

Australia's representative. At various times a second woman has served as the representative including Nan Durran from Queensland, Yvonne Rate and Lynn Embrey from Western Australia, and most recently Shirley Brown from South Australia.

Lorna McConchie of the Department of Physical Education at the University of Melbourne attended the first IAPESGW Congress in Copenhagen in 1949, and was nominated as a representative to the Executive Board for the Australian region.¹ Upon returning home, she requested that her place be taken by Kathleen Gordon, whose work as a National Fitness Council officer was perceived to be a more "strategic position as a Commonwealth officer."² Gordon accepted the position in 1950, although she was not always able to negotiate leave to attend Congresses. In 1958, married and now Kathleen McDonald, she was formally appointed as the representative of the Australian Physical Education Association (APFA) on the recommendation of its women's advisory sub-committee. A report of the 1961 Congress held in Washington, D.C., was jointly written by McDonald, who focused on the organizational aspects, while Eunice Gill, from the Department of Physical Education at the University of Melbourne, provided insights into the professional sessions. When neither was available to attend the 1965 Congress in Cologne, responsibility for representation and reporting fell to Helen Hughes, Superintendent of Girls' Physical Education in Western Australia. Apart from her absence at the 1965 Congress, Gill became Australia's longest serving Council of Representatives member (1961 to 1985).

In 1989, Janet Grier from the Department of Physical Education at the Australian Catholic University (Melbourne) took over as Australian representative and was elected Secretary/Treasurer of IAPESGW, a post she held until 1997. Grier's most outstanding contribution was to secure the 1993 Congress for Melbourne, and in doing so expanded the program beyond pedagogy to include sports medicine and health. A feature of the Congress was the day devoted to young women with 2400 schoolgirls in attendance. Congress attendance reached its zenith with over 680 delegates including a considerable number of men, who also presented papers.

Australian membership in IAPESGW peaked with the Melbourne Congress. Australian delegates have attended all IAPESGW Congresses since 1949, and greetings were forwarded from the APFA to each Congress. Ties were strengthened in 1956 when IAPESGW President Dorothy Ainsworth attended the World Congress on Physical Education

¹ See her reminiscence about the 1949 Congress in *Bulletin of IAPESGW*, 2(1), 1986, p. 5-6.

² K. Gordon, "Third Congress on Physical Education and Sports for Girls and Women - London, 15th-20th July, 1957," *Physical Education Journal*, No. 18, 1956, pp.22-24.

took us around the continent in three weeks.

After the congress, I assisted Helene at some of the Executive Board Meetings, and then I took over from Hannelore Achornor as the representative. In 1982, Margaret Weixlederer and I organized an IAPESGW "Snow Seminar" in the Austrian mountains. There were participants from the United States (who were dreadfully afraid when we went up the narrow mountain road in our small bus), Poland, Denmark, Germany, and Austria. We were visited by the Olympic Silver medal winner (track and field), Lise Prokop, who is now a renowned sports politician in Austria, and of course by our president Helene Tollich. The seminar combined practical work on the slopes with reports and papers about our scientific and practical work in sports and physical education, as well as serious discussions about our professional work, informal chats, and many good laughs. As the ski instructors, Maxi (Margaret Weixlederer) and I taught alpine skiing at all levels. Only Ruth Schellberg from the United States) escaped for some cross-country skiing, which she felt safe to do. Edith de Bonis, a professor of Adapted Physical Education from the University of Connecticut, had an attractive green snow suit, which earned her the nickname "Kermit." For the first time, Mette Winkler, then Secretary/treasurer of IAPESGW, mastered downhill skiing, and felt as proud and happy as a child. There was, of course, an introduction to Austrian apres-ski activities, which included excellent wine, dining, songs and games.

Our connections and work with the IAPESGW can be traced back to our identity as women working in the field of physical education and sport. The foundations of secondary and grammar schools with an emphasis on sports (Sporthauptschulen, Sportgymnasium) were an outgrowth of our many international contacts. These schools were founded through the influence of Helene Tollich, who was herself influenced by what she learned on international tours, visiting schools and other educational institutions, and exchanging professional know-how with others around the world. Maxi Weixlederer (now the representative from Austria) spent two years at the University of Stellenbosch in South Africa as an exchange teacher, and wrote her dissertation on the contributions of physical education programs towards bridging the gap between white and colored people.

Our main work with the Austrian members is keeping them informed about IAPESGW's activities and getting them involved through attending the congresses and by contributing their ideas and professional knowledge to Association issues and policies. We are networking with the Austrian "Platform of Women in Sport," and with a national group of women physical education teachers called the "Forum of Women in Physical Education." We also have a close relationship with our colleagues in Germany who have often invited us to their meetings. We

these committees were young and not aware of the groundbreaking work done by their foremothers, and they often came from professions other than physical education. ACHPER endorsed the 1993 Congress in Melbourne, and renewed its membership at a time when costs forced it to relinquish formal affiliation with other kindred international bodies. ACHPER President, Elaine Murphy played a major role on the program committee. Flowing on from increased awareness generated at the 1993 Congress, Yvonne Kate from the Women's Sport Foundation of Western Australia and Sue Baker-Finch of the Women and Sport Unit of the Australian Sports Commission co-authored an insert in the 1994 *Bulletin of IAPESGW* on 'Gender Equity: An Australian Perspective'.

More recently, the overall perception of IAPESGW has been somewhat negative, of a generation passed, and apparently less willing to grapple with current and often controversial issues than the more articulate newcomer Womensport International. It was not surprising that a newly emerging national association in Australia choose to call itself Womensport Australia.

AUSTRIA

Julika Ullmann

We proudly remember all the Austrian women who have worked for IAPESGW from the very beginning. The first woman to take part was Helma Pribitzer, a well-known Austrian gymnastic teacher and the author of a book on rhythmic gymnastics. There were many women inspectors of physical education, and large delegations of women teachers and students who regularly took part in every IAPESGW congress. The Council of Representative members from 1949 until now were Helma Pribitzer, Helene Tollich, Hedwig Moser, Hannelore Achornor, Julika Ullmann, Renate Macher-Meyenburg, and Margaret Weixlederer. At the congresses in Köln, Teheran, and Cape Town, there were practical demonstrations by Austrian schoolgirls on the methods of the Austrian School of Physical Education. In 1985, they also gave a splendid dance performance and volleyball demonstration at the congress in Warwick. We also are very proud that Helene Tollich, a longterm member, was the president of IAPESGW from 1981 until 1989. As for myself, I have served two terms on the Executive Board (1989-1997), and am now one of the Vice-presidents.

How well I remember my first contact with IAPESGW. In 1981, I was invited by Helene Tollich to give a demonstration on "Mother and Child Gymnastics" at the congress in Buenos Aires. The Austrian delegation of about thirty men and women undertook the long journey to South America so that we were present when Helene Tollich was elected President. We will never forget the adventurous post-congress trip that

The belief that women should not be involved in high-level athletics is gradually changing, although in the rural areas, this is not an opinion shared by many people. Female leadership in sports does not exist; there are virtually no women coaches, and no woman sits on our Olympic Committee. In 1980, when I introduced soccer classes for women in the School of Physical Education, I was highly criticized by the Dean of the School. Now, however, it is more acceptable for women to play soccer, and some teams have competed outside of Brazil. Also, in the last fifteen years, professionalism for women in some sports such as volleyball has occurred.

There are now many activities for senior citizens and masters' swimming competitions are organized. Elaine Romero has participated in many of these, and she has also tried to develop programs and policies to promote more participation by girls and woman in sports.

In relation to the general situation of women in our society, it is interesting to point to some of the women who where pioneers in certain areas. For example, in 1977 the writer Raquel de Queiroz was the first woman to be admitted as a member of the Brazilian Academy of Literacy; Eunice Michiles was the first woman to be elected to the Senate House in 1979; and in 1982 Esther de Figueiredo Ferraz was the first woman to become Minister of Education. Roseana Sarney was elected governor of Maranhão State in 1994 and re-elected in 1999, and Nélida Riton was the first woman to be elected President of Brazilian Academy of Literacy in 1996. Women comprise 41 percent of the Brazilian population, and in although today there are women working as company managers and in banks, in comparison to men, who occupy high positions in all kinds of areas, the number of women in leadership positions is still minimal. We have a long way to go!

EGYPT

Nabila Ahmed Abdelrahman

I have been a member of IAPESGW since April 1997.

Achievements:

- Attending the conference on "Movement and Sport in the Life-Cycle of Woman" in Lahit, Finland in July 1997 where I took part in a panel discussion about "Women and sports in the future."
- While in Finland, I visited facilities and sport centers to gain ideas about their educational status and the modern technology employed in the service of physical education. Let me confess that we look ahead at borrowing them to apply in our country. I also took a look at the regulations and policies in their Faculties of Physical Education, which helped us renew our regulations so as to stand on the same footing as the

have members who work at universities but none is a Professor as yet; in Education in an Austrian university. However, there are some promising young women university teachers, and we wish to support them through the Association as much as we can.

Our aspirations in Austria are to recruit more members, to meet more often, to do some of the work at the international level, and to influence the policies of IAPESGW in order to strengthen the Association as a whole.

BRAZIL

Fernanda Barosso Beltrão

EDITOR'S NOTE: Although she is very modest in what she wrote in her report, Fernanda Beltrão's involvement with IAPESGW goes back to 1958 when she was a Master's student at Smith College where, of course, she met Dorothy Ainsworth. In 1960, after a request from Ainsworth, she helped to organize the ICHPER meeting in Rio de Janeiro. She also taught at Smith College in 1970 when she had the opportunity to visit many American universities with the Dance Group of the Federal University of Rio de Janeiro, again due to an invitation from Ainsworth. Most important, she was a member of the Executive Board for twenty years from 1969 to 1989, which speaks to her very long involvement with IAPESGW.

In 1981, Brazil organized the third pre-congress in Rio de Janeiro in which many Association members participated on their way to attend the ninth IAPESGW congress in Buenos Aires, Argentina. Fernanda Beltrão, who at that time was the Dean of the Federal University of Rio de Janeiro, organized this pre-congress with assistance from the Association of Physical Education in Rio de Janeiro. The event was a great success and Association members from many countries in Europe, Asia, North and South America attended. The program included lectures, seminars, dance demonstrations, and other events. It also gave delegates the opportunity to visit the Federal University of Rio de Janeiro, and the famous Samba School located in a "favela" where they had the opportunity to try the dance for themselves.

The role of women in Brazilian society is changing slowly. There is a National Association of Women of Brazil, which works to make our society aware of women's rights and to help solve problems related to women. Although women in Brazil do not have the same opportunities as do men, there is less discrimination in the field of education. For example, the President of the University Castelo Branco, Prof. Vera Gissoni, received an honor by the National Association of Women in April 1997 for her extensive work in education. This is the same university in which Fernanda Beltrão and Elaine Romero, another long-term member of IAPESGW, are teaching and doing research.

Arab Women, which was proclaimed at the 1995 conference. All of these meetings were a good opportunity for friendly relations and getting to know many eminent women from other countries.

FINLAND

Riitta Asanti

A Finnish physical education teacher, Ija Kärkkäinen, attended the first IAPESGW congress in Copenhagen in 1949. She was the principal of a High School for Women in the city of Fori. A keen traveler, she was interested in meeting professional colleagues in other countries. Altogether she participated in seven congresses either as a Finnish representative or as a private person. It was through IAPESGW that Kärkkäinen met Dorothy Ainsworth, and with her help and guidance completed a certificate in Physical Education at Smith College in 1952.

Many delegates at the Copenhagen conference in 1949 also attended the famous gymnastic festival, the Lingiad, in Stockholm. A Finnish team, organized by Hilma Jalakanen, Professor of Physical Education for Women at the University of Helsinki, performed with great success at this Lingiad. Hilma Jalakanen was then asked to arrange a similar performance in connection with the Helsinki Olympics during the summer of 1952. Her team performed at the Helsinki Olympic stadium, receiving much applause and praise. Jalakanen and her colleague Une Melko were subsequently invited to participate in the 1953 IAPESGW congress in Paris by giving lectures and demonstrating Finnish women's gymnastics. During the presidency of Liisa Orko from 1954 to 1989, the Finnish Women's Physical Education Association (SNLL) sent performance teams to Paris in 1953, London in 1957, and Teheran in 1973. They also participated in Melbourne in 1993, and Lahti in 1997.

SNLL benefited greatly from Liisa Orko's strong leadership. She gained wide appreciation in Finnish sport circles as a long-time board member and vice-president of the Central Sport Federation of Finland (SVUL), which in those days was governed mostly by men. Orko also participated in IAPESGW as an Executive Board member from 1965 until 1981. Her highly appreciated personality as well as her capable leadership as the head of a large sport association contributed to the popularity and appreciation of Finnish gymnastics both at home and abroad.

At the 1985 congress in Warwick in England, Sinikka Holopainen replaced Ija Kärkkäinen as the Finnish representative. She was a teacher of Physical Education at the University of Jyväskylä, and had lectured on women's gymnastics at various congresses. At Warwick, Arnevi Lassila, then vice-president of SNLL, was asked by the president of IAPESGW,

developed countries in the field of instructing physical education.

• Making known our achievements in physical education through my involvement as Dean of the Faculty of Physical Education for Girls at Alexandria University, and also through the Supreme Council of Youth and Sport, and the Sport Association of Arab Women. Each of these positions and organizations serve to convey the interests, anxieties, and aspirations of Arab women in the sport field.

• Meeting physical education experts from around the world improves and brightens my experience at these conferences. Besides, there are my meetings with members of the "experts bureau," where I benefit from their native experiences, and the projects and new themes they propose.

• Recognizing IAPESGW through subscription forms and its charter, which were distributed among all Egyptian Faculties of Physical Education, and many more Arab ones, with the aim of diffusing the Association throughout the Arab region.

• The Sport Association of Arab Women has joined IAPESGW.

Advantages of Membership:

• Having the right to take part in the conferences held by the Association, as they are an outlet through which we see the world.

• Making use of the brochures produced by the Association.

• Launching new spheres for work through exchanging themes in fields of specialization.

• Exchanging experiences at the different meetings.

• Having the opportunity to discuss common problems with the aim of solving them, and hearing about the interests of women all over the world.

• Examining the possibility of exchange students, teachers, and visiting professors who could be invited to come to our university.

• Co-operating with us in holding our next international conference in October 1999.

Some Memories of the Association

• I first became aware of the Association at the "Women and Sport: The Challenge for Change" conference in Brighton, England in 1994. I also attended the 1997 Congress in Lahti as well as the Second World Conference on Women and Sport in Windhoek, Namibia in 1998. Our Faculty has also hosted international Women and Sport conferences in 1995, 1997, and there will be a third one in 1999. I have become convinced after all these experiences that physical education in Egyptian specialized schools and universities is highly "leveled," perhaps more so than in many European countries.

• From the Brighton Conference emerged the Sport Association of

Sporthochschule in Köln, but I became involved in 1965 when Liselott Diem decided, in her irresistible and brisk manner, that I ought to give a talk at the congress in Köln. I should say something about primary schools. That was my subject, but "in Europe?" Submerged under piles of work at the university in Nuremberg, and with the rest of my time taken up with three small children, I didn't have the slightest idea about it. Except that everyday I experienced how enthusiastic children at primary-school age went about moving, learning and achieving, how their willingness to achieve was not taken seriously, and how gym lessons were frittered away on infantile games. Was it the same all over Europe? My suspicion was not far off the mark. The audience listened to my lecture with interest, and applauded my demand for physical education that took six-year-olds' willingness to achieve seriously, developed and encouraged this willingness in clearly defined tasks, and gave them the feeling that they were indeed achieving something. My talk, often quoted with the title "Unused Infant Years," set things in motion, at least in school curricula.

Today, congresses planned and organised by women are taken for granted, but in those days they were a novelty, and for me, I must confess, a nightmare. Why only women participants? Doesn't the exchange between men and women at congresses, just as in everyday life, provide a stimulus? When I experienced the variety of women in Köln, their joy at seeing each other again, and listened to their scholarly contributions and discussions, I no longer missed my male colleagues. I realised the advantages of women discussing the problems of girls' and women's physical education and sport without male intervention.

What I recall is the pleasure of exchanging views with colleagues beyond my Bavarian borders, experiencing talks and discussions aimed at similar goals, and adding to my knowledge. In Köln, I met Helene Tollich, and we became lifelong friends. At the farewell dinner on the Rhine, the Japanese women bestowed many small gifts, and their gratefulness and kindness gave the last day an air of sadness as we looked forward to seeing each other again in four years.

In 1973, I agreed to contribute a paper at the congress in Teheran. How often does one get the opportunity to travel to Persia—Teheran, Isfahan, and Schiraz! I was even willing to struggle with the English language. My paper, "Methods of Developing Motivation in Elementary and Secondary Schools," was practice-oriented since I was able to draw upon a five-year research study. I was beginning to doubt whether motivation to take up physical exercise and sport really was a worldwide problem, especially after witnessing the boisterous joy of Isabelle Nel's demonstration group of black South African children. My doubts increased when I observed an Indian teacher with a single shy girl demonstrating her skills on a rope. The teacher reported that in her

Helen Tollich, to invite the Executive Board and the Council of Representatives to meet at the "Movement and Sport in Women's Life" conference, which was to be organized jointly by SNLL and the Faculty of Sport and Health Sciences at the University of Jyväskylä in the summer of 1987.

Liisa Orko became an Honorary Member of IAPESGW at the Jyväskylä congress. Unfortunately hospitalized and unable to attend, she was represented by a relative. Soon after this meeting Liisa Orko was passed away at the age of 85.³

At the next congress in Bali, Indonesia in 1989, Finland was not represented. The Finnish Government, along with other Nordic countries had adopted an anti-apartheid policy and the Ministry of Education recommended abstention from international meetings and associations where South Africa was represented. The president of SNLL, however, who at the time was Arnevi Lassila, took part in the post-congress seminar at the University of Tsukuba, Japan. At Melbourne in 1993, Arnevi Lassila was chosen to succeed Chiyoe Matsumoto (Japan) as a Vice-president of IAPESGW. An invitation to hold the 1997 congress in Finland was accepted by the Executive Board, and this congress took place in Lahti. [*Editor's note: See discussion of this congress in Chapter 1.*] Arnevi Lassila decided to resign her position on the Executive Board, and was replaced by Riitta Asanti, a member of the board of SVOLI (formerly SNLL).

The participation of Finland in the activities of IAPESGW has been partly due to the initiative and desire of active individuals to be part of the organization and partly to the official participation of SVOLI (former SNL), which has been an affiliated member. The performances of Finnish gymnasts at the congresses have always attracted much enthusiasm and admiration, and the lectures and demonstrations have contributed greatly to the advancement of the aims of physical education for women.

GERMANY

Annemarie Seybold

EDITORS NOTE: Although this report is considerably longer than requested, we decided that because it provides such an interesting, personal impression of several congresses, we should print it all. We wish to thank Gerald Nixon for translating it from the original German.

I have never bothered much about organisations, and I don't know exactly when I joined the association with the unpronounceable name. I had certainly heard about it when I was working at the Deutsche

³ See the article about her in the *Bulletin of IAPESGW*, 2(3), 1988, p. 3.

country, trees had to be planted first and only when they had grown dense enough to keep out prying eyes could girls' sports lessons begin. Under such circumstances there were no doubt more pressing problems than that of motivation!

The sightseeing program that Hedi Moder had organised in Iran was excellent. The very first stop, Persepolis, was magnificent. We had learned in our school history books that the victory of the Greeks over the Persians was the victory of civilisation over barbarism. The sculptures and the elegant, masterly relief in Persepolis showed clearly that history is always written by the victors.

The big question in Teheran was "Will she or won't she come?" meaning, of course, Her Imperial Majesty, the Shahbanou of Persia. We had to be at the congress venue by 9 am, and could not leave the building again. The red carpet was rolled out in front of the main entrance, then at the rear entrance, and back and forth again, but all of a sudden there she was with an entourage of elegant and distinguished gentlemen, having arrived by helicopter. We were surprised and delighted by the interest the congress had aroused in such noble circles. As soon as the Empress had spoken her last words, they all disappeared again as quickly as they had appeared. This performance was repeated at all the receptions—the group entered with a great flourish, only to vanish suddenly and without trace. The receptions in the imperial gardens were like something from a fairy tale; the banquet tables, decorated with fruit and flowers, were a feast for the eyes. Another impressive sight was a mountaineering demonstration in the rocky uplands around Teheran. Seventy female students, in full climbing gear, demonstrated their remarkable skills with different manoeuvres. I now wonder how they fared under Chomeini because such sporting activities are inconceivable wearing a veil.

The 1977 congress in Cape Town took place in another political 'hot spot'. At that time, we were concerned not only with the pedagogy of physical education lessons, but also the intellectual effort required by the students. In many studies we had noted both its absence and inadequacies as one of the major shortcomings of physical education. My paper, "Cognitive Aspects in Physical Education" was probably not a pressing issue at the time in all the countries.

We visited schools in Cape Town and were able to witness Isabelle Nel's impressive efforts to improve the education, especially the physical education, of black children. For years afterwards, I corresponded with a little girl from one of these classes. At one school we saw a demonstration that made us realise how remote our discussions were from actual school reality. Black schoolgirls in warm, red tailcoats with gold embroidery marched through the heat of a desert-like piece of land with a brisk drum major—a fancy-dress parade in the South African summer in the Cape.

The girls' enthusiasm for this kind of physical education was unmistakable, and they were highly motivated. How long, I thought, had they rehearsed and sweated before they had got this far?

One afternoon a colourful and boisterous group of corpulent black primary-school teachers crowded into the Malan Theatre. The papers being presented obviously did not address their problems, and whole rows of them started to doze off in the afternoon heat. When it was their turn, they came up onto the stage and were immediately awake. One of them explained that "weight and circumference were the pride of the black African woman," and they started to dance in a way that defied gravity, with weight and circumference irrelevant. These "giants" moved across the stage in perfect harmony, a colourful field of flowers, pirouetting, moving towards each other and then away from each other with unbelievable grace. It was wonderful!

When the applause subsided, the women left the stage; more papers were presented and the black colleagues were again overcome by sleep. To me this demonstrated the serenity and patience of black African women as compared to us, the more "disciplined" Europeans.

After the congress, I drove with several colleagues along the Garden Route to Grahamstown, South Africa's oldest university. For me, the Cape Town congress initiated a number of close friendships, and three more journeys to South Africa.

Margot Crummenet persuaded me to take part in the 1993 congress in Melbourne. I did not present a paper, but I enjoyed listening to others. I was surprised by the open and knowledgeable way in which our Australian colleagues discussed the problems raised. The congress revealed how very similar problems were all over the world. In the papers in the Physical Education section I was delighted to discover a "roll back." Whereas in Germany, co-education is a matter of one's world view rather than a specific pedagogic problem, it has been realised everywhere that co-education puts girls at a disadvantage because it does not take account of their specific needs. In physical education, too, a holistic approach to education is gaining ground. When one of the Melbourne speakers called for an end to all tests in schools and demanded that the time be used more profitably to improve teaching, I applauded and cheered. For years in Germany, these positions had been put forward, contrary to current trends in sports pedagogy. I saw the necessity of discussing these problems among women in an international forum while not having to take account of men's absolute faith in science or their craving for attention and recognition. As a result, we can deal with these issues in a much more open and factual manner.

I was also impressed by visits that had been arranged to Melbourne schools. What we saw was an intact "school world," both in a college for the wealthy as well as in a state school. There were no graffiti on the

Pyhämieni estate, we saw the Finnish landscape at its best—green, and wind blowing through birch trees. One unforgettable experience was spending a midsummer night by one of the countless lakes in an old white farmhouse. At the congress, besides the papers, there were many practical demonstrations, and I was struck by the teachers' salutary calmness, indicating everyday teaching practice and thus far more convincing than perfect performances can ever be.

Memories of this congress are overshadowed by the death of Margot Crummenel, who represented the German group. I remember being together with Margot, especially the last evening, in a typically Finnish setting, eating fish by the lake. We were all in such a cheerful mood. Margot was pleased about her election to the Executive Board, for which she had many plans. The following day we enjoyed breakfast together high up above Helsinki. We wanted to go sightseeing around the town, she wanted to meet friends and cycle through Finland with them. Next day she was dead. It was a dreadful end to the eventful days in Finland.

Looking back at the five congresses I attended, I realise how much I owe IAPESGW, and I thank Gertrud Pfister for urging me to join the Association. I have made the acquaintance of remarkable women and experienced a wide spectrum in my field of study through all the lectures I have listened to. The international meetings have broadened my horizons and taught me to see the issues and problems in a different light. Thanks to IAPESGW I have undertaken marvellous journeys and retained many wonderful memories of people and places. It took me a long time to overcome my prejudices. Today I am convinced that women are better able to discuss and solve the problems of girls and women's sport both in and out of school. And, in order to do so, they need their own forum. I am grateful to all those women in the world who have created such a forum through IAPESGW.

ISRAEL

The first Israeli representative to the Association was the late Eli Friedman, who at the time was a physical education teacher in a teacher education college in Jerusalem, and later the Director of the Physical Education college in Beersheba. She participated in the first congress in Copenhagen in 1949.

I was introduced to the Association in 1971 when I returned to Israel after studying in the USA. At that time we numbered about five paid-up members. We received more extensive exposure in the summer of 1973 when the IAPESGW pre-congress on Folk Dance took place in Israel. Participants in the Association's seventh congress in Teheran

walls, but well-kept grounds and tidy classrooms, and pupils who were proud of their school and felt a sense of responsibility towards it. School uniforms made financial sacrifices to keep up with the latest fashions unnecessary. Co-education did not exist and thus many problems did not arise. School was from 8:30 am until 3 o'clock in the afternoon, with the pupils having dinner at school. This routine meant that school life was more settled, there were more free time activities, and pupils had more fun going to school.

Here, too, I remember the farewell evening. The highlight was the "dance of nations." The Koreans danced like flower blossoms, the Finnish women with a wonderful harmony of colours, while the South Africans demonstrated their pure and unrestrained joy of dancing. When they all gathered on the stage for the final applause, the black South Africans could not help but dance all over again in wild abandon. They each took hold of a blonde Finn, and showed an unbelievable ability to adapt to their partners. It was an amazing performance—one world!

It was a great pity, and indeed superfluous, when two speakers at the farewell dinner called upon the women present to enter the "corridors of power," and have the courage to live without, and against, men. Whoever had listened to the young women in Melbourne reporting on their research, and discussing issues with such openness and knowledge, might have thought that they no longer had any need to pursue a dogmatic anti-male and "power" course. The pleasure I experienced in Melbourne listening to theory and seeing the practice at schools caused the breakthrough—I gave up my role as spectator, and my well-meant detachment, and became a member of IAPESGW.

The social programme at the Melbourne congress was also superb. The journey into the outback to see Aboriginal culture, the visit to Sydney and the famous opera house, and finally to Cairns and the experience of diving and swimming among the fish on the Great Barrier Reef were magnificent. We had a stopover in Singapore both coming and going, which gave us the opportunity to look briefly at Southeast Asia with the "Tang Dynasty Experience" and the "World of Chinese Myths," and as well the British colonial legacy with a cup of tea at the Raffles Hotel.

"Movement and Sport in the Life-Cycle of Woman" was the topic of the thirteenth congress in Lahti, Finland. I was expecting avant-garde architecture and subtle shades of colouring, but in the rain we were met with drab concrete buildings and two huge ski-jumps towering up into the grey sky. However, I slowly discovered Lahti's charm including the world-famous sports centre where ski-jumpers practise (on brushes) even in summer. I also experienced Alvar Aalto's cruciform church, and Vesijärvi Lake where on certain days you can dance in a simple wooden hall, and on warm summer evenings you get together with friends and eat fried fish. On the way to an old church in Hollola and on the

because it deals with school programs and conducts practical workshops during its congresses, and does not deal only with research topics. The physical education profession is at a crossroads. In essence, it is facing a world crisis. Some well-known physical education programs in different countries have been cut. It is important that IAPESGW play an active role in redefining physical education programs so they continue to constitute a significant part of educational systems around the world.

JAPAN

Chiyo Matsumoto

EDITOR'S NOTE: In 1997, Chiyo Matsumoto was awarded an Honorary Membership for her many years of dedicated service, and her valuable contributions to the Association (see *Bulletin of IAPESGW*, 8(1), 1998, p.6).

An invitation to the second congress in Paris (1953) arrived in Japan, where people were looking forward to the dawn after World War II. The Ministry of Education dispatched Haru Tokura (1896 to 1968), Professor at Ochanimizu University, to Paris, complying with our wishes. Taking the opportunity of her report after returning home, we founded the Japanese Association of Physical Education for Women (JAPEW) in 1954 with Tokura as its first president. Our first aim was "the invitation of an international congress to Japan." In 1965, the first National Congress on Physical Education and Sport took place, which was the first step to an international meeting.



Haru Tokura, Dorothy Ainsworth, Liselott Diem and the organizing committee of the Tokyo Congress

stopped over in Israel and the impact was tremendous on the participants and on the local physical education teachers. The Teheran congress was the first one in which I participated, and thus I have continued for the remainder, including the most recent one in Lahit, Finland in 1997.

In July 1981, at the ninth congress in Buenos Aires, I received the first Dorothy Sears Ainsworth Award for my essay "The Status of Women in Sport: A Social Comotation." In 1997 in Lahit, Ora Gatni, who at that time was the Director of the Physical Education Department at Ohalo College in the Jordan Valley, received the Lynn Vendien Award for her work with Down syndrome youngsters.

I served as chairperson of the Israeli branch of the Association from 1986 to 1997, which grew to fifty paid-up members. Today, Shulamit Raviv leads the Israeli branch, and she is also a member of the Executive Board. We have an annual meeting and the agenda includes business matters, a lecture given by one of our members on a topic related to physical education, sport science and health education, and a session of practical work that emphasizes a unique contribution to our field.

Since both Eli Friedman and I occupied high positions in the Ministry of Education, Culture and Sport in Israel, it was natural that we were often invited to lecture and to take part in committees that dealt with the advancement of women. As Deputy Rector in the Zimman College of Physical Education and Sport Sciences at the Wingate Institute, I was appointed by the Prime Minister to serve on the government Committee for the Advancement of Women as well as on a similar committee in the Ministry of Education.

The fact that an international association whose mission is to advance the status of women in physical education and sport exists, and that we are part of this Association gave us the power to work toward these goals in Israel. During the last twenty years new laws were promulgated in Israel giving equal rights and opportunities to women in the areas of sport and work. I believe that some of these changes were due in part to our activity in IAPESGW.

At the twelfth congress in Melbourne in 1993, I was elected to the Association's Executive Board and two years later the board met at Wingate in Israel.

The dedicated work of our international leaders over the years has encouraged professional women in many countries to join the Association, and to disseminate ideas about equality and advancement in both social and professional areas. I strongly believe it is time for the Association to be more involved in countries that do not yet have an advanced program in physical education and sport, or in health education. It is important that expert women travel to these countries to conduct workshops for local teachers. It is also important that international funds support these activities. Our Association is unique

Association congress in Bali was held, together with a National Congress on Physical Education and Sport at the University of Tsukuba. Several JAPESGW members, including Patricia Bowen-West (UK), Muriel Sloan (USA), Ute Wasmund-Bodenstedt (FRG), and Lynn Vendien (USA) gave research papers. These occasions allowed us to show our JAPEW activities to all Executive Board members. The *Asahi*, a leading newspaper in Japan reported the history of JAPEW with the headline "Brought up leaders and with eyes toward the world. . ." JAPEW seemed to have achieved citizenship at last.

The exchange between two countries, Japan and Finland, was also advanced. The Finnish Women's Physical Education Association (SNLL) invited me to both its 80th anniversary in 1976 and its 90th anniversary in 1986. I also presented a research paper at the "Movement and Sport in Women's Life" conference, which was to be organized jointly by SNLL and the Faculty of Sport and Health Sciences at the University of Jyväskylä in the summer of 1987. In return, JAPEW invited a Finnish group to Japan in 1991. The exchange with Asian countries became closer. Being invited to the 6th World Sport for All congress, I was given the opportunity to report on "Dance Movement and Women's Lifelong Participation" to the international sports scene.

In 1987, the Science Council of Japan officially recognized JAPEW as a "registered scientific research organization." Publications, such as a monthly from 1959, and a research bulletin from 1969, continue today. From 1998 onwards, a system was started that gives community sports (dance movement) leader's licenses. The previously mentioned National Congress on Physical Education and Sport has been held every year in a different prefecture—the 33rd congress will be held this year in Tottori Prefecture.

Since the sixth JAPESGW congress in 1969, I have continued to present a research report at each congress. I have also encouraged students, both undergraduates and graduates, to participate in JAPESGW. The years in which I served as an Executive Board member (1969-1985) and as a Vice-president (1985-1993) of the Association gave me many opportunities to know great characters with warm hearts, and to see physical education, sports, and human beings in a global perspective.

In 1976, when I visited the USA as an overseas researcher (dispatched by the Ministry of Education), Dorothy Ainsworth invited me to her home. It was the last time I saw her kindly face. A Christmas card she had prepared before she died was specially presented to me. I was so touched when I saw a woman in *kimono* drawn on the small Japanese islands in a world map. I really feel that JAPEW has grown along with JAPESGW, and has walked with joy at JAPESGW's expanding activities in Asia.

At the fifth JAPESGW congress in Köln, it was formally decided to hold the sixth congress in Tokyo. About forty participants from Japan were filled with joy and excitement. The members of the organizing committee were: President Tokura, Chairman Matsumoto, and K. Takeuchi, C. Utsumi, T. Murai, M. Mizutani, T. Goto, S. Murakami, C. Horii, and H. Nakajima. With programs from past congresses in our hands, we began unaccustomed work to prepare for the sixth congress when a sudden sorrow befell us. President Tokura passed away in September 1968. We lost our sunshine. We did not have many financial prospects as yet, and the congress site was uncertain. In tears, JAPEW elected Matsumoto as the new president, who accepted it with a heavy heart. I was encouraged by Dorothy Ainsworth's letter: "I trust you and your members. . ." I still clearly remember the ten months after that—hard work, day and night, with the organizing committee.

With the theme of "Traditional and Modern Forms of Physical Education," the sixth congress was inaugurated in the presence of H.I.H the Crown Princess of Japan (now Empress). Also attending were founder Dorothy Ainsworth, President Liselott Diem, Executive Board Members, Council of Representative members, 238 overseas delegates from 26 countries, and 418 regular and 1100 special members from Japan. The one-week congress provided us with a time to recognize the meaning and role of movement cultures that had survived in respective areas and histories. The proceedings and report from the congress still tell us eloquently about it. The congress forced our society to recognize women anew, and to widen the horizons of students, researchers, and educators. In addition, it opened the door to international exchanges to come.

In 1970, JAPEW started an event in commemoration of the sixth congress. Still active today, it is called the All Japan Dance Festival—Kobe (ADF-Kobe). About 2500 students from dance groups in high schools and colleges participate in this event every year. ADF-Kobe is Mecca for them. In 1993, the International College Dance Festival (ICDF) was held together with ADF-Kobe. With the approval of JAPESGW President Patricia Bowen-West, we invited dance groups from England, USA, Germany, and Austria through the recommendations of their respective Executive Board members, as well as groups from Korea and China. Thus, ICDF was realized for the first time with seven countries including Japan. The encounter of expressive arts developed in different countries showed the brilliance of their characteristics more clearly and impressed many people. All expenses for Kobe City paid the expenses of the invited groups, including airfare.

On the occasion of the 30th anniversary of the founding of JAPEW in 1984, JAPESGW President Helene Tollitch was invited to give a lecture at the Asian Conference on Physical Education for Women. For its 35th anniversary, a post-congress seminar in conjunction with the eleventh

research findings, cultural exchange, and exposure to various experiences, all of which have broadened our horizons.

Present Status of Physical Education in Nigeria

Physical education is an examinable subject (senior secondary level) at the West African Examination Council, but unfortunately, the level of theoretical work does not always correspond with the more practical aspects of physical education, since less attention is placed on the latter. I have suggested the need for mass training of young, energetic women who could initiate new and attractive programs. They must be versatile enough to introduce innovative activities, and shift the emphasis away from male-dominated sports to gender neutral activities. They must also be able to introduce dance, as well as "feminine sensitive" cultural activities, to school physical education programs. The re-introduction of netball to schools is considered a way of allowing girls their own sex-biased sport; however, this idea is still being debated at the National Association for Physical and Health Education Recreation Sports and Dance (NAPHER-SD) executive level.

There has been a re-activation of the Nigeria School Sports Federation, and an extension of the Principal Cup Football Championship in Lagos State to female teams. It is likely that more girls will become involved in football because of these initiatives. Some activities for involving more girls and women in sport are being coordinated by the Nigeria Olympic Committee, and the various sports federations, but a little is being done for physical education at the institutional levels.

There are twenty-six Nigerian sports federations: Athletics, Badminton, Basketball, Boxing, Cycling, Karate, Football, Cricket, Volleyball, Handball, Hockey, Lawn Tennis, Table-Tennis, Swimming, Squash Racket, Taekwando, Weight-lifting, Wrestling, Softball, Baseball, Golf, and Fencing. Efforts are being made to introduce some of these sports to schoolchildren during the school vacation through the help of corporate sponsors like Milo and Cadbury. The activities of both the Nigerian Women Sports International (NWSI) and the Nigeria Association of Women in Sports (NAWIS), formed to ensure that women get the attention they deserve in sports, tend to be sports oriented. Again, more attention needs to be directed at comprehensive and practical physical education at the school level. Perhaps this could be done best by a national IAPESGW body.

Girls and women's involvement in physical education and sports is constantly improving. Many institutions such as the family, church, schools, and the entire society are not as hostile to female involvement in sports as before. There is a more enlightened approach to their acceptability in sports circles, which is a good omen for female sports

Information about IAPESGW was brought to Nigeria through the influence of Audrey Bambara, former principal of Chelsea College of Physical Education in the UK, from which Pat Ojiah and I both graduated. Pat was the first to be involved with IAPESGW, when she was nominated as the Africa representative prior to the 1985 congress in Warwick. In fact she gave a report on Nigeria at that conference. I also attended the Warwick congress, where I met Pat, and we were the only persons from West African countries. There were two other representatives from South Africa (Namibia and Zimbabwe), but the politics of apartheid were so strong at that time that we hardly communicated with our other sisters from South Africa beyond the ordinary exchange of pleasantries.

Since the Warwick congress, which was my first international trip, I have been involved with the activities of IAPESGW at the international level. I submitted reports about our activities in Nigeria, usually prompted by Audrey Bambara (editor of the *Bulletin*, 1982-94), who always urged me to write something no matter how short. She was instrumental to my sustained interest and commitment to the activities of IAPESGW. I was thereafter nominated as the African representative and have served in that capacity until now. Unfortunately, it has not been easy to obtain sponsorship to attend the IAPESGW congresses, but I often managed it, and therefore was able to present my research at the conferences. I am also among those who nominated Julika Ullmann for election as one of the Vice-presidents.

Nigerian Experience at IAPESGW Conferences

The IAPESGW congresses have brought together women at the international level. They have provided a means for physical education specialists and sports enthusiasts to exchange ideas. They have encouraged the formulation of policies to enhance the growth and interest of girls and women in physical education and sports. They have promoted knowledge and understanding of our strength and limitations in pursuit of sports development. We have been able to interact with professional colleagues from other nations, which has provided us the motivation and opportunity to adopt, with some modifications, good practices at home. Such contact also offers us a fantastic opportunity to compare and contrast our national programs with that of other countries. The IAPESGW congresses have also opened up chains of friendship and have expanded our circles of friends within the profession. We have benefited immensely from the conferences through

development. However, there is still an acute shortage of women in coaching, management, and policy-making positions. Whether we like it or not, this must affect our emergence in sports. Women themselves must want to become involved.

Finally, there is no formal association named IAPESGW in Nigeria, but I am ready to establish one if there was some assistance from the Association or from UNESCO.

POLAND

Anita Wyznikiewicz-Nawracala and
Zdzisława Wyznikiewicz-Kopp

In 1925, Poland was admitted to the Fédération Sportive Féminine

Internationale (FSFI), which at the time was the world regulatory body for the governance and administration of women's athletics. The Polish Athletic Association had formed a section for women's athletics, and the first representative to the FSFI was a man, Felicjan Sterba. During the 1930 FSFI Congress, he was elected a vice-president of the Fédération, and Halina Konopacka (a woman) was appointed to the Technical Commission. Representatives of the Polish Athletic Association and the Polish Sports Games Association participated in each FSFI congress, and Polish athletes, coaches, officials, and journalists were invited to the Women's World Games. In our view, the FSFI can be viewed as the predecessor of IAPESGW. [Editor's note: Poland first competed in the Women's World Games in Gothenburg, Sweden in 1926, which were actually the second women's Olympics, but the IOC refused to allow the name "Olympics" to be used. They also competed in the 1928 Amsterdam Olympics, the third Women's World Games in Prague in 1930, and the fourth (and last) in London in 1934. The FSFI did not exist after 1936.]

Poland participated for the first time in an IAPESGW congress in 1973 in Teheran when Zofia Zukowska attended. At the eighth congress in Cape Town, Poland was represented by Teresa Wolanska, and again in Buenos Aires in 1981. Wolanska invited Zdzisława Wyznikiewicz-Kopp to become a member and both women took part in the 1982 Snow Seminar in Hochkar, Austria. In 1984, Wyznikiewicz-Kopp organised a conference on "Physical Education and Sport in the Early School Years" in Poland. Among the participants were Sinikka Holapainen from Finland and Ute Wasmund-Bodenstadt from the Federal Republic of Germany. As a result of their research collaboration, both Wyznikiewicz-Kopp and Wasmund-Bodenstadt presented papers at the 10th IAPESGW congress in Warwick

The Polish representative to IAPESGW since 1985 has been Wyznikiewicz-Kopp. Although it has not been easy to attend congresses, and especially those abroad, a representative of Poland has attended all

IAPESGW congresses since 1973, and presented research on the problems of Polish women's sport. At the "Movement and Sport in Women's Life" conference in Finland at the University of Jyväskylä in 1987, Poland was represented by Zdzisława Wyznikiewicz-Kopp, Teresa Wolanska, Zofia Zukowska, Maria Rotkiewicz, and Alicja Rutkowska-Kucharska. In 1994, Wyznikiewicz-Kopp began to organise a "Circle of IAPESGW" in Gdansk, and it was formally established in January of 1996. The members of the Circle, who meet once a week, decide their own program and activities, which include scientific seminars and exercise for both health and well being. The exercises are provided continuously by our members who volunteer to do so.

The most significant result of our activity was the pre-congress symposium in Gdansk during July 1997, which preceded the 13th IAPESGW Congress in Lahti, Finland. The City of Gdansk, which has played a most important role in the development and history of Europe, celebrated its 1000 years of existence that year. It was also the first time in the history of IAPESGW that members met in Eastern Europe. About sixty delegates came from Estonia, Germany, Great Britain, Japan, Russia, Slovakia, Switzerland, and Poland in addition to many local observers from the surrounding area.

The pre-congress commenced with an opening ceremony, followed by a welcome from Zdzisława Wyznikiewicz-Kopp and an address by the IAPESGW President, Patricia Bowen-West. Greetings came from the various nations in attendance and were presented by their representatives. Among the distinguished Polish guests were a member of the Millennium of the City of Gdansk, a member of the Gdansk City Council, representatives from the Zonta International Club and the Association of Polish-Norwegian Friendship, in addition to other representatives from the arts and culture.

The symposium theme was "Women and Sport," and the goal of the meeting was the integration of women from Eastern European countries. The thirty-five papers presented during the scientific sessions covered various aspects of sports, recreation, and sports rehabilitation. They addressed actual and essential problems related to girls and women participating in sports, women's involvement in this field, and opportunities for decision-making in their immediate environment with reference to the power struggles they experience as a part of their daily life. Career prospects in physical education, sport, and recreation were also discussed. For example, papers included "Women Who Love Too Much or the Self-created Impotence of Women in Sport Organisations" (Sabine Kröner, Germany) and "Symptoms of Discrimination in Sport" (Barbara Karolczak-Biernacka and Zdzisława Wyznikiewicz-Kopp, Poland). Other papers focused on subjects such as woman and the family,

health behaviours, and women's participation in competitive and professional sport;⁴ The cultural and social program of the pre-congress included the following:

- Organ concert in a 17th century Cathedral;
- Fitness show performed by the Polish champion, Joanna Kurzacz;
- Traditional Polish Dances performed by "Neptun,"
- Japanese folk dances performed by Japanese participants, who provided a splendid display at this meeting and also at the campfire organised in the evening;
- Visit to the park of the Cistercian Abbey (founded in 1188) and the magnificent Gothic castle in Malbork with its unique amber collection, as well as attending the Millennium celebrations.

As a result of our scientific seminars, four members of the Circle presented their research at the 13th Congress in Lahti. They were Anita Wyznikiewicz-Nawracala, Malgorzata Liebig, Krystyna Wolna, and Zdzislaw Wyznikiewicz-Kopp. In addition, Malgorzata Woljiewicz-Czerlonko, Anna Walentukiewicz, and Anita Wyznikiewicz-Nawracala presented their work at Polish scientific conferences in 1998.

In January 1998, we elected the main executive board of the Circle. Zdzislaw Wyznikiewicz-Kopp was re-elected as President, the Vice-president is Anita Wyznikiewicz-Nawracala, the secretary is Anna Walentukiewicz, and the treasurer is Malgorzata Woljiewicz-Czerlonko. The new executive board has begun work on the "Congress 2000 Women," and among the topics are Culture, Sport and Recreation, and Health.

SOUTH AFRICA

Isabelle Nell and Edith Katzenellenbogen

South Africa has a history of active women in the field of Physical Education. The first training college for Physical Education in the country for women was in Cape Town. When the first national association for Physical Education was established in 1950, women members such as Emmie Hartmann figured prominently, with the result that an active Women's Section was formed in 1953. This was the only body of its kind functioning at the national level.

The ties between IAPESGW and the South African (SA) Women's Section continued from 1953 until 1993 when the latter dissolved. Before the formal relationship between these bodies developed, Dorothy⁴ Abstracts of the Gdansk pre-congress papers, in both English and Polish, were published in a small booklet and are available from IAPESGW.

Ainsworth had made contact with individuals from South Africa. She

made use of every opportunity to find professional women from different countries. One way she operated was to meet overseas students studying at universities in the United States. As a former student at Wellesley College near Ainsworth's own Smith College, it was possible to interest Isabelle Nel in the founding of an international association for women. Others were equally interested and in 1949 it was possible to send a senior inspector of school physical education, A.J. Salmon, along with Wendy Niland, a lecturer from the Cape Town Technical College, to attend the first congress in Copenhagen.

After this inaugural congress, there were always representatives from South Africa at the congresses with the exception of Bali due to political problems. [Editor: See further discussion below.] The representatives who were appointed by the Women's Section during the period 1953-97 were Maryna van der Meulen, Isabelle Nel, Elrihta Neethling, Hantje du Toit and Edith Katzenellenbogen. Isabelle Nel was appointed by IAPESGW as a member of the Executive Board in 1957, and was later elected by the Council of Representatives as one of the Vice-presidents (1969-85). Edith Katzenellenbogen also served as Editor of the *Bulletin of IAPESGW* for the period 1993-98. At the conference in Lahti in 1997, Isabelle Nel was awarded an Honorary Membership in IAPESGW. Finally, Doreen Solomons was appointed to the Executive Board in 1998.

Through the long association between IAPESGW and professional women in South Africa, the contact was to the advantage of both parties. From the very beginning, Executive and individual members visited South Africa as guests of the Women's Section. Their presentations were, however, for all professional bodies and institutions. Among the visitors were Liselott Diem (FRG), Irma Nikolai (FRG), Helene Tollich (Austria), Anna Espenschade (USA), Helen Hazelton (USA), Laura Huelster (USA), and Annemarie Seybold (FRG). The advantages for local members were academic, professional, and personal, and both individuals and groups benefited. Overseas members assisted graduate students from South Africa who applied to study abroad and SA members accommodated overseas members who wished to visit or work temporarily at SA institutions. At the same time, SA members contributed to the continued functioning of the association. Members chaired sessions, meetings and panel discussions at congresses. They presented academic and research papers at conferences and seminars organized by IAPESGW, as well as at conferences of other international associations who sent invitations to IAPESGW. These women included Isabelle Nel, Edith Katzenellenbogen, Beatrice Wiid, Hantje du Toit, Rosa du Randt, Sylvia Glasser and Denise Jones.

used as a guideline for the congress that followed in Buenos Aires. A brief historical overview of South African members and IAPESGW would not be complete without mentioning the political problems. IAPESGW, through the ideals of Dorothy Ainsworth, brought members under the impression that their interests were the most important concern of the Association. The stance taken by Ainsworth, Diem, and other leaders was to avoid being dictated to by anyone with political interests. This was illustrated in Buenos Aires when the organizers and the Executive refused the demand from the Indian Government that the South African delegates be dismissed. Later in Warwick, it was not the Government who was concerned about the South African participation, but the political issue appeared to have arisen from amongst the members of IAPESGW. Unfortunately there was a lack of transparency and the issue was never resolved. The futility of the political issue continued when the Indonesian members indicated that they could not allow entrance of the SA delegation because they did not wish to offend any of their important trading partners. The irony of the situation became obvious when some of the South African delegates changed their visit to Bali by visiting the countries of the very same trading partners. Sadly, IAPESGW has lost support among some members in SA within the academic and research circles. Various reasons exist, but the most important one is that women in tertiary education institutions, who once formed the backbone of IAPESGW membership, are opting for associations with a specialization in academic or applied science aspects and, to a certain extent, are avoiding a gender bias.

In conclusion, there is no doubt that IAPESGW has enhanced the professional life of its members in South Africa. A special effort is necessary, however, to convince the younger generation of academics and professionals in Physical Education and Sport Studies about the importance of the Association and the ideals for which it stands. May the work of IAPESGW go from strength to strength as we enter the next millennium.

UNITED KINGDOM

Ida Webb

EDITOR'S NOTE: Ida Webb, a member of IAPESGW since 1969, approached us with the idea that she write an historical account of the relationship between the Association of Principals of Women's Colleges of Physical Education (APWCPE) in the United Kingdom and IAPESGW. We agreed, and are most grateful for her contribution.

Links between the Association of Principals of Women's Colleges of Physical Education (APWCPE) and IAPESGW can be traced back to 1948. The APWCPE (originally called the Association of Physical

In addition to individuals, South African demonstration groups presented excellent dance displays at several congresses. The Silver Leaf children's dance group under the leadership of Amelia du Toit performed at the Teheran (1973), Cape Town (1977), and Lahit (1997) conferences, where the latter was a gesture of gratitude to IAPESGW and in particular to Liselott Diem and Isabelle Nel. The group, "Moving into Dance" under the leadership of Sylvia Glasser, performed and presented workshops at the Melbourne congress in 1993.

A well-presented bid, enhanced by the performance of the Silver Leaf dance group in Teheran, resulted in the Council of Representatives awarding South Africa the opportunity to host the 8th Congress in Cape Town in 1977. This congress was no doubt the highlight of the South African experience with IAPESGW. The themes of the congresses usually developed out of a need within each country. Physical Education in South Africa had already reached a high standard, yet only in some of the education departments. The theme, "Better Teaching and Coaching," was accepted for the Cape Town congress in order to encourage improvement in the training of teachers at all tertiary institutions.

The Cape Town congress was a great success. It was possible because of the excellent co-operation among committee members in organizing such a major event. Participants came from thirty countries and South African participants came from across the historical "color line." For the first time, SA teachers from black, colored, Indian and white communities could ignore the color bar and show their work freely in and out of schools. This was considered a great feat especially since the separate development policies or *apartheid* was at its height in SA at this time. Yet the organizing committee went ahead despite the personal and professional risk. It was also the first time that overseas participants were invited into the homes of families. The specific aim of this arrangement was that friendships could be forged and continued beyond the congress. Some overseas participants such as Muriel Sloan (USA), Marjorie Souder (USA), and others were also invited by the Women's Section to stay on after the Congress and present papers at tertiary institutions.

The Cape Town organizing committee also succeeded in contacting colleagues from neighboring countries such as Botswana, Lesotho, Swaziland, and the former Rhodesia, and they extended invitations to them to share in the congress experience. The pre-congress seminar was offered to Swaziland in order to stimulate an interest in physical education and sport for girls in that country. The SA organizing committee could also offer IAPESGW a financial contribution, which at the time was an unusual occurrence. The success of this congress can be ascribed to the individual members who played an active role, and in particular to the secretary Hantie du Toit, and the treasurer Elritha Neethling. The comprehensive congress report on the Cape Town conference was later

unfortunately had to be declined. At the opening session, Muriel Webster brought greetings from Europe, from the "Old World" to the "New," delighting delegates when she said: "I hope that it augurs well for the spirit of this Congress when I say that the British – with their reputation for formality – would like to change their 'How do you do' to 'Hi yah.'" Audrey Bamba (Chelsea) attended as a delegate, and Marie Crabbe presented a paper entitled "The Application of Basic Movement to Gymnastics." Here she discussed the principles underlying the relatively new educational gymnastics movement.

In 1965 in Köln, Muriel Webster again answered the "roll call of nations" on behalf of Europe. Elma Casson from Lady Mabel chaired the discussion group, "The Beauty Idol of Modern Girls," and a film "Move with the Times" was shown, made by students at the specialist colleges. Among the more than fifty UK delegates were principals Eileen Alexander, Audrey Bamba, Onah Pim, and Kit Blunden.

The input from APWCPB increased steadily over the years. In 1969 at the sixth congress in Tokyo, Muriel Webster, yet again, brought greetings from the European nations saying, "... it seems right and proper that our Association ... should meet regularly not to compete against one another in sport, but in order to study together a subject which is the main interest of our members. We come from Europe, knowing how much we have to learn from our friends in the East." She even risked a little Japanese in her welcome speech! – *Watakushitachi wa yoroppa kara goaisatsu ni mainimashita.*

Sixteen students from several of the specialist colleges, financed by money raised by their Student Unions, demonstrated modern educational dance and gymnastics. These demonstrations were proceeded by lectures given by two staff members at Chelsea College, Lorna Wilson and Patricia Kingston. Others among the thirteen UK delegates chaired sessions and participated in group discussions and symposia on various topics. Eileen Alexander from Bedford College arranged an exhibition of books and photographs to illustrate work in primary and secondary schools, the specialist colleges, and the Central and Scottish Councils of Physical Recreation. This exhibition, like others at later congresses, was financed by the British Council in the hope of encouraging the sale of British books to libraries and universities in English-speaking countries.

A demonstration team of nineteen students, selected from the Women's Specialist and Physical Education Wing Colleges, was also sent to the seventh congress in Teheran in 1973. APWCPB embarked on raising financial aid for the team through the UK Sports Council, although each student, with assistance from her Student's Union, also had to raise money to cover expenses. The team again contributed to lecture demonstrations in modern educational dance

Training Colleges) was founded in 1935. The first meeting was convened by May Fountain, principal of Chelsea College of Physical Education, with invitations extended to other principals from the Bergman Osterberg Physical Training College, Anstey Physical Training College, Bedford Physical Training College, and Dunfermline College of Hygiene and Physical Education. In 1942, principals from Irene Marsh College of Physical Education and Nonington College of Physical Education were invited to join. With the founding of the Lady Mabel College of Physical Education in 1949 and the Ulster College of Physical Education in 1953, their respective principals were also invited to become members of APWCPB.

In 1948, Muriel Webster, a staff member at Anstey, was an exchange lecturer at the University of Iowa. She was introduced to Dorothy Ainsworth, "a revered member of the profession," who called a meeting to discuss the possibility of an international association. Muriel attended this meeting and promised to support the idea on her return to England. This she did through approaches to the UK Committee for International Conferences on Physical Education, and through APWCPB. After due consideration, both organizations agreed to support the work and aims of the IAPESGW.

Marie Crabbe, principal of Irene Marsh College, was appointed to the international committee that helped to organize the 1949 Copenhagen congress. She attended the conference presenting a paper entitled "The Training of Teachers of Physical Education in England," in which she discussed the many changes occurring in tertiary education at that time and the implications for the specialist PE colleges. In 1955, Muriel Webster, who had attended the second congress in Paris, was by now the joint principal of Anstey; she also took on chairing the organizing committee for the third congress, which would be held in London in 1957. The first IAPESGW constitution was also approved at the London congress, and Webster was elected one of two vice-presidents, a position she held for the next sixteen years.

Prior to the congress, arrangements were made for delegates wishing to visit British Colleges of Physical Education and the National Recreation Centers. APWCPB assisted with these arrangements and also with visits to schools and demonstrations during the congress. In her paper, "The Place of Gymnastics in Education," Marie Crabbe used several gymnastic classes to illustrate the educational and movement principles she discussed. Audrey Hobbs, the other joint principal at Anstey, spoke about "The Place of Games in Sport and Education" highlighting the traditions and expectations of good sportsmanship and fair play as established in Great Britain. The APWCPB was invited to send a team of gymnasts to participate in the fourth congress in Washington in 1961, which

and gymnastics. Wendy Morrison, formerly of Dunfermline College, and Edith Stokes at Bedford led the team and gave the lectures. Delegates included Audrey Bambra, who was elected to the IAPESGW Executive Board. Also, Muriel Webster, Patricia Bown-West (Bedford), and Eileen Alexander presented the film "Not so Handicapped," in a working group on "Programmes for the Handicapped."

Between 1970 and 1976, major institutional changes took place in higher education in the UK with some specialist colleges merged to form Colleges of Higher Education, others incorporated within Polytechnics, and a few remained as free standing. As a direct result of these changes, the APWCPE was formally disbanded in April 1976.

Nonetheless, former APWCPE members continued to support IAPESGW, and do considerable work on its behalf. For example, Audrey Bambra continued to serve on the Executive Board until 1981; she was also a member of the constitutional sub-committee leading to the ratification of a new constitution in 1981. The *Bulletin of IAPESGW* was instituted in 1982, and Audrey became its first editor, a position she held until 1993. Demonstrating her flair for editing, each issue covered a wide range of activities, was interesting to read, informative and kept members up-to-date.

Patricia Bown-West took on the enormous task of chairing the organizing committee for the tenth congress in Warwick in 1985. [Editor's note: See the discussion of this congress in Chapter 1.] Audrey Bambra was also a member of the organizing committee. In 1985, Pat was elected one of two vice-presidents, and she was elected president in 1989, an office she held with distinction until 1997. Pat has a gift for language and showed wise leadership in managing the affairs of IAPESGW. These skills were based on sound professional knowledge, extensive experience in physical education and sport, and the implementation of a wide-ranging process of consultation. During her presidency, many initiatives were launched and carried through to completion from which IAPESGW certainly benefited. [Editor's note: See her brief biography in Chapter 2.] In 1997, the IAPESGW honored both Audrey and Pat by making them Honorary members of the Association.

APWCPE had always encouraged individuals, its members, staff of the specialist colleges, and other physical educators to become members of IAPESGW. The Physical Education Associations of Great Britain and Northern Ireland also took out memberships. They have promoted international co-operation and contributed to the development of physical education and sport for girls and women. Individual principals have given service as IAPESGW officers and members of the Executive Board and Council of Representatives, as well as contributing to each Congress. At a personal level, they have valued their visits to new countries with differing cultures and traditions, and enjoyed the many

friendships forged through attendance at meetings and congresses.

Members of APWCPE have succeeded in fulfilling the initial aims of IAPESGW as set out by Dorothy Ainsworth in 1949: "... meeting face-to-face, sharing ideas and experiences, learning from one another and gaining professional knowledge and wisdom through exchange."

UNITED STATES

Barbara Kelly

Although IAPESGW held its first international congress in 1949, the United States did not organize an official national section until 1961. That was the year that Dorothy Ainsworth appointed Catherine Allen as the first United States representative. Allen was an excellent choice for this post. During the course of seven congresses, she served on the Executive Board, was Committee Chair, gave major speeches, was a panelist, reactor and presenter, and she entertained congress participants as song leader and recreational dance director.

Honored in the United States with the most prestigious professional awards, Allen received an Honorary Doctor of Humane Letters from Northeastern University for her outstanding work as a teacher, administrator, and volunteer working for international understanding. She expressed great faith in the potential of IAPESGW to communicate and work with women throughout the world toward common professional goals. She believed that by working together professional women could transcend various political differences. She served as the United States representative until 1969, and was the recipient of the Dorothy Sears Ainsworth Award in 1989. Following her were Edith Betts, Dorothy Massey, Muriel Sloan, and Ruth Schellberg; the position is currently held by Barbara Kelly.

A number of individuals from the United States have held various IAPESGW international posts including: Helen Hazelton—presiding officer for the first international congress, vice president and secretary/treasurer; Mabel Shirley—1961 Congress Chair; Rachel Bryant—AAHPER program organizer for the 1961 Congress; Catherine Allen—Executive Board; Gwendolyn Drew—secretary/treasurer; Muriel Sloan—Vice-president; Barbara Kelly—acting Vice-president; Ruth Schellberg—current archivist; and Christine Shelton—current Vice-president.

The United States, and IAPESGW, owe a debt of gratitude to Hazel Peterson. Her biography of Dorothy Ainsworth has proved invaluable to individuals interested in Ainsworth's professional contributions. Another valuable contributor to the body of knowledge for girls and

education.

Darlene Kluka is active in several international and national sports organizations. She is Director of the ICHPERSD girls and women in sport commission, chair of the International Relations Council of AAHPERD, member of the Executive Board for ICSSPE, Vice-president for research of the International Academy of Sports Vision, delegate to the USOC from AAHPERD, and founding editor of the *International Journal of Volleyball Research*. She serves on the editorial boards for seven professional journals and has written a number of articles and textbooks on motor behavior, volleyball, and women and sport. She is a recent recipient of the George J. Fisher Volleyball Leader Award.

Christine Shelton currently serves as a Vice-president of IAPESGW. She is responsible for the organization and direction of the 50th Anniversary Conference being held at Smith College. She directs the Latin American Project for NAGWS, a position she has held since 1979. Shelton has headed delegations to sports conferences in Barbados, Costa Rica, Guatemala, and Venezuela. She received the NAGWS International Pathfinder Award in 1999.

The United States is privileged to have four members placed in the *IAPESGW Book of Honour*: founder Dorothy Ainsworth, author Helen Hazelton, dancer Evelyn Lockman, and humanitarian Muriel Sloan.

women in sport and physical education is Marlene Adrian, editor of the *Women in Sport and Physical Activity Journal*. Manuscripts on women-centered issues are solicited throughout the world for *WSPAJ*. The journal is affiliated with AAHPERD and IAPESGW. The Women's Sports Foundation has provided financial support for the journal's printing. Peer reviewed selections from the Lahti congress presentations in 1997 were published in *WSPAJ*.

No review of the contributions of IAPESGW United States members would be complete without highlighting five other individuals: Muriel Sloan, Ruth Schellberg, Jacqueline Haslett, Darlene Kluka and Christine Shelton. As a charter member of the United States section of IAPESGW, Sloan served as the United States representative from 1981-1984; she was on the Executive Board from 1985-1989, and was vice-president from 1990-1995. Her international academic appointments included a visiting professorship in Motor Learning and Curriculum Development at the University of Stellenbosch in South Africa, and a consultancy and lecturership for the Israel Ministry of Culture. In 1996, she received the first International Pathfinder Award granted by the National Association for Girls' and Women's Sports. This award was bestowed posthumously.

The fourth Dorothy Sears Ainsworth Award was presented to Ruth Schellberg for her outstanding international achievements. She was the United States representative from 1986-1994. Her enthusiasm for international work can best be summed up by Schellberg herself: "IAPESGW is a fantastic organization for the world friendship and understanding it engenders with our professional group." How many women in our profession have a gymnasium named for them? Schellberg had this honor bestowed on her by Mankato State University where she served as Department Chair for twenty-two years. She has also served as IAPESGW archivist for many years. Mette Winkler, IAPESGW Secretary/treasurer from 1977-89, in support of Schellberg's Ainsworth Award nomination, said: "I know of nobody who has been more devoted to the work for international understanding and women's rights and who has shown this devotion in practical work in many fields." An avid canoe camper, Schellberg is also an active participant in international congresses. She received the NAGWS International Pathfinder Award and the State of Minnesota Pathfinder Award in 1998.

Jacqueline Haslett has made several presentations at various international congresses. In recent years she served as guest professor at Chukyo University in Toyota, Japan. A long-time IAPESGW member, she received the Joseph McKenney Award for "devoted service to the profession" in 1998. Among other notable accomplishments, Haslett was cited for her extensive professional travel and her contributions to professional proceedings, which have influenced modern physical

with that in which the Association now has to operate—the differences and similarities between 1949 and 1999.

In 1949, the world was in the process of reconstruction after one of the most damaging and expensive conflicts of modern times; and education was a central part of that process of reconstruction, especially in countries that had been economically and physically damaged by the conflict and its aftermath. The end of the 1940s was a period of hope and the rebuilding of national pride and self-sufficiency, at least in the Western world. In other parts of Europe and Asia, nations were to remain separated and enclosed for another fifty years, albeit developing systems of sport and physical culture in ways from which the West still has much to learn. The late 1940s was also a time when single-sex education was commonly offered alongside co-educational provision, because it was accepted that countries could not afford to ignore the need for girls and boys to be educated to the same levels and to enjoy the same opportunities. This was another aspect of post-war thinking, which was informed in part by the role that women had played in sustaining their countries' economic, educational and domestic systems during the war.

Now, in 1999, we stand on the edge of a new Millennium and the tendency is to question what we are and where our world is going. During the last decade, we have also seen increased nostalgia for the past and repeated calls for the return of traditional values. This tendency to look to the past for reassurance is explained partly by the speed and nature of change during the last one or two decades, and uncertainty about how to deal with current challenges, let alone looking to the (unknown) future. I believe there are many parallels for IAPESGW as we celebrate the half-century of the Association, review its role and functions, and look forward to its second half-century.

Certainly, the preoccupations of the Executive Board during the last two years mirror those of their predecessors: maintaining and increasing membership; ensuring that there are members in all areas or regions of the world; deciding which membership services should be offered; establishing effective communication with both members and other organizations; deciding the nature of the Association's activities in physical education and sport, including priorities and urgencies; and ensuring the financial stability and sustainability of the Association. Other international voluntary organizations face many of the same dilemmas; but for IAPESGW the most fundamental question is whether there remains a need for an international organization which is dedicated to the interests of women and girls in and through physical education and sport.

To answer this question and look to the future, it is necessary first to acknowledge, appreciate, and try to understand the present, and to interpret the implications for the Association's current role and functions. In this chapter, I outline the characteristics and unresolved issues of 1999; the ways in which an international voluntary organization, dedicated to

Chapter 4

CHARTING THE FUTURE

by Margaret Talbot, President of IAPESGW

"... what's past is prologue, what to come
in yours and my discharge."

(From Shakespeare's "The Tempest":

Antonio to Sebastian, on his escape from shipwreck.)



Margaret Talbot

To write about the future of the International Association of Physical Education and Sport for Girls and Women is a daunting task, especially for a President only two years into her first term of office. It has always been difficult to predict the future accurately and with sensitivity. The task becomes even more daunting, when one considers how much faster now is the rate and extent of change, than it was when our foremothers began the Association 50 years ago. It may be useful, therefore, to compare the international context in which they worked,

the interests of women and girls, can and should operate; identify special opportunities and imperatives, like the developing international women and sport movement; highlight the central issues, dilemmas and actions which IAPESGW will be addressing as it grows and develops into its second half-century.

The present – patterns and unresolved issues

It is impossible in a short chapter to do more than highlight some of the challenges facing us in 1999, and their implications for the Association. The list I have produced is by no means exhaustive—but certainly presents significant challenges!

• **Continuing political changes**, led by the fall of communism as a political, economic, and social system, and the serious difficulties of changing whole nation-states into market-led democracies. This in turn has corresponded with a trend towards fragmentation of “nation-states” into units based on culture or ethnicity. As I write, the conflict over Kosovo continues and East Timor is another focus of nation versus cultural group interests. The implications for any international association are clear—how can we expect the development of physical education and sport to continue in such situations? Yet the interests of women and girls in times of conflict are important. The 50th Anniversary Congress at Smith College will feature one paper about the use of sport and physical education as a way of helping women and girls reconstruct their lives after the earlier conflicts and social disruption in Bosnia. Colleagues in the Sudan recently asked that their sisters in countries, which have never been disrupted by war, remember them and their interests, as they rebuild their lives and societies.

• **The perception that value systems and public morality are constantly changing**, and that nothing can be taken for granted. In many countries, there is growing concern about the future for young people, who are perceived not to enjoy the support of any belief system. The issue is not that they have bad values, but that they seem to have no value system at all to guide their choices and actions. The younger generation has always tested and challenged its elders, but there seems to be a growth in the seriousness of the differences in behavior. The drug culture in many countries is seen to be the focus (if not the cause) of the development of an under-class, in which crime, violence and promiscuity are endemic. Against this social background, the decline in Social Welfareism and the rise of the “New Right” have added to the gaps between “haves” and “have-nots” in modern society. Again, the question is what role physical education and sport can and should be playing, especially in the lives of girls and women. The Women’s Sports Foundation in the USA has published research which indicates that

young women who take part regularly in sport, have higher self esteem, are less likely to be sexually promiscuous, and are less likely to become pregnant early. We need much more investment in understanding the effects of physical education and sport on people’s lives and behavior; the need for good quality research has never been greater.

• **In most industrialized societies, there has been a decline in the manufacturing base and growth in the importance of service industries.** In Europe, sport and leisure account for 1.5% of the Gross National Product (GNP); and in the UK, there are now more jobs in sport and leisure than provided in total by the car industry and in agriculture, fisheries, and food. The vocational implications for physical education in the education system in such countries are clear. It is also possible to demonstrate the economic benefits of investment in sport and leisure from the point of view of employee health, avoidance of absenteeism, and corporate well-being. But the economic benefits of sport and physical education are more difficult to convey in countries whose economies remain dependent on agriculture, or whose economic basis remains crippled by international debt.

• **The gaps between so-called developed and less-developed nations continue to grow**, while the need for international collaboration and transfer of wealth (both material and expertise) has never been greater. This has been illustrated clearly by colleagues in Africa, Asia and Latin America, who struggle to provide programs of sport and physical education in their cities and rural areas, often without sustainable infrastructure—without a secure place for physical education in the education system, without facilities, without trained teachers, coaches and leaders; and without investment in the development of the necessary infrastructure. IAPESGW has an enormous amount to offer in sharing expertise and materials. The challenge is to find ways of identifying needs, matching them and sending what is needed, where it is needed. This requires finance and creative partnership with both governmental and non-governmental organizations, which is a very big challenge for a voluntary organization. The Association will need also to bridge gaps between countries in the northern and southern hemispheres, with attendant differences in wealth, and the widening gaps between rich and poor, within and between countries.

• **A further and very immediate bridge to build is between the so-called “West” and Islam.** It has been exciting during the last few years to work with colleagues in Islamic countries who wish to break down Western misperceptions of their religion. They are constantly frustrated that people in the West see Islam as homogeneous, and that we fail to recognize the enormous range of interpretations and presentations of their religion, which are mediated by culture, particular forms of patriarchy, politics and economics. For Islamic women and girls, just like females of other religions, sport and physical education are seen as

science, rather than becoming its poor relation in universities and colleges.

• While the sport and exercise sciences are growing in universities and colleges all over the world, the place of physical education in school curricula is under threat, declining, or in retreat. This is referred to as a "World Crisis in Physical Education". In November 1999, the International Council of Sports Sciences and Physical Education (ICSSPE), of which IAPESGW is a member organization, is hosting a World Summit on Physical Education, to try to put the case for inclusion in school curricula and to try to raise political support for investment in and value for the subject. One of our partner organizations within ICSSPE, the International Society for Comparative Physical Education and Sport (ISCPES), is leading an international audit to inform a summary of the current state and status of physical education in schools all over the world. Broadly, the general situation seems to be that there is less time available in school curricula; physical education specialists teachers are being retained and redeployed into other subjects; and schools are choosing to replace physical education with other "academic" subjects. There are several reasons for this: reduction in education budgets, even in countries with large percentages of their population at school age; parental concerns for qualifications and employment, and lack of recognition of physical education as a vocational subject; the lowly status of physical education within educational hierarchies; and the notion that community sports provision can replace school physical education. The crisis is of primary importance to many of our members, and represents a very real threat to women's participation in physical activity, since we know that girls depend on the school system, far more than do boys, who enjoy alternative systems of socialization, for learning their future sports skills. But the crisis also illustrates the need for the Association to work in partnership with others, and to develop political skills to influence political decisions.

• The role of women is being recognized in development and increasing sustainability among less developed regions of the world. Women's role in sustaining children and families has been extended to their contributions in economic production and education, and increasingly in political leadership, at local, national or regional level. Gender equity currently permeates development literature, and is a prerequisite criterion in many schemes of international development aid. Yet the interests of women and girls are not always visible within many mainstream sports development schemes in either developed and less developed countries. Sport is one of the most conservative and male-dominated social systems in modern society, and there remains a great deal of work to be done to ensure that women may contribute their talents and qualities within sports leadership, and have equal opportunity to achieve in all levels and in all roles. There are still many

important ways of expressing their bodily independence, self esteem, and personal growth. Some conditions of modesty and privacy about the context in which activities take place would be welcomed also by many non-Islamic women. People in the West need to learn to listen to what Islamic women are saying about their needs and interests in physical education and sport, and to help break down the myths, which have been created about the relationships between Islamic beliefs and women's participation in sport and physical activity. We also need to be aware that globalization, and the rise of a multi-national consumer society, conflict with, even widen, these inter-regional and inter-cultural differences.

• The immense advances in information technology and communication offer wonderful opportunities for members of international organizations to communicate more readily and cheaply; to network more effectively; and to take collective action and respond to policy proposals more swiftly and effectively. The technologies now available allow us to communicate large amounts of data and knowledge and to share awareness of trends and developments, which otherwise could take months to convey. Used creatively, the technology allows international organizations to operate in more efficient and effective ways, and to increase communication with and between its members. But many people in different parts of the world do not have access to or the confidence to use this technology. Whether because we lack expertise, equipment, networks, skills or confidence, many of our members will remain dependent upon the written word for some time; not everyone has access even to a FAX machine. It will therefore be important to ensure that members are not divided by the possession or non-possession of this technology, and that those without it are not disenfranchised from playing a full part in members' dialogue and contributions.

• We need also to use the knowledge and communication skills we have, to help women in more traditional societies (from all religions and in all parts of the world) to break down the myths which are still widely held, about the potential dangers and harm caused by women and girls taking part in physical activity. The task rather is to promote and disseminate the benefits for women and girls of participation and achievement in sport and physical education. More difficult, but essential, we should be willing to use our knowledge and expertise to challenge practices and behavior, which are taken for granted in modern sport, yet which physically and psychologically damage girls and women. It is of course no accident that the courageous work currently being developed in the area of child protection and sexual harassment in sport, has been led by women, many of them IAPESGW members.

• IAPESGW and its members can help to develop more inclusive approaches to sports science and coaching which value girls' and women's experiences and perspectives. Physical education especially needs to work harder to direct and lead the development of sports

functions to be fulfilled for an association dedicated to the interests of women and girls in physical education and sport!

1999 – looking to the future

As I have tried to show, even understanding the challenges of the present is a complex and demanding task. Add to this, the speed and lack of predictability of change; and uncertainty about the future, and how to plan for it (shown by the acceptance by many large businesses that they can plan only in 5-year cycles at most, notwithstanding the needs for long term investment and development). These factors underline our absolute need to understand the current context as the basis for future trends; and the imperative that we are able to identify and articulate our core values as an Association. These are the bases for the strategic, organizational development we need to set in motion in order that the Association has a future, and which we hope will progress at the 50th Anniversary Conference at Smith College in July 1999.

This requires that we identify and articulate our core values, while at the same time being aware of, and informed about, the context in which we operate. Our core values are reasonably well articulated within the current Constitution: the development of physical education and sport; the professional development and sharing of information and good practice among women working in physical education and sport; and furthering the interests of women and girls in and through physical education and sport. I am convinced that an organization dedicated to these functions remains necessary, while other organizations and institutions are still so influenced by male domination of wealth and property, academic and professional agendas. It is relatively easy to illustrate the universality of gender differences in access to sport and physical activity (with girls enjoying far less opportunities than boys, and with differences more marked in some countries than others); the limited progress women have made towards equity in coaching, leadership, and administration, especially at national and international levels; the fact that women academics and professionals in these areas enjoy far less opportunities than men to participate and present at national and international conferences, with consequent detriment to their career opportunities; and that the current world-wide obsession with so-called “rational planning” in sports and other governmental organizations actually detracts from organizations’ commitment to development and gender equity. The question needs to be addressed: who sets the agendas, and leads and controls the resources for the following areas of sport and physical education?

- At pre-school stage;
- in/at school, and after school;

- as life-long learning;
- as professional preparation and development;
- as an academic field of study;
- as research;
- as a profession;
- what is professed - who and where are the women professors?

Part of the role of the Association is the ongoing vigilance about women’s influence in these areas, and to take action to improve women’s place and status. IAPESGW will need to work with other organizations, whose interests overlap and support these intentions. Just like the 1998 Windhoek Call for Action, which was an attempt to convert the principles of the 1994 Brighton Declaration on Women and Sport into action, there is a need to work with organizations in other sectors—in education, health, development and social justice—which also have the interests of women and girls as their central concern. The international women and sport movement has shown over the last decade that changes can be brought about by stating clear objectives and using leverage to implement change at national and international levels, although much remains to be achieved. IAPESGW is now working within the International Working Group on women and sport, along with WomenSport International, and governmental representatives from various regions of the world. Our unique role in developing physical education for girls and women is recognized by the International Olympic Committee, and organizations like the World Health Organization, and the Foundation for Olympic and Sport Education, whose investment allows members of the Association to travel and contribute to development activities, which support women’s and girls’ involvement in sport and physical education. The Association’s place within ICSSPE allows it to take a leading role in the work to address the world crisis in Physical Education, recognizing the particular contribution which school physical education makes to girls’ learning of the physical skills and knowledge they require for future participation in physical activity.

Avert the ‘World Crisis in Physical Education’ by establishing and strengthening quality physical education programmes as key means for positive introduction to young girls of the skills and other benefits they can acquire through sport. Further, create policies and mechanisms that ensure progression from school to community-based activity. (1998 Windhoek Call for Action on Women and Sport)

Achieving this across the world would be a significant step towards establishing a sustainable infrastructure for the development of

women's and girls' sport and physical education. The present and future challenge for IAPESGW is to identify and address the areas of capacity building, which will contribute most to that end, while at the same time, building the capacity of the Association itself to achieve its goals, maintain its member services and communications, and respond to changing needs and contexts. All organizations have their own life cycles, including birth, maturity, atrophy and death, unless there are compelling reasons for them to develop, change, and grow. Mission and belief in the work to be done are clearly important, but alone cannot sustain an organization unless there is the willingness to develop the capacity for continuous problem-solving, the capacity to recognize relevant problems and challenges, and people with the necessary knowledge and skills to address them. As an organization, whose work and future depends on the efforts of volunteers, IAPESGW will need to maximize the extent to which it can mobilize the collective and individual resources which its members can bring, while making the work attractive and worthwhile to those who contribute. IAPESGW's current and future leaders will need to develop the skills to manage the variety and diversity of the members in the Association, in order to make the best of the range of experiences, abilities, and perceptions of its members.

The United Nations has pointed out that eliminating differences in access to education does not remedy inequities in the structure of education. IAPESGW and its members have a unique role in physical and sport education, in evaluating their content, their methods and forms of delivery and leadership, their ideology and the effects of the sport culture, and in providing positive role models and images. They have the opportunity not only to extend "entitlement" (the right to resources) to sport and physical education, but to empower girls and women, by facilitating the "skills, access and other resources that make it possible to exercise (that) entitlement" to sport and physical education.

My dream and future vision is that every girl is able to exercise her entitlement to a full range of opportunities for physical activity and sport; that women's and girls' contributions to physical education and sport are routinely valued; that women are customarily involved in leading educational practice and research in physical education and sport; that research and the development of knowledge includes and is enriched by women's and girls' experiences; that professional organizations are committed to valuing diversity and promoting equity (whether as mixed- or single-sex organizations); that the systems of physical education and sport are inclusive, pluralist, and comprehensive in countries all over the world; and that equity and social justice are guiding principles for the practice of sport and physical education. IAPESGW has the opportunity to contribute towards that dream.

APPENDIX

OFFICERS AND EXECUTIVE BOARD OF IAPESGW

1949-53	Continuing Committee Chair: Dorothy Ainsworth (USA) Vice-chair: Doris Plewes (Canada)		
1953-57	President: Dorothy Ainsworth (USA) Vice-President: Maria Therèse Eyquem (France)		

The first constitution approved in 1957 stipulated that the Officers be comprised of a President, two Vice-presidents, and a Secretary/Treasurer. The Executive Board was composed of the Officers plus six persons selected by the Council of Representatives from diversified world areas (but sometimes it was larger). The Council of Representatives was comprised of one representative from each member country.

1957-61	President: Dorothy Ainsworth (USA) Vice-Presidents: Maria Therèse Eyquem (France) Muriel Webster (UK) Helen Hazelton (USA) Francisca Aquino (Philippines) Gilda Komera Brest (Argentina) Liselott Diem (Fed. Rep. of Germany) Kathleen McDonald (Australia) Iveagh Munro (Canada) Isabelle Nel (South Africa)		
	Sec/Treasurer: Helen Hazelton (USA) Francisca Aquino (Philippines) Exec. Board:		

At the 1961 General Assembly, it was decided that "in view of the qualifications and contributions of the candidates for presidency "[Eyquem and Diem], the position of First Vice-President was created for the next term. It was suppose to be a temporary position, but the practice of three vice-presidents continued until 1981. Dorothy Ainsworth was also made a member of the Executive Board, which she was until the time of her death in 1976.

1961-65	President: Maria Therèse Eyquem (France) Vice-Presidents: Liselott Diem (Fed. Rep. of Germany) Helen Hazelton (USA) Muriel Webster (UK) Andrée Jacquot (France) Dorothy Ainsworth (USA) Francisca Aquino (Philippines) Tora Armyloug (Sweden) Asikiyo Iyo (Nigeria) Kathleen McDonald (Australia)		
	Sec/Treasurer: Andrée Jacquot (France) Exec. Board:		

Dorothy Ainsworth (USA)
Catherine Allen (USA)
Audrey Bambara (UK)
Fernanda Barosso Beltrão (Brazil)
Ingrid de Figueiredo (Portugal)
Elly Friedmann (Israel)
Eunice Gill (Australia)
Jarmila Kostkova (Czechoslovakia)
Chiyo Matsumoto (Japan)
Liisa Orko (Finland)

President: Liselott Diem (Fed. Rep. of Germany)
Vice-Presidents: Isabelle Nel (South Africa)
Ezzat Firnia (Iran)
Helene Tollich (Austria)
Mette Winkler (Denmark)
Catherine Allen (USA)

Sec/Treasurer: Audrey Bambara (UK)
Fernanda Barosso Beltrão (Brazil)
Elly Friedmann (Israel)
Eunice Gill (Australia)
Helga Holze (Argentina)
Jarmila Kostkova (Czechoslovakia)
Chiyo Matsumoto (Japan)
Liisa Orko (Finland)
Meria Oeyza (Philippines)
Maria Vrancken (Belgium)

A new constitution was approved in 1981. It stipulated that the Executive Board be comprised of the President, two Vice-presidents, two members elected by the Council of Representatives, plus not more than two members co-opted from the Council of Representatives, and one member from the country which held the last Congress. No member of the Executive Board could serve more than two terms.

President: Helene Tollich (Austria)
Vice-Presidents: Dorothy Massey (USA)
Isabelle Nel (South Africa)
Mette Winkler (Denmark)
Audrey Bambara (UK)
Fernanda Barosso Beltrão (Brazil)
Helga Holze (Argentina)
Chiyo Matsumoto (Japan)

Sec/Treasurer:

Exec. Board:

1977-81

Iveagh Munro (Canada)
Ezzat Firnia (Iran)
Josefa Lora de Ribeyro (Peru)

President: Liselott Diem (Fed. Rep. of Germany)
Vice-Presidents: Isabelle Nel (South Africa)
Haru Tokura (Japan)
Muriel Webster (UK)

Sec/Treasurer: Gwendolyn Drew (USA)
Carmen Adevosca (Philippines)
Dorothy Ainsworth (USA)

Exec. Board: Ezzat Firnia (Iran)
Iveagh Munro (Canada)
Andrée Jacquot (France)
Liisa Orko (Finland)
Ezzat Firnia (Iran)

Josefa Lora de Ribeyro (Peru)

President: Liselott Diem (Fed. Rep. of Germany)
Vice-Presidents: Isabelle Nel (South Africa)
Ezzat Firnia (Iran)
Muriel Webster (UK)

Sec/Treasurer: Gwendolyn Drew (USA)
Carmen Adevosca (Philippines)
Dorothy Ainsworth (USA)

Exec. Board: Catherine Allen (USA)
Tora Amylong (Sweden)
Fernanda Barosso Beltrão (Brazil)
Elly Friedmann (Israel)
Eunice Gill (Australia)
Andrée Jacquot (France)
Chiyo Matsumoto (Japan)
Liisa Orko (Finland)
Helene Tollich (Austria)

Liselott Diem (Fed. Rep. of Germany)
Isabelle Nel (South Africa)
Ezzat Firnia (Iran)
Helene Tollich (Austria)

President:

Sec/Treasurer:

Exec. Board:

President:

Sec/Treasurer:

Exec. Board:

President:

Sec/Treasurer:

Exec Board:

1965-69

1969-73

1973-77

DOROTHY SEARS AINSWORTH AWARD

The Dorothy Sears Ainsworth Award, with a prize of \$500, was initiated originally to recognize scholarly papers by members. The focus of the first contest in 1981 was "non-discrimination," and the theme of the second contest in 1985 was co-education in physical education and sport and its influence on girls and women. After this, however, the award was given to a member who had contributed to the field of physical education and sport in order to further the aims of the Association. In 1997, the award seems to have reverted back to its original purpose and was given in recognition of outstanding scholarly work in the fields of Physical Education, Sport, Dance, Health or Recreation for girls and women.

1981	Atara Sherman (Israel)
1985	Gertrud Pfister (Fed. Republic of Germany)
1987	Catherine Allen (USA)
1993	Ruth Schellberg (USA)
1997	Gabriele Klein (Germany)

LYNN VENDIEN AWARD

This award is intended for members who have exhibited a leadership role in contributing to the improvement in the quality of life of girls and women, through physical education and sport (e.g., multi-cultural integration, sport for all, service to the community, etc.) The award is given for a current project only.

1997	Ofra Gafni (Israel)
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HONORARY MEMBERS

Honorary membership is given to members who have made a significant contribution to the work of the Association, and shall be for life.

1981	Liselott Diem (Fed. Republic of Germany)
1987	Lisa Orko (Finland)
1993	Helene Tollich (Austria)
	Patricia Bowen-West (United Kingdom)
	Audrey Bambara (United Kingdom)
	Chiyo Matsumoto (Japan)
	Isabelle Nel (South Africa)

1985-89	President: Helene Tollich (Austria)
	Vice-Presidents: Patricia Bowen-West (UK)
	Chiyo Matsumoto (Japan)
	Mette Winkler (Denmark)
Exec. Board:	Fernanda Barosso Beltrao (Brazil)
	Mary Rison (Greece)
	Muriel Sloan (USA)
	Ute Wasmund-Bodenstedt (Fed. Republic of Germany)

1989-93	President: Patricia Bowen-West (UK)
	Vice-Presidents: Chiyo Matsumoto (Japan)
	Muriel Sloan (USA)
	Janet Grier (Australia)
Exec. Board:	Mien Goudowidjo (Indonesia)
	Margaret Talbot (UK)
	Julika Ullmann (Austria)
	Ute Wasmund-Bodenstedt (Germany)

1993-97	President: Patricia Bowen-West (UK)
	Vice-Presidents: Arnevi Lassila (Finland)
	Muriel Sloan (USA - died in 1993 and was replaced by Acting Vice-Pres. Barbara Kelly, USA)
Sec/Treasurer:	Janet Grier (Australia)
Exec. Board:	Atara Sherman (Israel)
	Margaret Talbot (UK)
	Julika Ullmann (Austria)

1997-2001	President: Margaret Talbot (UK)
	Vice-Presidents: Christine Shelton (USA)
	Julika Ullmann (Austria)
Sec/Treasurer:	Pauline Weiton (UK)
Exec. Board:	Ritta Asanti (Finland)
	Margot Crummenner (Germany - died in 1997)
	Shulamith Kavit (Israel)
	Doreen Solomons (Rep. of South Africa)

CONGRESSES

1st	1949	Copenhagen, Denmark
2nd	1955	Paris, France
3rd	1957	London, England
4th	1961	Washington, D.C., USA
5th	1965	Köln, Federal Republic of Germany
6th	1969	Tokyo, Japan
7th	1973	Teheran, Iran
8th	1977	Cape Town, South Africa
9th	1981	Buenos Aires, Argentina
10th	1985	Warwick, England
11th	1988	Bali, Indonesia
12th	1993	Melbourne, Australia
13th	1997	Lahti, Finland

About the Authors

Ann Hall is a Professor Emeritus at the University of Alberta in Canada and a Visiting Research Fellow at De Montfort University in England, where she occasionally lectures. She has written extensively on the topic of women in sport and has presented at dozens of conferences internationally. Her most recent book is *Feminism and Sporting Bodies: Essays on Theory and Practice* (Human Kinetics, 1996), and she is presently completing a new book called *The Girl and the Game: A Century of Women's Sport in Canada* to be published by Broadview Press. She serves on the editorial board of several academic journals, and is co-editor of the "Sport and Culture" book series published by the University of Minnesota Press.

Gertrud Pfister studied Latin, physical education, history and sociology in Munich and Regensburg. She has been a Professor of sport history and sociology at the Free University in Berlin since 1981. President of the International Society for the History of Physical Education and Sport, and Vice-president of the German Gymnastic Federation, she is also chair of the IAPESGW Committee of Consultants. She has published several books and numerous articles, among them *Sport im Lebenszusammenhang von Frauen* (Hofmann, 1999) and *Fliegen - ihr Leben. Die ersten Pilotinnen* (Orlana, 1989). She is currently working on a book about women and sport in Turkey. She loves all kinds of sport activities but mostly skiing, tennis, and jogging.