



Yeshayahu (Shayke) Hutzler

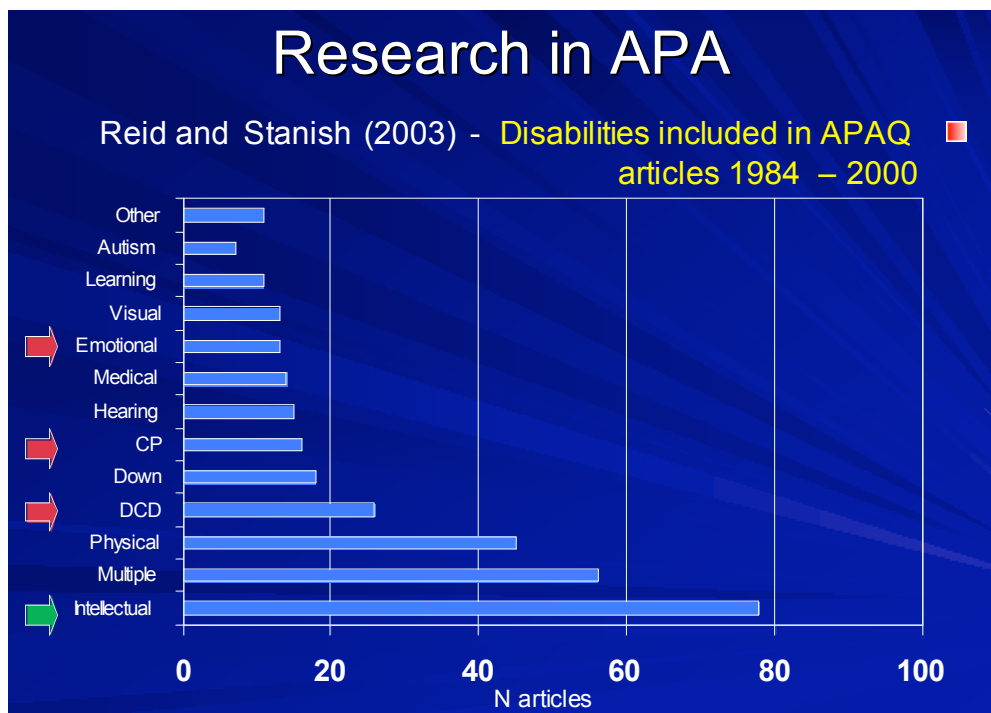
## President's Message

On the eve of Christmas 2007 and New Year 2008, I would like to congratulate all of you who are continuing to practice, study, teach, and provide APA services to participants with all kinds of activity limitations. IFAPA is entering the fourth decade of international activity after conducting its first International Symposium in 1977 in Quebec City, Canada, and its 16<sup>th</sup> in July 2007 in Rio Claro Brazil.

The first goal I would like to set for this fourth decade is increasing and further intensifying the international and multicultural presence of APA services, professional study programs, and scientific research projects across continents and countries. Daily counts of IFAPA website visits exhibit interest in APA issues from many Asian,

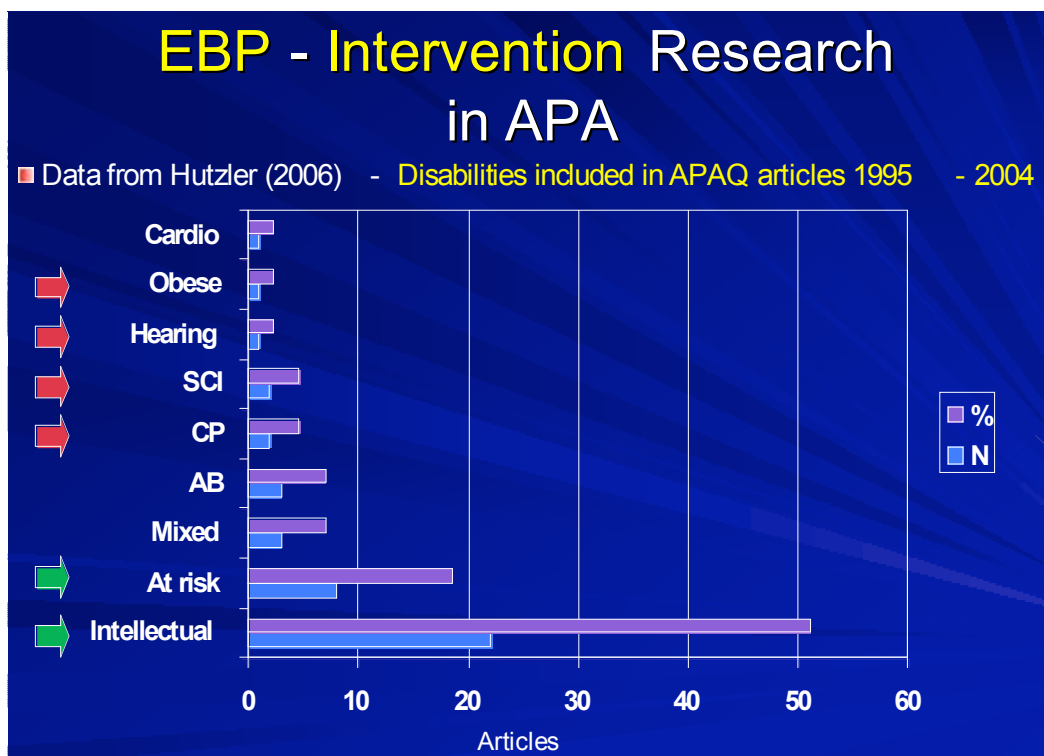
South-American, Oceanian, African, and other countries that have previously not been included in the APA family. I feel obliged to increase awareness of professionals from these countries through encouraging the development of more multilingual resources and documents in languages that people speak, read, and write without using the dictionary. Europe and Africa are examples of multilingual continents, where some people may feel offended through the excessive use of English as unifying language. Therefore, visual examples of APA practice such as those from Spanish and Portuguese speaking countries, for example in the Adapted Aquatic Case of the Month page on IFAPA website (<http://www.ifapa.biz/ShowList.asp?MenuID=361>), teach us about the marvelous contribution non-English speaking professionals may have for APA. Therefore, I urge all of you to send me and/or our Website Assistant, Jaime Kirstein, original material that demonstrates good APA practices. The strength of video and images is their intercultural and cross lingual comprehension. The IFAPA board had lengthy discussions over the financial burden of IFAPA membership dues and has convinced Human Kinetics to include a membership category for individuals from developing countries. Being aware that even the reduced price is still too high for persons earning a few dozens of dollars monthly, I believe we may want to allow commercial companies subsidizing applicants from developing countries. I invite any of your suggesting names and connections to companies that may have interest in such relationships.

The second goal is fostering the professional, scientific, and disciplinary identity of APA practitioners. One way of doing so, is to understand the APA knowledge base. Some studies of APAQ and other APA related publications teach us this about different aspects of our field of study. The following are two outcomes of recent literature reviews identifying populations included in APA research and APA evidence based research (EBP) which means intervention research.



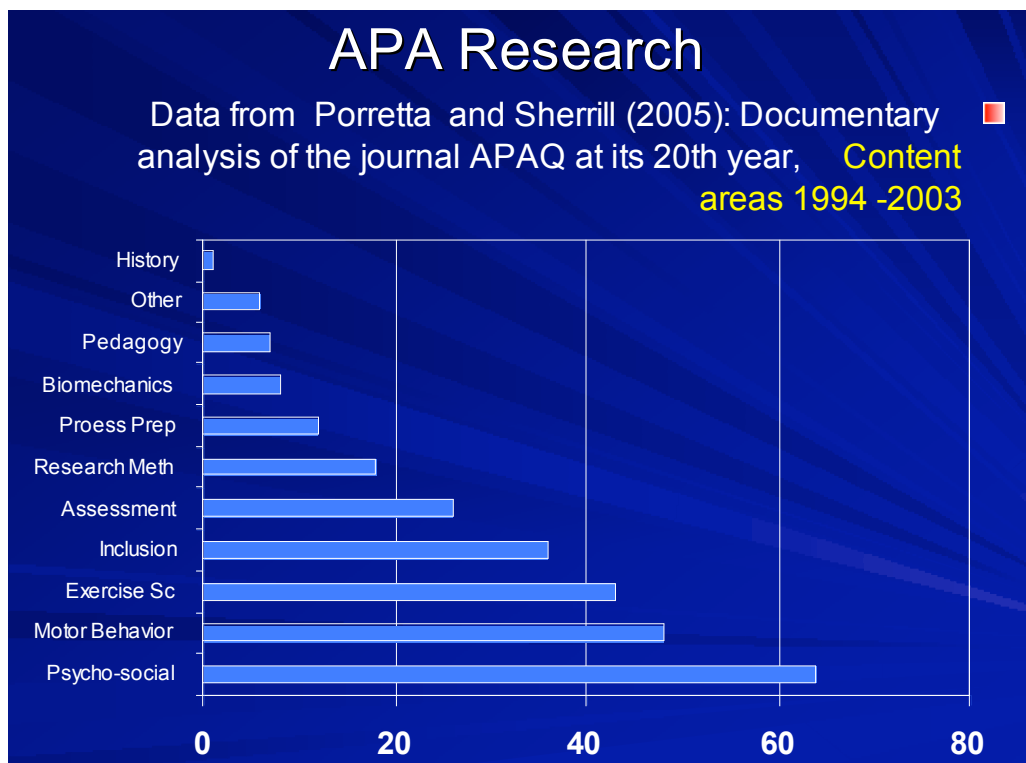
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## President's Message, *continued*



Both reviews indicate a disproportional picture, in which 30 to 50% of the research and particularly evidence based research that examines the intervention outcomes is on participants with intellectual disability. Certainly, this population warrants attention, but I strongly believe our survey outcomes suggest that other populations that are not less in need of professional expertise and preparation should be included in the focus of APA literature.

Also the disciplinary affiliation of the different research contributions between 1994 and 2003, as compiled by Porretta and Sherrill (2005), suggests that psycho-social and motor behavior research are dominating.



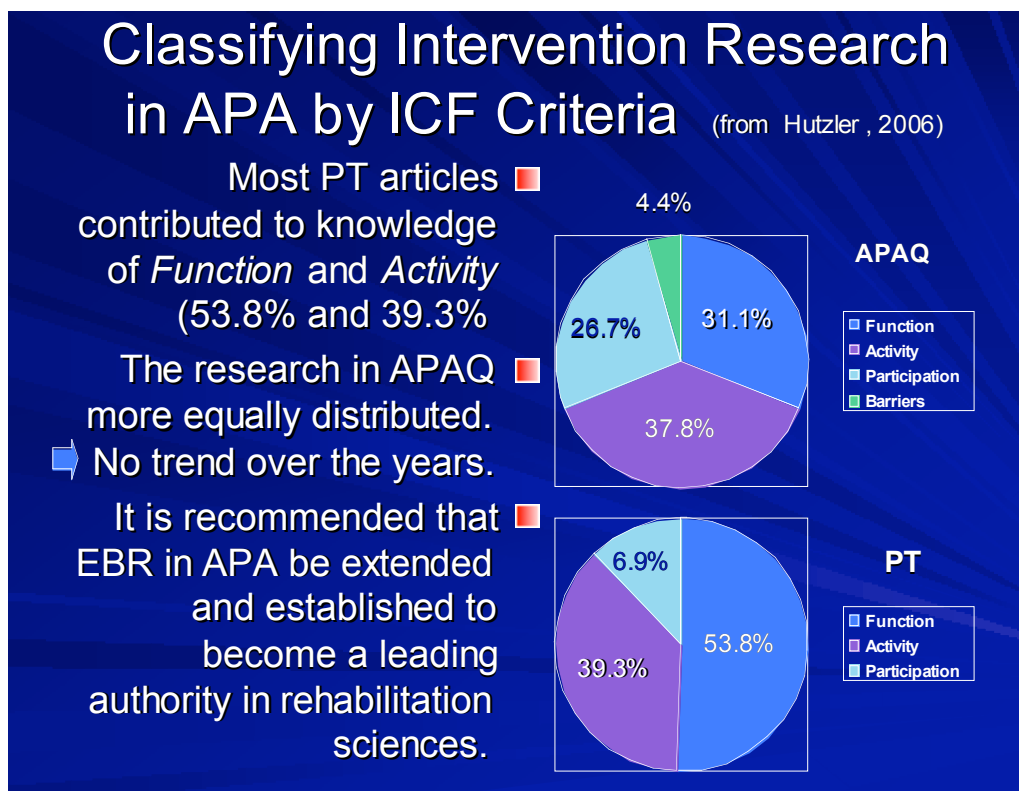
## President's Message, *continued*

It appears that bio-medical research has lost appreciation within APA literature, probably in favor of medically oriented literature. Also, recent ISAPAs have lower response rates of contributions from biomedical sciences. I would like to ask you for suggestions how this trend may be reversed. Bio-medical sciences are a major root for understanding functional requirements and how different limitations influence these functions and the activities corresponding to these functions. APA professionals and scientists with bio-medical interest are needed and their contribution to intervention and research planning in APA is highly valued.

I strongly believe interest groups, or disciplinary subsections, could strengthen IFAPA and contribute to an increased and consolidated feeling of APA identity. IFAPA should consider developing a content related structure adjacent to its regional structure.

The third goal is for increasing visibility of APA and IFAPA toward the related sciences and professions including educational, medical, and sport-related fields of expertise. Therefore, IFAPA affiliated professionals should visit and contribute presentations within every possible disciplinary and interdisciplinary stage. ICSEMIS World Congress in Guangzhou, China in August 2008 would certainly be regarded such a stage, and APA professionals are invited to propose free communications on APA topics for presentation during this important event.

Another way of communicating with the "outside world" is using similar terminology. The rehabilitation world lead through the World Health Organization has facilitated this goal through constructing the International Classification of Function and Disability (ICF). While developed through a huge multidisciplinary team for identifying target populations, intervention modalities, and outcome effects for rehabilitation purposed, this structure fits amazingly well the regular physical education, recreation, and sport practice. In recent articles, Claudine Sherrill and I have tried to introduce this important framework to the APA audience, but obviously more time is needed until professionals would start using this framework for planning, implementing, and evaluating their interventions and research. An interest outcome was found in a recent review of articles published within a 10-year period in *APAQ* compared to a 5-year period of articles in the journal *Physical Therapy (PT)*. It appears that the intervention research in *APAQ* is much more equally distributed among the three outcome areas of rehabilitation efforts: (a) increasing and maintaining functional ability, (b) improving performance in skilled activity, and (c) facilitating participation in physical activities across ages and settings.

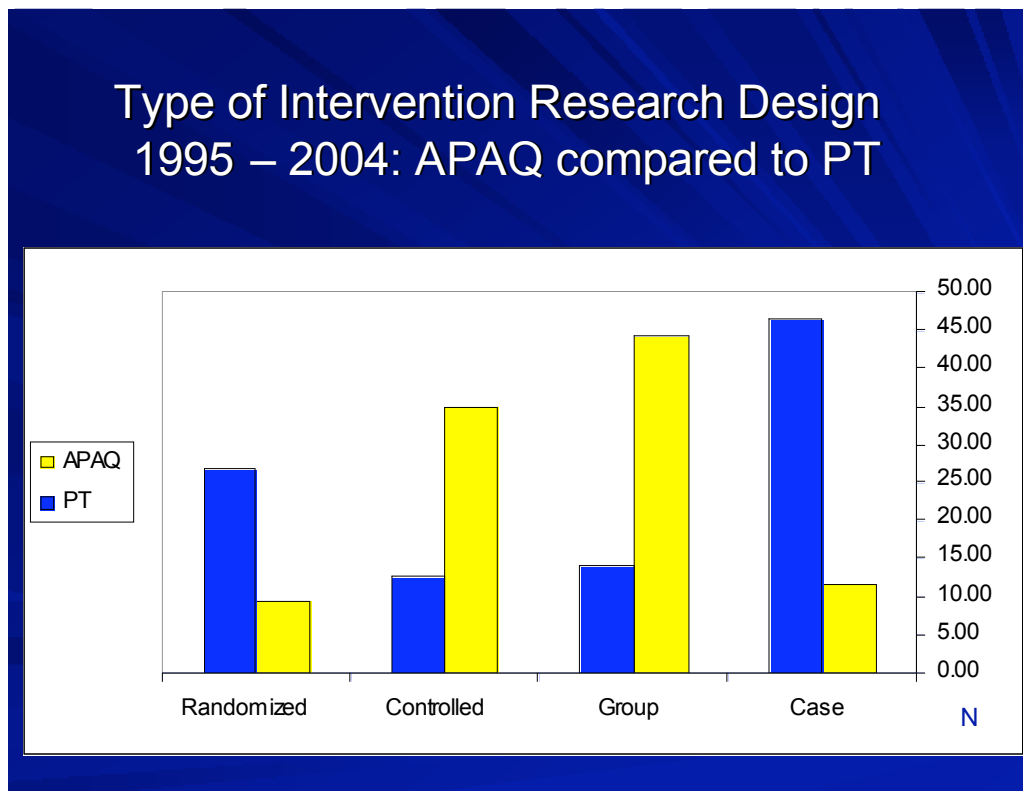


A final yet important achievement with regard to visibility toward the medical rehabilitation world is the inclusion of *APAQ* in the Medline database, which is expected to considerably increase its impact.

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## President's Message, *continued*

The fourth goal is increasing evidence based practice through continuous measurement of intervention outcomes. My statistics in this regard suggest that less than 15% of *APAQ* articles between 2000 and 2004 included intervention research designs, compared to almost 23% across the same period in *PT*. Another difference is the study designs. It appears that most intervention studies published in the journal *PT* included either randomized controlled or case studies, while most studies published in *APAQ* included controlled and uncontrolled group studies.



I believe that we need to increase both extremes. While random assignments are often very difficult in educational settings, case studies are encouraged. Enhanced usage of internet platforms calls for adding more audiovisual contents.

The fifth and final goal is reinforcing our core area, i.e., the adaptation concept. We need a better established theory behind our daily practice. Continued study of adaptations made across instructions, environments, equipment, rules, and types of activity could contribute to a more comprehensive and robust decision-making process during assessment and intervention. The following chart demonstrates the outcomes of a recent review of interventions reported in *APAQ* during a 10-year period across adaptation areas.

Obviously, most adaptations reported thus far are within the instructional context. Employing teacher assistants, peer tutors, and delaying feedback are only a few examples. Further research is warranted within the educational context to better understand the outcomes of adaptation across inclusive and exclusive activity environments. For this purpose, we need more research related to the outcome of adaptations by settings and conditions. Another area of interest is to comprehend the impact of training design in sport, health, exercise, and rehabilitation settings. Volume and intensity of training are by far understudied in most populations with disability and training compositions are still prescribed according to data revealed in able-bodied populations. Empowerment and self-determination are increasingly referred to as valued outcomes of the adaptation process. However, evidence supporting this notion is still limited and warrants further study. Are adaptation and self-determination indeed related concepts? This and other philosophical questions still wait for serious discussions.

I would like to take this opportunity and wish you happy winter holidays and continuing professional and personal achievements.

*Yeschayahu (Shayke) Hutzler*  
*IFAPA President*

### ICSSPE statutory meetings, 7-9 October 2007 at the Józef Pilsudski Academy of Physical Education in Warsaw, Poland

Representing IFAPA, Maria Dinold participated in the annual **statutory meetings of ICSSPE** in Poland. Besides the gathering of the president's committee and the editorial board, it was an important task to chair the meeting of the International Committee of Sport Pedagogy (ICSP), a working group of ICSSPE's executive board and to participate of the association's board. Mainly all mutual exchanges were focused on the preparation of the upcoming International Convention on Science, Education and Medicine in Sport (ICSEMIS) next year in Gouangzhou, China (August 1-5, 2008), a joint force partnership (ad)venture between IOC, IPC, FIMS, and ICSSPE.

A big delegation of the Chinese organizers presented an update on the local preparations for the convention. ICSSPE president **Dr. Gudrun Doll-Tepper**, the speaker of the association's board **Dr. Michael McNamee** as well as the officially appointed International Consultative Committee Liaison, ICSSPE vice president **Dr. Tony Parker**, and ICSSPE executive director **Detlef Dumon** welcomed the guests and delegates. After some explanations and clarifications of the convention's objectives, the outcome of the encounter was the determination of a clear deadline for nominations of (expected 12) keynote speakers and for sending proposals for (possibly 35) invited speakers in several symposiums by the associations. The themes and topics should emphasize the various cooperative and interdisciplinary objectives:

- To promote interaction between the various disciplines involved in the congress and among scientists and practitioners and/or clinicians in related fields,
- To provide new approaches and perspectives on problems and issues in the related fields, or
- To provide a multidisciplinary program with content that demonstrates balanced representation of the disciplines involved and within an innovative format that facilitates professional interactions between discipline groups and individual participants.

During the next weeks these nominations will be evaluated by the scientific committee. The general Call for Papers has been spread among associations, universities, and interested persons; the deadline for submissions is December 31<sup>st</sup> 2007. Find all details at the ICSEMIS website ([www.icsemis2008.org](http://www.icsemis2008.org)). The organizers count with about 190 oral presentations in a schedule of 11 conference rooms and numerous poster presentations.

IFAPA's intention of collaboration will include themes and contributions that originate from IPC's ideas and interests, as well as from close common interest with the other member organizations within the ICSP (AIESEP, FIEP, IAPESGW, ISCPES). The agenda of the ICSP meeting referred to a working plan for improving the valuation and influence of physical education in a global perspective and with more emphasis on inclusion and diversity. Thus, these issues have been selected to be the guiding terms for a symposium proposal within the Conference topic, "Physical Education as Culture: Inclusion, Diversity, Eastern and Western Perspectives."

The three other main topics of discussion concerned the following:

- The strategies for the future perspectives of ICSP. There was agreement on a follow up on the started discussion of "working matrix," which should lead to the development of guidelines for quality physical education.
- The endorsement of a FIEP-initiative resulting from FIEP European Congress: the Request to European Parliament for addition of 9th Key Competence "Movement Competence." (At a FIEP Europe Round Table Discussion on "The Role of Movement Activity, Physical Education and Sport for the Development of Key Competences for Lifelong Learning" in Bratislava on the occasion of the 4th FIEP European Congress on 30th September, 2007, concern was expressed about a missing key competence in the recommendations of the European Parliament and of the Council, 2006/962/EC, in the domain of physical activity. A proposal was unanimously agreed by the participants to recommend to the European Parliament and Council of Europe the inclusion of "Movement Competence" as a 9th competence in the list of key competencies.)
- The update on the endorsed research project on the global study of the teaching of physical education by ICSPES's representative Walter M. Ho, University of Macau, as well as the recommendation for participation in the 16th Biennial Conference of International Society for Comparative Physical Education and Sport (ISCPES) July 23-26, 2008 in Macau. Find all details at the conference website: [www.umac.mo/fed/conference/iscpes08/en/en\\_main.html](http://www.umac.mo/fed/conference/iscpes08/en/en_main.html)

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## ICSSPE News, *continued*

Summarizing the results of the meetings it can be admitted that the talks and discussions provided a fruitful and familiar ambiance with confident future perspectives. It was for the first time since long (or even ever) that all member associations were represented in the ICSP meeting. All of them presented their reports and contributed to the tasks of the agenda. It is to hope that this good cooperation will continue across the year and will help to find the continuous working path for ICSP as well as for ICSSPE, whose 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary is to be celebrated in 2008. This will be a time to honor the achievements, but it also means that elections will be held next year and new persons and new strategies might (re)start.

—Reported by Maria Dinold

## Release of “Athlete First: A History of the Paralympic Movement”

ICSSPE is pleased to announce the upcoming release of our newest publication titled, *Athlete First: A History of the Paralympic Movement*, authored by Steve Bailey. The book is a unique publication that examines the ongoing developments surrounding sport for persons with a disability. The International Council of Sport Science and Physical Education, with financial assistance of the IOC, brought the idea to life by asking sports historian Steve Bailey to write the first book examining the historical origins of the Paralympic movement, also in relation to Olympic competition and able-bodied sport. Copies may be ordered at the ICSSPE bookstore, online at [www.icsspe.org](http://www.icsspe.org).

—Katrin Koenen

## IFAPA/ICSSPE 2007 Scholarship Recipients

Every 2 years, the International Council of Sport Science and Physical Education (ICSSPE) makes available grants for which its member organizations can apply. IFAPA, in 2005 and in 2007, has been fortunate to have proposals funded to help outstanding young professionals to attend and participate in its biennial symposia in Italy and Brazil, respectively. Recipients of ICSSPE grant money in the form of scholarships for 2007 were **Cindy Sit** (Hong Kong), **Nancy Bridenthall** (USA), **Stefania Cazzoli** (Italy), and **Jenny Gosney** and **Jo O’Callaghan** (New Zealand). Each of these recipients made one or more research presentations, assisted with various aspects of the Brazil Symposium and showed commitment to take home and share with others new symposium knowledge concerning improvement of quality of life of persons with disabilities, strategies for empowerment, university-based professional preparation programs, and research to facilitate evidence-based APA interventions.

**Cindy Sit**, Research Assistant Professor, Institute of Human Performance, the University of Hong Kong (UHK) since 2005, received her BA from Hong Kong Baptist University and Master’s and Doctor’s degrees from HKU. Cindy’s major research interests are physical activity levels and participation motivation of children and youth with and without disability. She has published over 10 research studies in refereed journals on these and related topics, including an article in the October 2002 *APAQ*, making her one of the most published young scholars within IFAPA. Additionally, she is a member of many organizations (including the International Association of Special Education), an invited reviewer for many journals, and on the Board of Directors of the Asian Society for APE and Exercise (ASAPE). Since 2006, Cindy Sit has served as Secretary General of the ASAPE and, during the 2007 ISAPE, she served as proxy on the IFAPA Board for **Hideo Nakata**.

**Nancy Bridenthall**, faculty member in the Dallas-Fort Worth Community College Network, finished her doctorate at the Texas Woman’s University, her MA from Ball State University in Indiana, and her BS from University of Wisconsin at LaCrosse. Nancy’s recently completed dissertation is on benefits, barriers, and facilitators of physical activity among women with multiple sclerosis (MS), but her work experience has mainly been at the administrative level at the Denton State School, one of the few remaining residential facilities for persons with severe intellectual disabilities, which also maintains community-based living and educational services for eligible clients. Nancy is a unique professional who after retiring from 25 years of Denton State School employment, elected to finish the PhD so that she can continue to grow through applying her expertise in research and university teaching. Nancy, herself a wheelchair athlete, is one of the few certified International Wheelchair Basketball Federation Silver Classifiers for international competition as well as a long-time coach for the Dallas Women’s Wheelchair Basketball Team.

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## ICSSPE News, *continued*

**Stefania Cazzoli** is a faculty member at the University of Torino, Italy, where she focuses on APA training in the curriculum and on qualifications for regular PE secondary school teachers. Her special research interests are revealed in articles published in the *2007 Brazil ISAPA Proceedings*. Illustrative of these are “APE in Italian Regular Schools: University Teaching in APA for Integration and Inclusion of Students with Disabilities” and “PE Teachers and APA: Initial and Continuous Training is an Essential Part of Life Long Education for Up-to-Date APE Teaching in Regular Italian Secondary Schools.”

**Jenny Gosney** and **Jo O’Callaghan**, both employees of the renowned Halberg Trust in New Zealand, shared the fourth scholarship. This was their first time to attend an ISAPA and, as such, they were becoming new members of IFAPA. These two women captured everyone’s attention as they expressed the interest of Halberg Trust in possibly conducting the 2011 ISAPA. They met and interacted with longtime IFAPA members from Australia (**Anne Jobling** and **Elizabeth Rose**) to learn more about IFAPA’s Oceania region and its combined resources in planning a possible ISAPA.

### Summary of Awards at 2007 ISAPA in Brazil

The October 2007 *IFAPA Newsletter* provided information on the major IFAPA AWARDS, but space did not permit recognition of all of the ISAPA participants who received formal acknowledgment of their excellence. The purpose of this article is to do so. In addition to the Elly D. Friedmann Award to **Herman van Coppenolle** (Belgium), the Young Professional Award (i.e., under age 40) to **Simon Driver** (USA) and **Jose Barela** (Brazil), and the ISAPA Scholarships for Emerging Economy and/or Economically Challenged Countries (**Agueda Gomes**, Angola, Africa; **Dilara Ozer**, **H. Serap Inal**, and **Feryal Subasi**, all of Turkey), the following awards, certificates, and recognitions were made.

As is the IFAPA tradition, Brazil held a contest for the best film (or videotape) demonstrating APA perspectives. Only one winner was declared, and this was **Dr Kensuke Iwaola** of Japan. The title of the winning film was “The Process of Psycho-Physical and Social Alterations through the Long Term Inclusive Day Activities: Case Studies in Three Typical Participants.” One of the contest judges, **Dr Gudrun Doll-Tepper**, declared “Of all of the many films I have seen over the years, this one was the best!”

Service Certificates were received by IFAPA Board Members who were completing their 2-, 4-, or 6-year terms: **Donna Goodwin**, Treasurer (Canada); **Anne Jobling**, Oceania Representative (Australia); **David Porretta**, APAQ Editor Emeritus (USA); **Joseph Lev**, Middle East Representative (Israel); **Beth Mattos** (Brazil), South and Central America Representative; and **Greg Reid** (Canada), Past-President. Unique among these leaders was **Greg Reid**, who was completing 5 years as APAQ Editor, 4 years as President, and 4 years as Past-President. We will miss all of these Board Members, but especially Greg.

President **Claudine Sherrill**, who was passing the gavel over to New President **Shayke Hutzler**, gave Presidential Recognitions in four categories:

- Youngest-in-Attendance: daughters of **David Rodrigues** (Portugal) and **Marli Nabeiro** (Brazil). Ages were not certain, but the girls appeared to be between 4 and 6.
- Highest-Level Presidential Recognitions: **Karen DePauw**, Past-Past President (USA); **Greg Reid**, Past President (Canada); **Elaine Mauerberg de-Castro**, 2007 ISAPA Director (Brazil); and **Debra Campbell**, 2007 ISAPA Most Valued Organizer (Brazil).
- Special Lifetime Appreciation Recognitions: **Anne Jobling** (Australia), **Anna Bianco** (Italy), **Hana Valkova** (Czech Republic), **Shayke Hutzler** (Israel). Claudine teased this group about “growing old together,” noting that these were persons who had always been there for her and for IFAPA, as far back as she could remember.
- Appreciation for Work Over and Beyond Expectations Recognitions: **Cindy Sit** (Hong Kong), **Jane Taylor** (Canada), **Debra Campbell** (Brazil), **Jose Barela** (Brazil), **Joseph Lev** (Israel), **Maria Dinold** (Austria), and **Eliane Mauerberg de- Castro** (Brazil)

Although time did not permit all of the volunteers for the Brazil ISAPA to be recognized by name, they were honored by much applause and, after the ceremony, many hugs. Most of these volunteers were students or ex-students (now colleagues) of **Eliane Mauerberg de-Castro**, and as a special recognition of their teacher and thank you for the experience, they presented her with a huge cake as the final event of the Awards Ceremony on July 28, 2007.

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## Erasmus Mundus Master Program in Adapted Physical Activity Seeks Students and Faculty

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As you may know already from previous years, we can offer your students a very interesting scholarship ( 21.000 Euro) for studying in our one year Erasmus Mundus Master program in Adapted Physical Activity offered by the consortium of 4 European universities: Leuven, Limerick, Olomouc, and Oslo in cooperation with three non-European universities (Brisbane in Australia, Stellenbosch in South Africa, and the University of Virginia in the USA).

Your best students interested in enhancing their knowledge, skills, and career development in the field of adapted physical activity can apply for this excellent program. Entry into this program requires proof of motivation and ability (curriculum vitae, Bachelor portfolio, results obtained in the Bachelor's program, motivation letter, official English test, etc.). On our website (<http://www.erasmusmundus.be/>), you can find all detailed information regarding this matter. You might also want to check out our information flyer, provided on the website, in which 5 students of last year share their experiences in this program (<http://www.erasmusmundus.be/brochure.pdf>). Please pass this information on to your students and remind them that the deadline for sending in application forms is 1<sup>st</sup> of February 2008.

Our policy is to provide an excellent educational program in the field of Adapted Physical Activity. Students will be taught and coached by the finest experts from all over the world. We are offering a scholarship of 13.000 Euro to 3 internationally famous professors in Adapted Physical Activity to work in our program for a period of 3 months or less in one of our consortium universities (Leuven-Limerick-Olomouc and Oslo).

Some names of colleagues who were selected during the previous years were Shayke Hutzler, Yael Netz (Israel), Dale Ulrich, Luc Kelly, Francis Kozub, Glen Roswal, Diane Craft, Mary Hums (USA), Greg Reid, Colin Higgs (Canada), Eliane Mauerberg (Brasil), Lu Yan (China), Sean Tweedy, Brendan Burkett (Australia).

If you are interested in this invitation, do not hesitate to contact me as soon as possible and send me your curriculum vitae before February 01 2008. If you have any further questions, please feel free to contact our office. Tel +32 16 32 91 26 or Fax + 32 16 32 91 96.

*Prof. Dr. H. Van Coppennolle*  
*Liason Officer-Internal Coordinator of the Erasmus Mundus Master in Adapted Physical Activity,*  
*offered by a Consortium of 4 Universities (Leuven-Limerick-Olomouc and Oslo)*  
*[herman.vancoppennolle@faber.kuleuven.be](mailto:herman.vancoppennolle@faber.kuleuven.be)*  
*[iana.dobreva@faber.kuleuven.be](mailto:iana.dobreva@faber.kuleuven.be)*

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## “Developing Amazing Leaders” Conference

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Join the U.S Olympic Committee and BlazeSports America for three days of powerful sessions, speakers, and networking at the 2008 Developing Amazing Leaders Conference. Expand your personal leadership skills, gain knowledge to help your organization succeed, and celebrate with us as we recognize outstanding leaders and programs in the Paralympic Movement.

The conference, held at the U.S. Olympic Training Center in Colorado Springs, Colorado, will bring together several hundred leaders from all areas of Paralympic sport. Whether you are currently working in a Paralympic organization, need concrete advice for starting a new program, or just want to learn more about the movement, don't miss this conference. There will be valuable information for individuals at all levels and from many different organizations including non-profits, government, community recreation programs, the military, coaching, education, rehabilitation facilities, as well as the current Olympic and Paralympic family.

Conference highlights include the following:

- Coaching and sport specific training
- Personal leadership skill development through interactive sessions and participation in sport activities
- Program management and administration covering areas such as innovation, brand positioning, increasing revenue, and growing your organization
- Inspiring keynote speakers
- Sharing of best practices from leading organizations throughout the country

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## “Developing Amazing Leaders” Conference, *continued*

- Access to USOC experts in key areas of organizational development and sport programming
- Volunteer recruitment, research, gaining support from athletes and their families
- Networking with key leaders from all areas of the Paralympic movement
- Recognition awards celebrating organizations and individual success, as well as the 2008 Olympic and Paralympic Games in Beijing.
- Conference dates: April 4-7, 2008

The conference begins with dinner on Friday April 4 and end with lunch on Monday April 7. Registration will open in early December. Please check the website for registration links ([www.usparalympics.org](http://www.usparalympics.org)). The headquarters hotel will be the Antiers Hilton Colorado Springs.

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## New Disability and Health Journal

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The American Association on Health and Disability (AAHD) in collaboration with Elsevier Publishing is pleased to announce the launching of the *Disability and Health Journal*, which will be the official journal of AAHD. The *Disability and Health Journal* is a scientific, scholarly, and multidisciplinary peer-reviewed journal for reporting original contributions that advance knowledge in disability and health. Such contributions may include the following:

- Empirical research in the characteristics of people with disabilities, environments, health outcomes and determinants of health;
- Systematic reviews and tightly conceived theoretical interpretations of research literature;
- Evaluations of new interventions, technologies, and programs.

The Editors of the journal are Suzanne McDermott, PhD., Professor, Department of Family and Preventive Medicine, University of South Carolina, School of Medicine, Columbia, SC and Margaret Turk, MD, Professor, Physical Medicine & Rehabilitation and Pediatrics, SUNY Upstate Medical University, Syracuse, NY.

You can visit <http://www.ees.elsevier.com/dhjo> to learn more about the journal, submissions process, and editorial board. The journal will be published quarterly, in print and electronically, with the first issue scheduled for February 2008.

AAHD members will receive a substantial discount on the *Disability and Health Journal*. In celebration of the launching of the *Disability and Health Journal*, AAHD is offering discounts to the AAHD individual and affiliate (non-profits, universities, state and local health departments, government entities) memberships, which includes a one year subscription to the journal.

An individual AAHD membership is \$100.00 and an AAHD affiliate membership is \$250.00, which includes three individual memberships as part of the affiliate membership. For those not a member of AAHD, the journal will cost \$189.00/year and can be ordered directly through Elsevier.

Please visit [www.aahd.us/membership](http://www.aahd.us/membership) to join AAHD and [www.aahd.us](http://www.aahd.us) to learn more about AAHD.

On behalf of the AAHD board and staff, we thank you for your support. We are excited to offer our colleagues the *Disability and Health Journal* and look forward to your membership in AAHD and submissions to the Journal.

Please contact Roberta Carlin, AAHD, Executive Director at [rcarlin@aahd.us](mailto:rcarlin@aahd.us) for further information.

## Conferences

Please see the IFAPA website at [www.IFAPA.biz](http://www.IFAPA.biz).

## XII Special Olympics World Summer Games

XII Special Olympics World Summer Games held on October 1-2 in Shanghai, China was the biggest sport event for people with intellectual disabilities in history and the biggest sport event in 2007 in the world. Over 7,300 athletes with intellectual disability plus 3,000 coaches from 165 countries took part in 26 official and demonstration sports. The city of Shanghai, a population of 18 million people, was completely decorated by hundreds of thousands of banners and billboards. Shanghai Stadium welcomed 80,000 spectators gathered to watch the most spectacular and dynamic Opening Ceremonies in the 40 year history of Special Olympics.

President of People Republic of China, Hu Jintao, underlined in his speech, "China hopes these Games will help the world better understand China and contribute of Special Olympics around the world and in China with more than 9 million people with intellectual disability in our country...".

Very famous stars like Grammy Award winners, Quincy Jones and Tan Dun as well as actors, Collin Ferrell and Jackie Chan attended the games. Governor Arnold Schwarzenegger underlined in his speech the role of Eunice Kennedy Shriver, the founder of Special Olympics International, Inc., who first brought people with intellectual disabilities to sport and recreation in the 1960s.

Over the week, fantastic very well organized competitions in the top class Olympic sports venues showed how many sports talents we have among people with intellectual disabilities and how much we can achieve thanks to regular and good training.

*Mariusz Damentko*  
*Sports Director*  
*Special Olympics Europe/Eurasia*  
[www.specialolympics-eu.org](http://www.specialolympics-eu.org)

## Calendar of Events for 2007 and Beyond

**2008 AIESEP Worlds Congress, "Sport Pedagogy Research, Policy and Practice: International Perspectives in Physical Education and Sports Coaching"**

**January 21-24, 2008. Sapporo, Japan**

For more information: [www.aiesep2008.conf.uq.edu.au](http://www.aiesep2008.conf.uq.edu.au).

**16th ICSPES Biennial Conference, "Global Merging: A new Era for Sport and Physical Education"**

**July 23-26, 2008. Macau, China**

For more information: [www.umac.mo/fed/conference/iscpes08/en/en\\_main.html](http://www.umac.mo/fed/conference/iscpes08/en/en_main.html)

**10th International Symposium of the Asian Society for Adapted Physical Education and Exercise**

**August 1-3, 2008. Seoul, Korea.**

Contact: Korean Society of Adapted Activity and Exercise (KOSAPE); Phone: 82-31-321-1019;

E-mail: [kosape@hanmail.net](mailto:kosape@hanmail.net).

**International Convention on Science, Education and Medicine in Sport**

**August 1-5 2008, Guangzhou, China**

Organized by ICSSPE, IPC, FIMS and IOC. Please contact the ICSSPE Office for more information.

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# IFAPA Executive Board

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Position vacant until 2009

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