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In This Issue ...

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In This Issue . . .

Upcoming International Aquatic Conferences, 2013-2014

Advanced information for the 2013 International Life Saving Federation's World Conference on Drowning Prevention scheduled for Saturday, 19 October, 2013 to Tuesday, 22 October, 2013 in Potsdam/Berlin, Germany (organized by the [German Life Saving Association](http://www.worldconferenceondrowningprevention.org)) can be found at the following URL: <http://www.worldconferenceondrowningprevention.org>. By the time you are able to read this notice, the deadline for submission of papers will have passed, but for those wishing to attend the conference, you should be registering and making your housing and travel plans.

In 2014, Canberra, Australia will be the site for the next Biomechanics and Medicine in Swimming XII meetings, hosted by the Australian Institute of Sport (AIS). I know that the Scientific Organizing Committee already is hard at work with their planning. You can get more information at the following URL: <http://www.wcss.org.uk/>. According to my preliminary information, the organizing group is the World Commission on Science and Sport (WCSS). At the time of this writing, the specific dates were unavailable. I will post them as soon as I learn them. I do know that the AIS is quite keen to be hosting this event.

In This Issue

Our latest (2nd) issue of the *International Journal of Aquatic Research and Education* features another collection of diverse, informative, and evidenced-based aquatic studies along with two very interesting educational pieces. I feel confident in recommending them to you because of their sound science and well-reasoned presentations.

I trust readers will be engaged by our "guest editorial" that begins this issue. It was composed originally as a "letter to the editor," but its topic, timeliness, and treatment simply demanded its inclusion as an editorial. It comes to you from two of our most distinguished authors: Robert Keig Stallman, emeritus professor from the Norwegian School of Sport Sciences in Oslo, Norway (and *IJARE* Editorial Board member) and Per-Ludvik Kjendlie from the Norwegian Life Saving Association. This particular editorial is very much apropos of the previous two announcements about the upcoming Potsdam and Canberra international conferences. As you will see, our editorialists make a plea for more "cross-fertilizing" of our international aquatic organizations and ideas and research questions. I hope you enjoy Bob's and Per-Ludvik's passionate and earnest pleas for more cooperation and collaboration.

Original Research Articles

This second issue of the seventh volume features four research papers on quite disparate and diverse aquatic topics. The research article section begins with an interesting study conducted by Summer Cook, Samantha Scarneo (both from University of New Hampshire), and Richard McAvoy from McAvoy Aquatic and Sports Therapy. In the paper, “Physiological effects of an acute bout of shallow water sprinting,” they compared the physiological responses of running short sprints on land vs. in shallow water. Readers with interests in aquatic exercise will want to review their findings.

Our second article, “Development and trial of a water exposure measure of estimated drowning risk for surf bathers,” is one of four in this issue that comes from “Down Under.” Damian Morgan and Joan Ozanne-Smith from Monash University in Victoria, Australia, have conducted a series of live and taped observations of the beaches around the Melbourne area in order to see whether they could recommend an objective and reliable instrument by which to quantify the potential drowning risk of bathers at those beaches. For those who have a particular interest in research design, this paper provides some excellent examples about how to construct excellent protocols for naturalistic research.

Kevin Moran of the University of Auckland, and his colleague, Stacey Willcox, from Watersafe Auckland, authored “Water safety practices and perceptions of ‘new’ New Zealanders.” The authors, following up on previous research and anecdotal information about the increased drowning risk to non-native New Zealanders, collaborated on surveying recent immigrants to New Zealand to discover the degree to which their behavior in and around water had changed since coming to the island nation with plentiful water sources. They also investigated the degree to which the respondents had adequate knowledge of safe practices around the water. I believe you will find this article very informative as well as very readable.

Our final research article is in fact a case study featuring an international team who examined the impact of aquatic therapy on an individual with multiple disabilities. “A case study: Mobility and health impact of an aquatic fitness program for a woman with intellectual and physical disabilities,” resulted from an interesting collaboration among medical and aquatic exercise personnel. The authors, Mary Sanders (University of Nevada, Reno), Lourdes Escobar Torres (Castellon, Spain), Daryl Lawson (Elon University in North Carolina), and Charo Belenguer Benítez (also of Castellon, Spain) documented how aquatic exercise provided certain benefits for their client. While we have not published a great deal of case study work in *IJARE*, it is certainly one other option for a different type of research methodology.

Educational Articles

This issue publishes two unique and interesting educational articles which share one common author/co-author, Dr. John Pearn, one of the leading researchers in the medical aspects of aquatics and in drowning prevention. The first article, “Disability and drowning, personal experiences, research and practicalities of adapted aquatics,” was a collaboration of Richard Franklin of James Cook University and John Pearn of the University of Queensland (and both members of the Royal Life Saving Association – Australia). It is an interesting piece designed to encourage

us to think about how we can open up water resources for those with disabilities. It complements the Sanders et al. case study quite nicely.

The final educational article, "Swimming and survival: Two lessons from history," is a short work featuring two historical narratives about the role of swimming in human survival over 4000 years. It was authored by Dr. Pearn and his colleague, Alan Isles, both from the Royal Children's Hospital in Brisbane, Australia, and I think you will find the two stories to be engaging and informative (and perhaps make you glad to live in the 21st Century).

Scientific Review

The final contribution to this issue is a recently-completed Scientific Review that comes from the American Red Cross' Scientific Advisory Council. The review, an examination of the range of appropriate water temperatures for conducting swim lessons and other aquatic activities, is incredibly thorough and extensive. It pulls together a fascinating collection of evidence-based work in support of recommendations regarding the water temperature ranges for both safe and optimal learning in aquatic environments.

So Long, Farewell!

It is with very mixed feelings that we send best wishes to Margery Kane, our long time Human Kinetics managing editor for *IJARE*, as she embarks on her well-deserved retirement. I know how much our regular and frequent authors will miss Margery's kind but firm and informative guidance in getting manuscripts into their final publication shape. I simply do not know what I am going to do without her! Of course, she has promised to help train her replacement, which I am sure she will handle with her usual skill and aplomb, but I am going to miss her good humor and especially her patience with me as I scramble to pull together each issue. We will all miss you, Margery!

Until our next issue in August 2013, may you enjoy continued good reading and safe swimming.

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