

2004 Pre-Olympic Congress 6–11 August 2004, Thessaloniki

The *Aristotle University of Thessaloniki* hosted this year's Pre-Olympic Congress. The Conferences were entitled "Sport Sciences through the Ages. Challenges in the New Millennium" and included many disciplines of sport science which are assembled under the roof of the International Council for Sport Science and Physical Education (ICSSPE).

Invited Speakers (in total 243!) and general participants held keynote lectures, interdisciplinary round table discussions and socratic debates on the different fields of sport. The historical research was mostly embodied in sessions entitled "Sport History and Philosophy" – two completely different research projections with one common attribute: both belong to the field of humanities. Only sociology was considered separately from humanities while "exact sciences" were divided into a large field of about 20 different categories, even dance was an autonomous session. During a congress in combination with the Olympic Games should be drawn more attention to COUBERTIN'S values and the philosophy of the Olympic Movement than to Biomechanics, Physiology and Biochemistry.

The attendance of 1,200 participants from nearly all countries all over the world suggests the congress was very successful.

There is however one area of criticism. It is becoming an unfortunate trend not to edit and formally publish proceedings. It has become more usual to issue a book of abstracts and to ask the conference visitors to publish their articles within journals and magazines.

This seems to have been the case at this conference: KLISSOURAS, Vasilis / KELLIS, Spyros / MOURATIDIS, Ioannis (eds.), *Sport Science through the Ages. 2004 Pre-Olympic Congress. 6-11 August 2004. Thessaloniki/Hellas. Proceedings* [!], 2 vols. [Lectures – Orals and Posters], Thessaloniki 2004, 1096 p.

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