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## In This Issue ...

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## EDITORIAL

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## In This Issue . . .

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### **Aquatic Events During May–June 2014**

As you read this issue, the XII Biomechanics and Medicine in Swimming Conference will be underway at the Australian Institute of Sport (AIS), in Canberra, Australia from Monday, April 28, through Friday, May 2, 2014. I will update you on interesting papers and events at this symposium in the next issue.

At the same time, the European University of Madrid is hosting the first Spanish International Conference on Drowning Prevention, Lifesaving, and Water Rescue (SICOD) 2014, between Friday, May 9, to Sunday, May 11. SICOD 2014 aims to be “a forum . . . to share research, experiences, and ideas and to stimulate debate on current issues and controversies related to water safety, first aid, water rescue and intervention, lifesaving, lifeguarding, education, drowning epidemiology and research, aquatic prevention and surveillance, water safety in pools, beaches and natural settings, swimming education, risk assessment, technology and devices for water safety and rescue, lifeguard training, water safety support for developing and third world countries, and water rescue organizations and service.

Later in May (from May 29–30, 2014), the 7th International Scientific Symposium on “Science and Swimming” is being hosted by the Institute of Physical Activity in Water Environment, University School of Physical Education in Wroclaw, Poland. The “exchange of views and experiences . . . [and] present the results of scientific research . . . [and it] is also dedicated to make intercollegiate, scientific, educational, and organizational contacts.” Use the following URL to obtain additional information about this symposium: <http://www.scienceandswimming.awf.wroc.pl>.

### **International Aquatic Events Later in 2014**

#### **2014 Lifesaving Foundation Drowning Prevention Conference, Dublin, Ireland**

A key conference that will meet later in 2014 is The Lifesaving Foundation’s Drowning Prevention and Water Rescue Conference at the Bracken Court Hotel, Balbriggan, County Dublin, Ireland from September 30 to October 2. According to the Lifesaving Foundation’s Winter 2013 Newsletter, the conference includes general presentations especially examples from the *Handbook on Drowning* (2nd edition) and jointly on the International Life Saving Federation’s Can You Swim Project / Lifesaving Foundation’s Why Swimmers Drown Project.

Anyone interested in attending the conference in a non-presenting role may do so as a Foundation member who registers and pays the appropriate attendance fee. Available details on the conference can be accessed on the conference website that is linked from the main Lifesaving Foundation website home page, <http://www.lifesavingfoundation.ie/conference/>. Accommodations can be secured through the venue website <http://www.brackencourt.ie/>.

## In This Issue – May 2014 8(2)

This May issue of our eighth volume of the *International Journal of Aquatic Research and Education* features a range of papers of very different types and topics. There are several interesting, unique, and purposefully provocative educational papers. I offer these fine and diverse pieces of scholarship to our loyal subscribers and readers for your enjoyment and edification.

My editorial leading off the issue is a living tribute to an outstanding aquatic professional who I am privileged to call friend: Louise Priest, former Executive Director of the Council for National Cooperation in Aquatics (CNCA) and founder and editor of the *National Aquatic Journal*. It has been my personal and professional honor to have known Louise since the early 1980s. I invite you to learn more about this remarkable woman and all she has contributed to our field by reading the editorial.

### Invited Review

We label this first article, “Competitive Swim Start Safety,” as an “invited review,” but it is really a lengthy research paper that overviews the authors’ extensive line of inquiry into safety factors related to racing starts. Andrew Cornett of Eastern Michigan University has led this research team, with other members from the Council Center for Aquatic Research at Indiana University, and includes Josh White, Brian Wright, and Joel Stager. Regular readers should recognize the previous papers by these authors that all have previously been published in *IJARE*. I predict this article may become one of the classic papers so far published in our journal.

### Original Research Article

The sole original research article in this issue, “A Narrative Investigation Into Dimensions of Experience at an Outdoor Aquatic Facility: A Pool Is More Than a Place to Swim,” also comes from the State of Indiana. Lead author, Austin Anderson, is from the University of Southern Indiana (Evansville) while William Ramos and Susan Middlestadt are from Indiana University (Bloomington). This study is a qualitative study investigating how users identify with their aquatic facility with which I certainly could identify.

## Educational Articles

This issue contains three educational articles. The first, “Risk Management in Swimming Education,” was submitted by Marek Rejman and Wojciech Wiesner in an effort to identify some of the unique elements of aquatic risk management associated with swimming and water safety instruction in their native Poland.

The second educational article comes from Wesley Bradford from the MIOX Corporation out of New Mexico. “What Bathers Put Into a Pool: A Critical Review of Body Fluids and a Body Fluid Analog” is one of the infrequent papers we have received concerning water chemistry. It is a bit technical, but it will be a good review for those of us who have not had chemistry since high school or college.

The final educational article, “Media, Risk, and Prevention: Lessons for Aquatic Safety From Newsworthy Deaths – Precipice for Prevention or Just good Tales?” comes from a group of authors from James Cook University in Queensland, Australia. These authors include Richard Franklin, Jemma King, Kerianne Watt, Peter Aiken, and Peter Leggat. If you are a fan of the “Darwin Awards” as I am, you may find this paper interesting. If nothing else, I predict you will have to shake your head at some of the human actions that lead to drowning incidents.

## Scientific Review

The American Red Cross Scientific Advisory Council (specifically the Aquatic Subcouncil) has conducted a scientific review about policies, guidelines, and general rules associated with group outings to aquatic venues. Ms. Terri Lees has lead this investigation and serves as the lead author. This review is in two parts. The first and overall summary is published in the print version of this issue, while the second half that contains the annotated bibliography of references is only included in the online version of the issue due to page restrictions. Readers who may be responsible for leading educational groups to swimming outings will want to review the findings represented in this review.

## Media Review

I conclude this issue with a media review of Susan J. Grosse’s latest publication, *Aquatics for Children with Challenges*. This spiral-bound manual, published in 2014 by DSL, Ltd for the Aquatic Therapy & Rehab Institute as a course text, provides a very practical and useful set of guidelines for working with differently-abled children. I believe those interested in adapted aquatics may find the review interesting and may want to purchase a copy of this manual.

Our next issue of *IJARE* in August 2014 is already being organized and I expect several very interesting articles. Until then, may you enjoy continued good reading and safe swimming.