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Welcome to this issue of the PSE Newsletter of the Fédération Européenne de Psychologie des Sport et des Activités Corporelles (FEPSAC; European Federation of Sport Psychology).

FEPSAC General Assembly 2015

FEPSAC General Assembly took place on the 16th of July 2015 during the 14th European Congress held in Bern, Switzerland. A new Managing Council for the term 2015–2019 was elected: Anne-Marie Elbe as President (University of Copenhagen); both Markus Raab (German Sport University of Cologne) and Xavier Sanchez (University of Cumbria, Lancaster) as Vice-presidents; Antonis Hatzigeorgiadis (University of Thessaly) as Treasurer; Nadine Debois (French Institute of Sport, Expertise, and Performance) as Secretary General; and as regular MC members were elected Maurizio Bertollo (University G. d’Annunzio University of Chieti-Pescara), Rita de Oliveira (London South Bank University), Karin Moesch (Swedish Sports Confederation), and Lisa Vaisetaite (National Olympic Committee of Lithuania).

Moreover, FEPSAC membership decided unanimously in favor of the new statues. Basically, FEPSAC is today a legal International Non-Profit Association (INPA) with its registered office located in Belgium.

FEPSAC 14th Congress: “Theories and applications for performance, health and humanity” Bern, Switzerland

Last July, our 14th Congress of FEPSAC attracted a record number of 730 participants from 57 different countries. Six keynote lectures, 8 special sessions, 81 thematic symposia, 38 workshops and over 400 poster presentations completed the programme. Post-Congress feedback from more than 550 participants showed that opportunities for networking, using the Congress as a platform for in-person meetings with colleagues as well as access to the latest research findings and best practices topped the reasons to participate.

Young Researchers Award

The Young Researchers Award organized by the MC Member Antonis Hatzigeorgiadis and led by Jury President by Jürgen Beckmann included oral and poster presentations. The jury for the oral presentation consisted of Claudia Völcker-Rehage, Mark Williams, Maurizio Bertollo, Nancy Cooke, and Sabine Würth while the jury for the poster presentation consisted of Judy Van Raalte, Chris Harwood and Panteleimon Ekkekakis.

Winners of oral presentation

1st Place: Ruud J.R. Den Hartigh (University of Groningen): The Interconnection between athletes psychological momentum processes during and across matches.

2nd Place: Till Utesch (University of Münster): Investigating the differentiation and stability of the concept of motor abilities across childhood.

3rd Place: Alain Brechbühl (University of Bern): Perceptions of difficult situations involving football fans: the dynamics of conflict escalation or non-escalation.

Winners of poster presentation

1st Place: Christine Marie Habeeb (University of Stirling): Efficacy-performance relationships within performing dyads.

2nd Place: Tsz Lun Chu (University of North Texas): Goal Contents as Predictors of Exercise Motivation and Outcomes among College Freshmen: A Self-Determination Theory Perspective.

3rd Place: Nina Maria Jokuschies (University of Bern): Coach-the-scientist? Coaches'
subjective talent criteria in top level soccer.


50th anniversary celebration in Cologne

The Institute of Psychology at the German Sport University Cologne celebrated their 50 year anniversary! Founded a few years before FEPSAC, we are happy to look back at a long and fruitful cooperation between us. For instance, the 8th Congress of FEPSAC took place in Cologne in 1991 (organized mainly by Jürgen Nitsch, Roland Seiler and Henning Almer); Markus Raab (as at the time regular MC member) hosted a FEPSAC MC Meeting in December 2011. Last but not least, Jürgen Nitsch delivered the Keynote “Sport and Exercise Psychology Re-evaluated: Blind Sports and New Challenges” at the 40th FEPSAC anniversary held in Paris, France.

Producing and sharing knowledge in the world of sport (2015 PhD course, University of Copenhagen, Denmark)

Summary provided by Chelsey Dempsey and Ben David Jones (Bangor University), and by Dennis Redlich (University of Thessaly – University of Leipzig), Julian Fritsch (University of Thessaly – University of Copenhagen), Ricarda Stern (University of Kassel), Juliane Pietschmann (University of Paderborn) and Melanie Mack (University of Leipzig).

The PhD course attracted 34 young scientists from 11 different countries. Besides the cultural uniqueness and the famous pølsevogne (hot dog stands) of Denmark’s capital, the guiding idea “Producing and sharing knowledge in the world of sport” was the main reason to spend the first week of November 2015 at the University of Copenhagen. The course was aimed at PhD students who study in sport and exercise psychology, and provided a mix of student research presentations and staff-lead workshops. These workshops included ‘Applied observations’ with Greg Diment (Team Danmark), ‘Introduction to meta-analysis’ with Antonis Hatzigeorgiadis (University of Thessaly), ‘Introduction to scale development’ with Maria Kavussanu (University of Birmingham), and ‘Submitting your first sport psychology manuscript for publication’ with Xavier Sanchez (University of Cumbria, Lancaster), amongst others.

The course content was rich in new information, but it was the networking opportunities and friendships that were formed which proved priceless. It was a privilege to meet so many enthusiastic and motivated peers from around the world, and we are looking forward to our path crossing again. In addition, delegates had the opportunity to present their own PhD project during the week. Because of the importance to process the valuable input from research experts and colleagues, additional time for discussions, reflections and to fill the memory was not only offered during coffee-breaks. The organizing team also created best opportunities to discuss the new knowledge and (of course!) also non-academic topics outside of the classroom. A boat trip encouraged the students to get to know each other as well as Copenhagen from the seaside. An ultimate-Frisbee tournament made sure that the physical part did not miss out and broke up the last inhibitions between the participants. Finally, a few evenings in the local pubs made a close community out of single attendees and scholars.

During these five days delegates shared, produced and developed knowledge in the field of sport, and further set the starting point for networks and maybe even life-long friendships. We would highly recommend this course to any postgraduates in sport psychology and neighboring disciplines.
Forthcoming FEPSAC events
BASES-FEPSAC Conference to be held in Nottingham, UK (28–29 November 2017).
FEPSAC European Congress to be held in Münster, Germany, (15–20 July 2019).

FEPSAC and social media
Twitter (https://twitter.com/FEPSAC_MC).

On behalf of the MC, I would like to thank all those who contributed to the making of this Newsletter. I look forward to receiving more contributions for forthcoming Issues so do not hesitate to send them by e-mail to office@fepsac.com.