

## Dear Reader!

We warmly welcome you to the new issue of **Kinesiology**. As already mentioned in the previous issue, the year 2009 has been the most festive for our Faculty – the year of the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of our institution. A lot has been done to rightly mark this important milestone. Extensive Monography and Bibliography have been published, encompassing the factographic and bibliographic history of the past half century. A permanent exhibition showing photographs documenting “Course for the gymnastic teachers 1894-1896” has been installed at the Faculty. The jubilant eventful year culminated on the 15 November, with the Anniversary Celebration organized in the Croatian National Theatre in Zagreb. We were honoured to host a number of world eminent scientists, our dear friends and long-term collaborators, at the event. In the occasion, the title of Meritorious Professor of the Faculty of Kinesiology was awarded to the following professors: Herman Berčič (Slovenia), Petr Blahuš (the Czech Republic), Katarina T. Borer (USA), Jan Borms (Belgium), Milan Čoh (Slovenia), Predrag Keros (Croatia), Erich Müller (Austria), Izet Rađo (Bosnia and Herzegovina), Roland Renson (Belgium), Włodzimierz Starosta (Poland), József Tihanyi (Hungary), Ilkka Vuori (Finland), Tsvetan Zhelyazkov (Bulgaria). The title of Visiting Professor of the Faculty of Kinesiology was awarded to the following scholars: Branislav Antala (Slovakia), Julio Calleja (Spain), Anita Hökelmann (Germany), Mike Hughes (United Kingdom), Bojan Jošt (Slovenia), Toivo Jürimäe (Estonia), Rado Pišot (Slovenia), Matej Tušak (Slovenia), Jay R. Hoffman (USA), Slobodan Jarić (USA), and Sergej Ostojić (Serbia).

Another important issue raised during this year was the initiative to form the **European Kinesiological Association**, a non-profit organization involving European scientific and higher educational institutions in the field of kinesiology. Preliminary agreement has been achieved with a number of institutions. A preparatory meeting is planned for the spring 2010, while the Founding Assembly Meeting is to take place in the fall 2010.

A point also worth mentioning is that the Faculty was the publisher of the Croatian versions of the two World Health Organization publications—**A healthy city is an active city: a physical activity planning guide** and **Promoting physical activity and active living in urban environments. The role of local governments. The solid facts**—kindly translated and prepared by Prof. Stjepan Heimer.

The current issue presents ten interesting articles. As a tribute in memory of the late Prof.

Thomas Reilly it starts off with his exquisite review on the ways travelling athletes' can deal with jet-lag—article submitted to our journal just a couple of months before his unfortunate passing.

The following nine original scientific papers cover topics pertaining to different research fields. As a contribution to the terminological discussions in the field of kinesiology Čustonja, Milanović and Sporiš analyze the between- and within- Europe and the United States of America differences in the number of departments, faculties or universities offering a degree in human movement science—according to their institution names.

A contribution to the field of human motion analysis comes from Pribanić, Peharec and Medved, who compare a 2D plate calibration and wand calibration in the case of a typical and very popular 3D kinematic system.

Ušaj and Burnik tested whether a certain level of acclimatization still existed a month after a high-altitude alpinist expedition. Three specific adaptation characteristics were tested—alterations in body weight, arterial blood oxygen saturation and heart rate.

Vařeka and colleagues investigated the incidence of ankle sprain in elite female volleyball athletes according to functional foot type and laterality.

Dimec and Kajtna investigated whether there are differences in psychological characteristics between younger and older coaches, while the subject of Barić and Bucik's research was the coaches' contribution to the motivational structure of athletes in team sports.

Zemkova and Hamar evaluated the effect of soccer match induced fatigue on the neuromuscular performance, based on parameters of agility, explosive power of lower limbs, static and dynamic balance, speed of step initiation and the soccer kick.

Erčulj and colleagues, on the other hand, analysed motor ability differences in young elite female basketball players from 27 European countries.

In the final article, Pérez-Turpin and associates aimed to compare movement types and patterns in female professional beach volleyball, during the European Beach Volleyball Championships held in Valencia (Spain) in 2006.

We wish to express our deepest gratitude to eminent peer referees who altruistically put their knowledge, time and effort in service of the journal Kinesiology quality improvement.