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In This Issue ...

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EDITORIALS

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In This Issue . . .

This second issue of the third volume of the *International Journal of Aquatic Research and Education* represents yet another benchmark for our relatively new journal. Readers need only scan the table of contents to this issue to discover the diverse nationalities of the authors of the research articles represented in this issue. I had noted this on several occasions in the past as we began to publish more internationally-authored papers alongside the majority of papers from the U.S. It would seem the tables have turned decisively. Not just a majority, but all of the research papers in this issue are authored by citizens from around the world, in particular the four papers from our colleagues in Brazil. After this issue, it will be difficult to argue that the “international” in our title is not meaningful!

Editorial Board Additions

As Editor, I continue to be keenly aware that the makeup of our Editorial Board has not mirrored the composition of the international authorship of our issues or our readership. As a consequence, with the consultation and advice of current members of the Editorial Board, we are expanding our Editorial Board membership to be more diverse and representative of the international community of aquatic scholars. You will note on the back cover of this issue that our newest Editorial Board members include Johan Lambeck from Germany and Jane Hall from the U.K. Please join me in welcoming them to the Board and thank them in advance for all their hard work, service, and advice over the next several years. I anticipate that we will continue to expand our Editorial Board membership over the next several issues.

Let me take another opportunity to invite any person who may have the interest to create a user account on Manuscript Central, our online review and editorial system. Creating a user account at http://mc.manuscriptcentral.com/HK_IJARE entitles any person to become either an author or a reviewer for the journal. I remind any of you who accept this invitation to be certain to complete the user profile, including identifying your areas of interest and expertise through the keywords. When I receive a new manuscript submission, one of the ways that I identify potential reviewers is by doing a keyword search. If you are asked to serve as a reviewer, the e-mail will provide an attached checklist for reviewers to guide you in performing a review which may be helpful if you are not particularly experienced as a reviewer. Another note for reviewers: If you are going to be away or unavailable to review during a particular extended period of time (e.g., during winter or summer swim seasons or during holidays) there is a nice mechanism on Manuscript Central in your profile area that allows you to identify those unavailable periods so I can avoid asking you to review when it is not convenient.

More Congratulations Are in Order!

Just as we were going to press with this May 2009 issue, I received an announcement from the International Swimming Hall of Fame in Ft. Lauderdale, Florida, that two of our most prolific authors and contributors to the *International Journal of Aquatic Research and Education* are being honored this year as recipients of the prestigious Paragon Aquatic Awards. Stathis Avramidis who is affiliated both with the European Lifeguard Academy and Leeds Metropolitan University is being recognized in the water safety category. In the recreational swimming category, Lee Yarger, from Ball State University, will be the recipient. Congratulations to both of these individuals!

I was interested to count that between Stathis and Lee, they have published 17 research and professional contributions (plus one letter to the editor by Stathis) in *IJARE*. That means these two outstanding individuals have accounted for almost 24% of the regular articles that have appeared in the first 10 issues of *IJARE*, a noteworthy contribution indeed. Interestingly, the current issue is only the second one in which neither Lee nor Stathis have a contribution. Fans and readers need not fear, however, because Stathis has several contributions either in revision or review, and I am sure Lee will have other submissions in the near future. Again, congratulations!

Contributions in This Issue

I will be interested in readers' reactions to my latest editorial, "Quo Vadis, Aquatics?" that leads off this issue. As regular readers will note, I have challenged the safety and developmental appropriateness of one controversial approach to infant and early child aquatics. Following my editorial, readers will find a short letter to the editor by last issue's guest editorialist and Editorial Board member, Dr. Bruce Becker. Bruce's letter stems from a comment made in the Irwin et al. lead article in our previous issue. I think you may find his observations interesting.

I believe readers will particularly enjoy the very diverse research articles being published in this second issue of our third volume. I encourage you to explore each of them in depth. The first article, "Pals, Parents, or Pedagogues: How Youth Learn About Water Safety," was authored by Dr. Kevin Moran from the University of Auckland in New Zealand. With this study, Kevin continues his extensive line of inquiry addressing various issues related to water safety and drowning prevention. In the current article, Kevin explores the key water safety sources from which youth in New Zealand report learning water safety information and practices: their parents and families, their peers, or structured swimming and water safety programs. I continue to be intrigued and impressed by the types of questions that Dr. Moran addresses in his research studies. His research questions, including in the study being reported in this issue, address some of the most fundamental ones that we need to understand about water safety and drowning prevention in order to create more effective aquatic practices. We need more aquatic scholars like Kevin who are pursuing significant and ongoing lines of inquiry.

The issue's second article is co-authored by a team of researchers from the Brazilian Federal University of Rio Grande do Sul, including Leonardo Peyré-Tartaruga, Marcus Tartaruga, Marcelo Coertjens, Gabriela Black, Alvaro Oliveira, and Luiz Krueel, all from the Exercise Physiology Laboratory. Their article, "Physiologic and Kinematic Effects of Water Run Training on Running Performance," examines several physiologic variables associated with training in a water environment. It provides some solid foundational information for aquatic exercise leaders and therapists.

The next research article, also coming to us from Brazil's Federal University of Rio Grande do Sul, was authored by a group of faculty from the School of Physical Education. Roberta Bgeginski, Ilana Finkelstein, Cristine Alberton, Marcus Tartaruga, and Luiz Krueel have studied the "Effects of Water-Gymnastics Training on Hemodynamic Variables in Pregnant Women at Rest." This article examines several interesting parallels in the changes in physiologic variables resulting from immersion in water and the latter stages of pregnancy. Through their analysis, they arrive at several important inferences about physiologic mechanisms that occur both in water immersion and during pregnancy.

Perhaps one of the more unique articles that we have published in *IJARE* comes to us from an international group of authors lead by Peter Buzzacott of the University of Western Australia and the Divers Alert Network – Medical Research along with co-authors Erin Zeigler, Petar Denoble, and Richard Vann, all of the Divers Alert Network and Duke University. Their article is a descriptive study of the cave diving fatalities in the U.S. for the 39 years from 1969-2007. I was fascinated by their descriptive statistical technique for identifying primary and related causes associated with diving fatalities. I think readers will find the article quite readable as well as compelling.

Luiz Krueel, Cristine Alberton, and several colleagues from the exercise physiology laboratory at Brazil's Federal University of Rio Grande do Sul co-authored two additional research articles, both that focus on the impact of water immersion and exercise on basic fundamental physiologic variables. The first article focuses on the impact of complete immersion in water on changes in heart rate. The second article examines how different types of water exercises, continuous versus interval routines, produce differing effects on a variety of physiologic variables. As Editor and reviewer, I am quite impressed by the quantity and quality of the research coming from Brazil's Federal University, both from their exercise physiology research laboratory as well as the physical education department. I am looking forward to their continuing contributions.

Our final research article in this issue is another contribution from "Down Under." Richard Franklin, Amy Peden, and Penny Larsen have authored a "Survey of Primary Schools Across Australia: An Examination of Key Water Safety Issues." They have surveyed a number of public and private schools in Australia about their water safety programs. This preliminary study provides a foundation for much needed research about the types of swimming and water safety programs offered by the responding schools. It should be read and interpreted while keeping in mind Kevin Moran's findings from the first article.

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This issue wraps up with yet one more media review critiquing the newest Human Kinetics aquatic text, *Mastering Swimming: Your Guide for Fitness, Training, and Competition* that has been authored by former Olympian, Jim Montgomery, and co-author Mo Chambers, an outstanding Masters swimming coach. I hope my review will interest readers in further exploring their new text.

I am anticipating some interesting additional submissions for our next (August) issue, hopefully including a set of scientific reviews arising from the U.S. Lifeguard Standards Coalition as well as a number of interesting manuscript submissions currently under review.

Enjoy your reading!

Stephen J. Langendorfer, Editor
*International Journal of
Aquatic Research and Education*