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In This Issue ...

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EDITORIALS

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In This Issue . . .

It seems hard for me to believe that this is the end of the third volume, that is, the twelfth issue, of the *International Journal of Aquatic Research and Education*. I hope readers will find this issue another interesting and informative collection of papers from around the world.

Submit Your Abstracts and Papers for Oslo!

As I promised to provide readers in the August issue of IJARE, more information is now available about the XIth International Symposium on Biomechanics and Medicine in Swimming being hosted in Oslo, Norway, June 16-19, 2010 by the Norwegian School of Sport Sciences, Department of Physical Performance. The chairpersons for BMS 2010 are Per-Ludvik Kjendlie and Robert Stallman. They have issued two public announcements so far, the second that identifies the submission dates for abstracts and full length papers. Submissions began September 14, 2009 and end no later than January 11, 2010. They intend to publish both abstracts and full papers. Much more information, including a short video and a newsletter, is available on their website: <http://www.nih.no/templates/Page.aspx?id=4108>.

Contributions in the Current Issue

The current issue begins with an editorial on intellectual honesty and ethics. It was inspired by a variety of informal recent discussions I have had with authors or prospective authors about what is appropriate for submission to a scholarly, peer-reviewed journal. I realize in hindsight that it could be construed in a negative light—that is, what not to do. In fact, I wrote it in hopes of providing some guidance in what to do and how to do it. As always, I am eager for feedback.

You will find seven very diverse research articles that comprise the body of the current issue. Unlike the August issue, the topics of these articles are much more eclectic in their nature without any particular “theme.”

I am particularly intrigued by the first paper, authored by Steven Waller and Dawn Norwood from the University of Tennessee at Knoxville. I found their paper, “The Complexities of Deconstructing the Constraints to African American Female Participation in Swimming: A Rejoinder to Irwin et al.,” to be exceptionally well written and thoughtful. As regular readers will realize, their reference to “Irwin, et al.” refers to the paper published in the first issue of Volume 3 of *IJARE* in February 2009 by Carol and Dick Irwin, Tim Ryan, and Joris Drayer, entitled “The Mythology of Swimming: Are Myths Impacting Minority Youth Participation.” The original paper was part of a larger, USA Swimming-sponsored research study about swimming in the U.S. I encourage subscribers and readers to read both papers carefully. The issues form a potentially important discussion that the

aquatic community should be having. As always, I encourage interested authors to take advantage of IJARE as one venue in which to conduct this vital discussion.

Susan J. Grosse, who runs Aquatic Consulting and Educational Resources Services in Milwaukee, Wisconsin, has authored an excellent review, "Aquatics for Individuals with Disabilities: Research Implications." Sue reports on her large aquatic database and summarizes what we know about swimming for individuals with disabilities. I doubt whether anyone will be very surprised with her findings—that we need more and better research!

For our third article, Michael Ussher, Chloe Mount, Sarah Greenberg, Christine Goodair, all of St. George's, University of London, plus Janette Perz, from the University of Western Sydney, have produced a fascinating survey study, "Perceived Effects of Menopause among Women Masters Swimmers," that the authors believe is the first of its kind on this topic. This paper should be of general interest as well as specific interest to Masters swimmers such as myself.

Coming to us from the west coast of the U.S., Oliver Bellevue, of the University of California at Berkeley, and Rebecca Cisar, Craig Cisar, J. Bowen, and Susan Wilkinson, all from San Jose State University, have authored "Evaluation and Comparison of 300-yd and 500-yd Shallow Water Run Tests as Predictors of Aerobic Power." I found this study to be particularly important because it reviewed the other less-than-successful attempts at devising a swimming test that measures general aerobic capacity. The authors provide convincing evidence that shallow water run tests instead of pure swimming are the more valid way to assess cardiovascular endurance in an aquatic setting.

Continuing along the aquatic exercise topic, Antonio Cuesta-Vargas, from the University of Jaen, Spain; Jeronimo Garcia-Romero, from the University of Malaga, Spain; and Raija Kuisma of the University of Brighton in the UK have studied "Maximum and Resting Heart Rates in Treadmill and Deep-Water Running in Male International Volleyball Players." Their study provides interesting contrasts between the exercise performances by elite volleyball athletes in and out of the water.

Stathis Avramidis of Leeds Metropolitan University and Hellenic Center for Infectious Diseases Control in Greece; Ronald Butterly, of Leeds Metropolitan University; and David Llewellyn, from Cambridge University complete their five part series on drowning using their 4W model. The final paper entitled "Under What Circumstances Do People Drown? Encoding the Fourth Component of the 4W Model" wraps up the 4th W, circumstances or environments in which drownings in their two samples occurred.

Stathis Avramidis also contributed the final paper, "Drowning in Ancient Greek History and Mythology." Based on Dr. Avramidis' comparisons between a database of ancient records with contemporary statistics, it is clear that although the mechanisms attributed to causing drowning may have changed since ancient times, drowning has always been a tragic part of human history.

Position Paper and Scientific Reviews

This issue wraps up with two separate "advisory statements" based upon two scientific reviews that have been released by the American Red Cross' Advisory Council on First Aid, Aquatics, Safety, and Prevention (ACFASP). Consonant with my editorial in this issue and the importance of providing full disclosure of inter-

ests, readers should note that I am a member of ACFASP's aquatic subcouncil that produced the scientific reviews and these advisories. In fact, I am the lead author on the second advisory on the minimum age for swimming lessons. These advisories were stringently reviewed and approved by the membership of ACFASP serving as the peer review group. They are being published exactly as they were submitted, which is the same procedure we have employed with all previous non-profit agency position statements in *IJARE*.

I believe aquatic professionals as well as aquatic agencies and groups will find these advisories to be helpful in day-to-day aquatic practices. The first advisory on breath holding and hyperventilation proposes prohibiting these practices as a standard, the highest level of recommendation used by ACFASP. In contrast, the literature is quite mixed relative to the minimum age at which to recommend beginning swimming lessons so this advisory is presented at the level of an option. It was evident that a great deal more research is needed on a variety of age-related swimming topics in order to clarify the advantages and disadvantages of starting or not starting swim lessons during early childhood.

As I have offered previously, the *International Journal of Aquatic Research and Education* welcomes similar position papers, advisory statements, and scientific reviews from non-profit aquatic agencies and groups. I believe these position statements and advisories fit our mission to promote best, high impact practices in aquatics. *IJARE* welcomes the opportunity to serve as a forum for discussing and disseminating timely and important aquatic issues.

Since this is the final issue of Volume 3, readers will find our annual author index plus a list of our reviewers who provide so much assistance in the peer review process. Thanks to all of you contributors, Editorial Board members, and reviewers. *International Journal of Aquatic Research and Education* could not exist without each of you!

Steve Langendorfer, Editor
*International Journal of
Aquatic Research and Education*