

## **Message from the ISCPES President**

December 2023

Dear All,

The 22<sup>nd</sup> Biennial ISCPES congress, held in Thiruvananthapuram City, Kerala State, India, from October 31<sup>st</sup> to November 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2023, was a resounding success. The event, hosted by Lakshmibai National College of Physical Education (LNCPE) and supported by the Sport Authority of India and the Ministry of Youth and Sport, centred around the theme "Sport and Physical Education: Experiences in and Post-Pandemic Period." The conference showcased meticulous organisation, encompassing 9 keynote sessions, 48 oral presentations, 9 posters, and 3 panel sessions. Distinguished speakers hailing from 17 countries, including Chile, China, England, Germany, India, Japan, Korea, Italy, Malaysia, Mexico, New Zealand, Puerto Rico, Slovakia, Spain, the United Arab Emirates, the United States of America, and Venezuela, enriched the intellectual discourse.

A noteworthy pre-workshop conference dedicated to Yoga, featuring experts from various regions in India and supported by the Morarji Desai National Institute of Sport, added a unique dimension to the conference. Participants also had the opportunity to partake in enriching cultural activities, including a visit to the National Sport Centre of Excellence in Alleppey. A comprehensive report on the congress by Sanjay Kumar Prajapati, a local organising committee member, is available on the ISCPES webpage for those seeking detailed information.

The congress served as a conducive platform for academic exchange and networking, allowing attendees to connect with familiar faces and new acquaintances within the ISCPES community. Notably, the founders, Dr G. Kishore and Dr Usha Nair, demonstrated exceptional dedication in securing substantial support from India's Ministry of Youth and Sport and the Sport Authority over a year, facilitating the realisation of the event.

Commendations are also due to the local organisers' outstanding efficiency in hosting the congress and providing essential support to speakers and participants. The warmth and hospitality extended by our Indian colleagues left a lasting impression on all attendees.

The significance of the ISCPES awards ceremony cannot be overstated. The Lynn Vendien Best Paper Award was conferred upon Mr Jathin Punitha and Mark Cooke for their research on the Validity and Reliability of Stance Beam Cricket Bat for Remote Coaching and Field Training, with a monetary prize of \$400 from ISCPES. The Young Research Awards recognised outstanding researchers, including Kashish Pandey & Khushbo K, Punshiba Yengkhom & K Ravishankar, Tanu Shree Yadav, Pooja Yadav, and Ankit Choudhary & Premraj Saini, each receiving a \$300 prize donated by Dr Walter Ho.

During the general assembly on November 2<sup>nd</sup>, elections were conducted for various board positions, leading to the introduction of the 2023-2025 International Society for Comparative Physical Education and Sport (ISCPES) Board. The diverse and dynamic

composition of the Board, with representatives from various global locations, signifies a promising era for the Society:

Rosa López de D'Amico	Venezuela (President)
Gopinathan Kishore	India (Vice-president)
Usha Nair	India (Secretary)
Jennie Yang Xie	China (Membership Coordinator)
María Gutierrez	Spain (Treasurer)
Klaudia Rafael	Slovakia (Research Coordinator)
Antonio Campos	Spain (Europe Representative)
Oswaldo Ceballos	Mexico (America Representative)
Francisco Serrano	New Zealand (Oceania Representative)
Naoki Suzuki	Japan (Asia Representative)
Maria Luisa Guinto	Philippines (Journal Chief Editor)
Pedro Carvalho	Portugal (Past President)

Dr Walter Ho, former president of ISCPES, was also invited to the Board, given his consistent and active involvement in various projects of the Society. His valued guidance and advice will surely benefit the current Board.

A special acknowledgement is extended to Dr Maria Luisa Guinto, Chief Editor, and her dedicated team, including Dr Klaudia Rafael, Yang Yang Xie, Ivan Li Quin, and Dr Walter Ho, for their tireless efforts in overcoming challenges to produce the 2023 journal issues. As the Society looks toward the future, there is an invitation for new academics to engage with the journal, while the newsletter is actively seeking contributions.

Despite ongoing challenges, the ISCPES remains committed to its strategic plan, with new projects in the pipeline. The invitation is open to all interested individuals to join and support the Society's endeavours, emphasising the importance of adapting to new realities and embracing diversity. International work within ISCPES is a beautiful and enlightening experience that broadens perspectives and strengthens global connections, making it an invaluable opportunity for those interested in advancing the field of academia.

**Rosa López de D'Amico**