

Historical Perspective about ISSP from 1968-1985 and the Presidency of Bob Singer (1985-1993)

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HISTORICAL PERSPECTIVE ABOUT ISSP FROM 1968-1985 AND THE PRESIDENCY OF BOB SINGER (1985-1993)

KEYWORDS: ISSP, Managing Council, Bob Singer, Sport Psychology.

ABSTRACT: The functioning of the ISSP Managing Council (MC) during the early years was influenced to some degree by the Cold War. MC members were determined according to their acknowledged expertise and reputation, but also in respect to their country and political representation. Bob Singer was elected to be a member of the MC in 1977 at the congress in Prague. It was the first time that voting at the general assembly meeting was agreed upon for nominating and voting for MC members together with those members designated by the former MC. In 1985 he was elected as the third president of ISSP. A new phase in ISSP started and new goals were established. A more democratic style of communication and interactions among MC members were stimulated, agendas for the MC meetings were well organized, promotion of the ISSP's mission all over the world was developed, new publications were produced, and new relations with other parts of the world as well as with other organizations were promoted.

The period of Bob Singer's presidency of ISSP is associated with the initiation of a second phase in the development and advancement of the Society. During Antonelli's (1965-73) and Vanek's (1973-85) terms as presidents, ISSP brought together sport psychology scholars, educators, and clinicians, and helped to establish a framework for information sharing and dialogue among such individuals from different parts of the world. The creation of ISSP represented the international recognition of Sport Psychology as a profession. It was started by a psychiatrist and many physicians were in attendance. This influenced a given perspective of sport psychology as being a part of sport medicine that would have consequences in the future development of the profession. On the other hand, the business of the ISSP Managing Council (MC) and how it functioned were strongly influenced and hampered by the politics associated with the "Cold War" at that time. Previous presidents, based on political and cultural norms at that time, used a more autocratic style in governing. When Bob was elected president in 1985, his style of leadership was more democratic. This was due to changing times as well as the American approach to governing.

Bob Singer, when elected president in 1985, attempted to bring a different type of leadership and to achieve efficiently very specific short term and long term goals. With a democratic style, he enthusiastically challenged the MC to be very involved in various activities that would contribute to the promotion and influence of ISSP internationally considering scientific and educational goals, as well as contributions to society and sport. For such reasons, an understanding of Bob's influence on the growth of ISSP as well as the characteristics and achievements during his presidency is of significance. Such information contributes to the written history of ISSP and attempts to clarify

the international evolution of sport psychology during his leadership.

Singer was proactive, extroversive, goal-centered, and socially-oriented as a leader. His management style contrasted considerably with that of the Czech Miroslav Vanek who suffered strong constraints from the political system where he lived which deeply influenced his character and attitude. In private, Vanek was depressed on occasion and expressed himself with secret poetry writing. Nevertheless, he was patient with MC members as he attempted to achieve balanced decisions at meetings. He encouraged younger active members to be involved and to work constructively (Vanek, 1993).

In order to collect data for this article, three types of sources were used. First, oral interviews with Bob provided information about many facts and stories that contributed to understanding events during his involvement with the MC and presidency of ISSP. Second, Bob and the author exchanged extensive correspondence to clarify and add new facts and ideas. Finally, some literature was used to expand historical perspectives.

The interviews were conducted by the first author in different moments during meetings in international congresses. They followed a non-structured approach. Singer discussed his experiences during the period of his active participation in the MC based upon his memories. Then, the first author submitted to Bob his notes of the interviews by email to confirm agreement. Certain statements were clarified, and new facts were introduced. Subsequent emails contributed to clarify information as well as interpreting facts and events. The final report was again submitted to Bob Singer. After confirming the reliability of the information the article was considered to be completed.

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Antecedents

The first ISSP congress that Bob participated in was held in Washington, DC, in 1968 (the second ISSP congress). During the General Assembly at the next congress (Madrid, 1973), and in talking to various international (primarily American) colleagues, Bob perceived that the mode of operation of the ISSP Managing Council (MC) under the direction of president Miroslav Vanek (Czechoslovakia) should be more effective and organized in the future. The General Assembly was quite lively, with many North Americans expressing their dissatisfaction with the lack of democratic elections as well as the non-clarity of what ISSP was supposed to be doing to promote developments and advancements in sport psychology.

Prior to this congress, Americans and Canadians had very little involvement in ISSP. It was considered by many of them to be another European society, with no clear mission and objectives. Furthermore, with the inceptions of NASPSPA in 1967 and FEPSAC in 1969, energies were directed to advancing these societies. President Vanek, having spent time with Bryant Cratty in the USA to work on a book that they co-authored, was a product in leadership style representing Eastern Europe as well as influenced by the American approach. He attempted to balance his leadership style accordingly to satisfy the political orientations and expectations of the members of the MC, especially those representing the East and the West. The European Universities were characterized by being much more formal and hierarchical than the American, and those from the Eastern European countries expected to follow the ideological and political orientations of their countries, being under a high political control. He attempted to have all "blocks" represented in the MC and balance the very autocratic views of some countries with the desire for more democratic processes in others. This resulted in some measures of success expressed through constructive approaches to patiently listen to different points of view. However, communication and accomplishments were diminished on occasion due to English language barriers and at times political perspectives. Basically, discussions on any major issue took a long time to reach resolution and decisions.

The next congress was held in Prague in 1977. Vanek finished his first term as president, and would serve a second and then a third 4-year term. The statutes were later to be changed so that in the future no president or officer could serve for more than 2 consecutive 4-year terms. Furthermore, the statutes were rewritten at a previous MC meeting to modify the election process and secure a more democratic and transparent election process. In past General Assemblies the current MC would present a slate of names, one for each position, to be approved by vote at the business meeting. In Prague, a slate of names was indeed presented, but for the first time, nominations for other names could also be made at the business meeting. And this occurred. Bob's name was not on the slate proposed by the MC, but he was nominated. When final votes were tabulated, he was elected to the MC.

Progress was very slow at annual MC meetings. Certain members could not speak English, or spoke it with difficulty. President Vanek attempted to conduct the meetings in English, and his heart was always in the right place to accomplish a certain number of objectives. His belief was that ISSP should and would become a very meaningful, credible, and visible international society. Goals involved promoting democratic procedures at meetings through open discussions to determine ways of

improving the functions and contributions of the Society (Vanek, 1993). However, his style of leadership and communication approach by certain members resulted in slow discussions. North Americans were used to efficiency and meaningful goals accomplished quickly. Furthermore, on many occasions, the MC meetings exposed problems with the composition of the MC members that resulted in East versus West politics on occasion, polarizing the agenda. MC members were powerful individuals, highly respected generally in their respective countries. Compromise was not easy. Meetings were lengthy and many MC members had opinions, but resolutions and actions were difficult to determine. Much time, Bob remembers, was allocated to determining where the next annual MC meeting would be, hosted by whom, and in conjunction with what event/conference.

The next ISSP congress was held in Ottawa in 1981. On the bright side, sport psychology was growing in many parts of the world, and ISSP was becoming more recognized for bringing together scholars, educators, and clinicians at such congresses to share ideas and develop friendships. Graduate students and young professionals were becoming more involved in sport psychology conferences and programs. They anticipated exciting careers in sport psychology.

The 6th congress was organized in Copenhagen. Prior to it, different candidates were considered for different MC positions at the meeting of the MC the previous year. Consideration for the presidency turned out to be extremely political at the MC meeting. To Bob, and many others, the logical choice would be Hermann Rieder of Germany. He has served ISSP very well as secretary for many years, and complemented Vanek as to style of leadership and approach to work. Vanek had many good thoughts and Rieder had the ability to put them, as well as his own, into action. Rieder was very well liked by everyone. However, he did not wish to serve as president, and expressed this to Bob in a private get-together. He had other ideas for his future than to be involved any more with ISSP on the MC, and felt satisfied and fulfilled with what he done for and with the MC over many years.

As Bob recalls, Dorothy Harris of the USA always mindful of expanding the role of women, wanted to be considered for president. She had been a hard worker for ISSP as treasurer, and deserved to be recognized. However, as Bob spoke to more and more MC members privately on her behalf, it became clear that she would not have their support, even though he did. It seemed as if many of the MC members would not support a woman for president, especially one as outspoken and assertive as Dorothy. She had been the first woman in the MC (1968-73), and in the next three terms, under the presidency of Vanek, three, two, and four women, respectively, became MC members. Bob knew Dorothy for many years, and liked her very much and respected her ideas, professional involvements, and dedication to sport psychology.

Ironically, at this time, Bob was being told by a number of MC members that they wanted him to be considered for the presidency. He felt that Dorothy deserved that status more than he did, and said so. However, it became increasingly obvious that she would not be supported and that he would. Bob met with Dorothy privately and explained the situation. She was very angry and frustrated, and asked him not to run for president. He explained that even if he removed his name that the MC would come up with another male candidate. After much deliberation, he decided to allow his name to go forward. He was elected as president at the General Assembly in Copenhagen.

Presidency: Initial Directions

After taking the office as president in 1985, Bob established practical goals for the MC to accomplish on behalf of the ISSP. Through his leadership style, he encouraged a democratic style of communication and interactions among MC members during the meetings. He had different MC members serving on committees that he created to have members more involved, as well as to be expeditious in a reasonable way to effectively attain specific goals. Agendas at the MC meetings were highly organized and structured so as to deal with a number of tasks in targeted time frames. As was the case in previous years, the MC members were capable but progress was impeded by social, political, and language barriers. Contact possibilities among MC members, or anyone else, were greatly delayed by technological limitations: no email, slow postage delivery, and the expense of international phone calls. So, Bob had to implement on his own many of the ideas agreed upon at MC annual meetings, with annual contributions made by certain MC members much more than other members. Nevertheless he had to make certain decisions on his own to expedite progress, which he thought were in the best interests of the MC and ISSP due to the time consuming process of communication in those times and the lack of response of some members.

The main goals set by Bob were: (i) to educate different parts of the world of the existence of ISSP by describing its goals; (ii) to increase membership; and (iii) to initiate and stimulate the growth of SP internationally, especially in developing countries.

As to the two first goals, he created an attractive brochure and a poster for that purpose. It was supposed to be available at national and international congresses. Membership information in ISSP for individuals and national societies was explained in the brochure. In order to supplement this goal, Bob encouraged the development of a sufficient newsletter, with ISSP information, professional articles, discussion of issues, photographs, and other pertinent information. The previous newsletter was considered to be somewhat inadequate and very limited in scope. The new newsletter would be much more expensive to produce and mail to members, but the MC felt that it was worth it. It was mailed to members twice a year.

In regard to the goal of developing sport psychology internationally, Singer felt strongly in the role of the ISSP to advance sport psychology in different parts of the world, especially in developing countries, and in continents other than Europe and North America. He actively sought representation from Africa, and also took the MC to South America to increase visibility of ISSP there. First of all, Bob suggested to Atsushi Fujita, who was a member of the MC, that he initiate discussions with colleagues in countries in his part of the world for the possibility of forming an Asian society of sport psychology. Fujita committed to this task and the Australian Denis Glencross, who was also a member of the ISSP Managing Council, suggested that the new society should also include South Pacific countries and territories. That happened and the Asian-South Pacific Association of Sport Psychology (ASPASP) was officially announced in 1989, on the occasion of the World Congress held in Singapore (Fujita, 2006). Another way to make a significant impact was to think about having the next ISSP congress in a continent other than Europe and North America. Bob had been invited to Singapore in 1986 to participate in a significant sports medicine congress supported by the government. The congress was very large, and managed incredibly well by the organizers,

considering the content of the program, the social programs, and all other arrangements.

The ISSP Congress in Singapore, 1989

With all the economic, educational, and technological developments occurring in Asia and surrounding areas, it seemed to Bob that Singapore would be a logical location for the next congress. It would be a great springboard for ISSP to make inroads in that part of the world. Furthermore, it would be a meaningful experience for attendees, not from that part of the world.

The first goal was to obtain agreement from Bob's Singapore contacts for their willingness to host such a congress, with government support. After many phone calls and much mail, and with numerous discussions as to what Singapore might propose and what ISSP could guarantee as to number of participants so that Singapore would not lose money in the enterprise, agreement was reached. It should be pointed out that in those years it was rare to have any country propose to host a sport psychology congress of this magnitude. In fact, as Bob convened the MC meeting in 1987, it was the only proposal. The ISSP president was, according to the statutes, responsible for the site of the congress as well as the program.

At the MC meeting in 1987, the Singapore proposal was discussed. It was met with considerable opposition. The primary objections were that it was too far away for Europeans and North Americans (the primary membership in ISSP) to attend and too costly to travel, and therefore would not be well-attended. Furthermore, very few MC members knew anything about Singapore's capabilities to host and organize a major congress, and to do it brilliantly. Finally, the MC approved the proposal, still with much doubt.

Afterwards, Bob continued deliberations with his primary contact in Singapore, a physician, Dr. Giam Choo Keong, who was head of the sports medicine council of the Singapore Olympic Committee. Deadlines for registration and for papers were agreed upon. Because of no convenient way for any MC member or members to receive, review and process papers expediently submitted for presentation, Bob agreed to do this. Remember that in those days, postage was the only way to transmit information. All abstracts were sent to him. He edited every one and had many of them retyped in his office, as the English level for many international abstracts were badly in need of editing and formatting. Participation in the congress, as is the case all the time, depends to a great degree on paper acceptance. All those he accepted were sent to Singapore by the date due.

Everything did not go smoothly. A big problem was the lack of registrations by March (the congress was in July), which made Singapore edgy. It got to a point that Giam, the Singapore contact, talked seriously of voiding the proposal. Then, Bob had to look ambitiously for alternative possibilities. He contacted the chamber of commerce and tourism in Orlando, Florida, to discuss a possible congress there. He was informed about the considerable sum needed in order for a congress to be agreed upon in Orlando. Fortunately, as the registrations in Singapore started to improve, Singapore was happier, and Bob didn't need to proceed further with Orlando.

By all accounts, the congress was a tremendous success. Forty five countries were represented, and about 550 people attended it. The program was excellent, and all matters associated with the congress, from administrative to social events to opening

and closing dinners and ceremonies, were managed very successfully. It was indeed a great opportunity for ISSP members to become more culturally enriched with that part of the world, and to make contributions related to sport psychology there as well.

Reelection to Presidency in 1989 in Singapore

After reelection, Bob continued certain projects he had initiated, and helped to formulate other ones. He had previously formed committees to be responsible for accomplishing tasks, and all MC members served on different committees, three to a committee. Also, they were encouraged to enlist non-MC members to serve on committees. The attempt was to have all MC members and others more involved each year to serve the interests of ISSP and global sport psychology.

Examples of major committees were (1) Science, to be responsible for the scientific content of ISSP congresses as well as to encourage international interactions, (2) Publications – that

would include IJSP being the main ISSP official journal – and publicity, to produce a substantial newsletter and a brochure, and to determine the means to circulate them, (3) International developments, to initiate more professional societies and activities in developing countries, and (4) to establish a sport psychology network.

By that time four continental societies worked for the promotion of SP in their regions. With regard to FEPSAC (Europe) relationships with ISSP still were influenced by the political conflict that generated its inception in reaction against ISSP in 1969. The inception of NASPSA (North America) in 1967 was influenced by the movement initiated by the first activities of ISSP, but kept a distant relationship that became closer by the time of the ISSP Congress of Copenhagen (1985). SOSUPE (South America) started in 1986 and wanted to become a partner of ISSP. Finally, ASPASP (Asia-South Pacific), in 1989, was the result of Bob's diplomacy in cooperation with the MC member Fujita.



Figure 1. ISSP first and current logos. Copyright 2003-2009 by the International Society of Sport Psychology.

Bob felt that ISSP should have a logo that would appear on all of its publications. He originally favored use of the Olympic rings, as it had been previously created by Antonelli, but when that was proposed to the IOC, the idea was rejected. He was not aware of the infringement of rights to use the rings, that the rings were the official Olympic symbol, not to be used by any other organization or person. When discussing the matter with the MC in 1990, it was decided to have a new logo contest. Many excellent proposals for the logo were received, and the MC decided at the end of 1991 on a winner. That logo is still the present one.

A difficult situation to deal with was the publication of the *International Journal of Sport Psychology*. The journal was begun in 1970 by Ferruccio Antonelli, who was also primarily responsible for the formation of the ISSP in 1965, with the first

congress in Rome. The Journal enabled scholars from many countries to disseminate and share their research, as well as to highlight their professional activities and awards. Unfortunately, as years went by, a number of scholars became dissatisfied with the typographical, English, and sentence structure errors in a number of the articles. Because Bob was a very good friend of Ferruccio, he proposed to talk with him to describe these concerns. This occurred but the situation was not improved, according to the MC.

The publisher *Human Kinetics* entered the picture at this time. Bob met with Rainer Martens, President, as well as highly recognized sport psychology scholar and leader, on a number of occasions, as Rainer proposed taking over the publication of the journal. Details could not be worked out to the satisfaction of the MC, also considering allegiance to Ferruccio, who did not want

to release the journal he had created. Another matter discussed by Rainer and Bob was the publication of a new journal, a scholarly one with practical applications. Bob thought that ISSP official recognition of the Journal, and it being listed as one of its journals, was very important for the visibility of ISSP. Rainer thought that this collaboration would help in promoting and distributing the journal internationally. *The Sport Psychologist* was published as such in 1987, with the endorsement of the MC as one of its publications. The *International Journal of Sport Psychology* continued to be an official journal of ISSP. Also, the Spanish journal, *Revista de Psicología del Deporte*, received the label of official journal, despite keeping full editorial independence.

Another kind of ISSP publication that Bob initiated was the Position Statement series. ISSP began producing texts on specific topics and issue-based themes at that time. The papers were based on research findings, and the intent was to make contributions to society and to promote ISSP. The first Position Statement was entitled "Physical Activity and Psychological Benefits" (ISSP, 1991). "The Use of Anabolic Steroids in Sport and Physical Activity" (ISSP, 1993) and "Aggression & Violence in Sport" (ISSP, 1997) were also produced under Bob's presidency.

The Handbook of Research on Sport Psychology

Of the many projects initiated during Bob's presidency, one of the most monumental was the planning to publish a special book on behalf of ISSP. Publications, especially significant ones, would be especially helpful to increase ISSP visibility. In 1989, he proposed the idea to the MC to produce a significant publication, with a major publishing house, that would encompass a great variety of topics that represented at that time current research directions and findings in sport psychology. It would be all-inclusive. More importantly, the book would include scholars from all parts of the world; it would not be another USA book. There were too many books and articles available at that time written by American and Canadians, Bob thought. What was needed was the opportunity for researchers from many countries to provide their perspectives on certain research themes.

And so, the idea was approved by the MC. Bob then created the outline for the book as well as the themes for the many chapters. The objective was to determine an exhaustive identification of themes that represented the widest scope of meaningful research associated with sport psychology at that time. He then identified potential authors of the chapters who represented many parts of the world. They were very excited about participating in the project, even though there were very little financial returns for anyone for the work required. Macmillan Company, which had published other books by Bob, agreed to publish this one. It was to be an outstanding resource book for sport psychologists, under the banner of ISSP.

Thus, work began. It was a laborious project, with many submissions, some rejections, and many rewritings. The *Handbook of Research on Sport Psychology* (Singer, Murphey and Tennant, 1993) turned out to be a tremendous book, with 44 chapters with over 80 authors of the various chapters, almost 1,000 pages in length of an 8/11 inch book. It was published in 1993. Macmillan Company, one of the largest in the world at that time, was wonderfully supportive and helpful in having the book published according to the time line agreed upon. The front cover, after the title, said "A Project of the International Society of Sport Psychology," exactly what Bob wanted for ISSP to be recognized

and identified as the leader in developments in international sport psychology. The book was produced beautifully by Macmillan Company.

Later, he was the leading editor of a second edition of the book, this time entitled *Handbook of Sport Psychology* (Singer, Hausanblas and Janelle, 2001, published by John Wiley & Sons. With over 800 pages and 33 chapters, some themes from the previous handbook were continued and new ones introduced, to represent latest developments in research in sport psychology. Once again, the goal was to have authors of various chapters represent different locations in the world.

The ISSP Congress in Lisboa in 1993

A major challenge for the MC, as in previous years, was to determine the site of the next congress. There were contacts with Spain in regard to submitting a proposal. However, there was a lack of communication from Spain as to submitting the proposal by the established deadline. Bob was worried that there would be no proposal from Spain, and there were no other options. He thought of the stressful experiences he had in collaborating with representatives of Singapore when they threatened to cancel the congress on several occasions. Then, he visited Portugal and spoke with Sidonio Serpa about the possibility of Portugal submitting a proposal, which was discussed during the MC meeting in Cologne in 1991. Meanwhile the Spanish proposal was finally submitted. Both proposals were excellent and were presented at the annual meeting. After much discussion a vote was taken by the MC, overwhelmingly in favor of Portugal.

Much of the work that Bob did in preparation for the congress in Singapore was taken over by MC committees as well as by the congress organizers in Portugal. By all accounts, the congress was a huge success. There were 628 participants and 429 scientific presentations. Fitness Information Technologies (FIT) published the keynote addresses and a few other selected presentations (Serpa, Alves and Pataco, 1994). The scientific program was very varied and of high quality, participation in the congress exceeded expectations, opening and closing dinners and ceremonies were wonderful, the Portuguese hosts and organizers did much to ensure smooth operations, and everyone seemed to be very pleased with their experiences.

During the General Assembly meeting, Denis Glencross was elected as president, and some new members were elected to the MC. Corresponding with the collapse of the Soviet Union, East Germany, and influence over nearby countries a few years earlier, the new MC did not have to deal with political and social issues that plagued the progress at previous MC meetings. The new MC had members who could speak English quite well. Many were young and enthusiastic about advancing the mission of ISSP, and to work toward reaching objectives. Women were now better represented in the MC. Bob, as past president, was to serve another 4 years on the MC, making it a total of 20 years as a member.

Tragedy: Glencross Dies

Denis was very well liked by MC members, as he was charming, a good leader, and a respected motor control scholar. He initiated plans for the further advancement on ISSP, and worked effectively with the MC during his first year as president. A few months after an MC meeting in Guadalajara, Mexico in 1994, one year after the congress in Lisboa, Denis unexpectedly died in his sleep at home. He was a relatively young person, and

his death was a great shock and loss, to his family and many friends in all parts of the world.

What to do with regard to ISSP leadership. Previously, the statutes were changed by a vote by the MC due to the vocal influence of the Americans and Canadians. Also, Bob proposed that there should be three vice-presidents instead of one on the MC, each having a title of responsibility. This was approved by the MC and later by the General Assembly. This was done at that time to give more responsibility to the more senior MC members, which was agreed upon by the then MC. Of course, as was the case with all positions on the MC, elections at the congress determined who served in what capacity. Bob wrote to each vice president upon Denis' death to determine if anyone would be willing to step up to serve as president the next 3 years. No one volunteered. Bob reflected that it would be a good idea in the future to have one vice president designated in the job description to be the next president, should the current president not be able to continue or deemed not effective to continue in that capacity.

The MC decided that Bob should serve as interim president for the next year. He was most familiar with the ongoing activities of and the plans for the MC during this period of time, and had a good support structure at his university. During the MC meeting in 1995 at Papendal, Netherlands, Atsushi Fujita of Japan agreed to serve as interim president until the next congress. He had been a vice president longer than the other two vice presidents. At this meeting, Israel proposed to host the next congress, in 1997. The proposal was endorsed by the MC, and details between the MC and the organizers were worked out. Up until the congress, the MC continued to explore ways to provide ISSP with more international visibility and ways to make a positive impact on the advancement and recognition of sport psychology as a profession and a discipline. With technological advancements, communication capabilities were improved upon considerably, making it much easier to collaborate and produce results in a reasonable period of time.

Gershon Tenenbaum of Israel was elected president at the congress. Bob's time on the MC was completed in 1997 during the congress. He has reflected many times on the wonderful opportunities and experiences he had over the years as a member of ISSP. Friends in all parts of the world remain friends. He has felt fortunate in being able to share in the growth of sport psychology in general and the ISSP more particularly during past decades, and hopes that his contributions have been meaningful, useful, and influential.

After the two terms under Bob Singer's presidency some major achievements may be summarized:

a) With the end of the Cold War, the MC no longer had political constraints although it was still deemed important to have representation from all parts of the world.

b) Meetings were organized with regard to efficiency in determining goals and how to achieve them in promoting ISSP and its potential influence internationally, and more specifically the scientific and practical aspects of SP.

c) ISSP relationships were expanded to other parts of the World than North America and Europe, such as, South America, Asia, Australia, and Africa, and ASPASP was created due to Bob's influence. This contributed to the international advancement of SP.

d) The two World congresses during his presidential term were held in non-traditional regions regarding SP – Singapore (1989) and Lisbon (1993) – where the professional, practical, and scientific knowledge was expanded considerably.

e) Publication activity improved considering the official journals, in the newsletter and the series of Position Statements that were initiated. The *Handbook of Research in Sport Psychology* (1993) was a major achievement and an international main reference in the SP literature, as well as influencing subsequent research and publications.

f) Last but not the least, MC meetings, ISSP congresses, and means of communicating among members were improved, thereby facilitating activity in subsequent terms.

Note 1: The names of the various MC members, and others, who made substantial contributions to ISSP over the terms that Bob was president, have been omitted. This is because (1) it would be very difficult to identify who did what and when, considering the length of time that has transpired since Bob's presidency, (2) there could be a political problem and hurt feelings if certain names were accidentally not included, and (3) the paper would become lengthy with the addition of the names and roles of many individuals over that time period. However, the composition of the MCs from 1985 to 1997 (the period Bob was President and Past-President) is included as annex.

Note 2: The first author wishes to thank Dr. Robert Singer for his cooperation in preparing this article. Over several months many emails were exchanged between us, following face to face interviews, in order to collect and discuss information. Dr. Singer's memories and reports have been key elements in the production of this article.

PERSPECTIVA HISTÓRICA DE LA ISSP DESDE 1968 HASTA 1985, Y PRESIDENCIA DE BOB SINGER (1985-1993)

PALABRAS CLAVE: ISSP, Managing Council, Bob Singer, Psicología del Deporte.

RESUMEN: El funcionamiento del *Managing Council* (MC) de la ISSP durante sus primeros años se hallaba influenciado por la Guerra Fría. Los miembros del MC se designaban de acuerdo a su reputación y sus conocimientos, pero también según su procedencia y su representación política. Bob Singer fue elegido como miembro del MC en 1977 en el congreso de Praga. Fue la primera vez que se acordó que la votación de la Asamblea General sirviera para nombrar a los miembros del MC, junto con aquellos designados por el anterior MC. En 1985 fue elegido como el tercer presidente de la ISSP, iniciándose una nueva fase y se fijaron nuevos objetivos. Se estimuló un estilo más democrático de comunicación e interacción entre los miembros del MC, hubo una mejora organizativa de las agendas de las reuniones del MC, se promovió la misión de la ISSP alrededor del mundo, se editaron nuevas publicaciones, y se fomentaron nuevas relaciones con otras organizaciones y partes del mundo.

PERSPECTIVA HISTÓRICA DA ISSP (1968 ATÉ 1985) E PRESIDÊNCIA DE BOB SINGER (1985-1993)

PALAVRAS-CHAVE: ISSP, Managing council, Bob Singer, Psicologia do desporto.

RESUMO: O funcionamento do *Managing Council* (MC) da ISSP durante os primeiros anos da Sociedade foi, em parte, influenciado pela Guerra Fria. Os membros do MC eram escolhidos em função do facto de serem especialistas internacionalmente reconhecidos e reputados, mas também com o objectivo de uma representatividade nacional e política. Bob Singer foi eleito para membro do MC em 1977, no congresso de Praga. Essa foi a primeira vez que houve uma votação em Assembleia Geral para os membros do MC, para além da designação de elementos por parte do MC cessante. Em 1985 Singer foi eleito terceiro Presidente da ISSP. Começou, então, uma nova fase da Organização, tendo sido estabelecidos novos objectivos. Foi estimulado um estilo mais democrático de comunicação e interacção entre os membros do MS, as agendas de trabalho para as reuniões de trabalho passaram a ser bem organizadas, a missão da ISSP no mundo foi promovida, foram produzidas novas publicações, e estabeleceram-se relações internacionais e com outras organizações.

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ANNEX

ISSP Managing Council in the period 1965-2017

1965 (Rome, Italy) - 1968

President: Ferruccio Antonelli (Italy)

Vice-Presidents: Alfred Morgan Olsen (Norway); Arthur T. Slater-Hammel (USA)

Secretaries: José Ferrer-Hombravella (Spain);

Members: Paul Kunath (Germany), Henri Pierre Périé (France), Josef Recla (Austria), Athayde Ribeiro da Silva (Brazil), Miroslav Vanek (Czechoslovakia)

Members-at-Large: Johnson Warren (USA)

1968 (Washington D.C., USA) - 1973

President: Ferruccio Antonelli (Italy)

Vice-Presidents: Alfred Morgan Olsen (Norway); Arthur T. Slater-Hammel (USA)

Secretaries: José Ferrer-Hombravella (Spain); Miroslav Vanek (Czechoslovakia)

Members: Michel Bouet (France); John E. Kane (England); Athayde Ribeiro da Silva (Brazil); Peter Roudik (USSR)

Members-at-Large: José Maria Cagigal (Spain); Emma Geron (Bulgaria); Paul Kunath (DDR); Arthur Sheedy (Canada)

1973 (Madrid, Spain) - 1977

Honorary President: Ferruccio Antonelli (Italy)

President: Miroslav Vanek (Czechoslovakia)

Vice-Presidents: Arthur Slater-Hammel (USA); Emma Geron (Israel)

Secretaries: Hermann Rieder (Federal Republic of Germany); José Ferrer-Hombravella (Spain)

Members: Michel Bouet (France); José Maria Cagigal (Spain); Maria V. Diaz Lo Sasso (Argentina); Mihai Epuran (Romania); Ann Jewett (USA); John E. Kane (England); Paul Kunath (DDR); Iwao Matsuda (Japan); Athaide Ribeiro da Silva (Brazil); Arthur Sheedy (Canada)

1977 (Prague, Czechoslovakia) - 1981

Honorary President: Ferruccio Antonelli (Italy)

President: Miroslav Vanek (Czechoslovakia)

Vice-President: John E. Kane (England)

Secretary: Hermann Rieder (Federal Republic of Germany);

Members: Mohammed Allawy (Egypt); Nicholai Khudakov (USSR); Dorothy Harris (USA); Gerry Jones (Australia); America Lopez (Venezuela); R. Osmel Martínez (Cuba); Iwao Matsuda (Japan); Gertrude Olszewska (Poland); Pál Rokusfalvy (Hungary); John Salmela (Canada); Brigitte Schellenberger (DDR); Robert Singer (USA)

1981 (Ottawa, Canada) - 1985

Honorary President: Ferruccio Antonelli (Italy)

President: Miroslav Vanek (Czechoslovakia)

Vice-President: John E. Kane (England)

Secretary: Hermann Rieder (Federal Republic of Germany);

Members: Mohammed Allawy (Egypt); Gloria Balagué (Spain); Atsushi Fujita (Japan); Emma Geron (Israel); Philippe Philipe Genov (Bulgaria); Dorothy Harris (USA); Gerry Jones (Australia); Nicholai Khudakov (USSR); John Salmela (Canada); Brigitte Schellenberger (DDR); Robert Singer (USA); Lars-Eric Unestahl (Sweden)

1985 (Copenhagen, Denmark) - 1989

Honorary President: Ferruccio Antonelli (Italy)

President: Robert Singer (USA)

Past President: Miroslav Vanek (Czechoslovakia)

Vice-Presidents: Mohammed Allawy (Egypt); Vladimir Melnikov (USSR); John Salmela (Canada)

General Secretary: Glyn Roberts (USA)

Treasurer: Guido Schilling (Switzerland)

Members: Gloria Balagué (Spain); Atsushi Fujita (Japan); Philippe Genov (Bulgaria); Denis Glencross (Australia); Gerd Konzag (DDR); Richard Magill (USA); Jurgen Nitsch (Federal Republic of Germany); Lars-Eric Unestahl (Sweden)

1989 (Singapore) - 1993

Honorary President: Ferruccio Antonelli (Italy)

President: Robert Singer (USA)

Past President: Miroslav Vanek (Czechoslovakia)

Vice-Presidents: Gloria Balagué (Spain); Atsushi Fujita (Japan); Gerd Konzag (DDR)

General Secretary: Glyn Roberts (USA)

Treasurer: John Salmela (Canada)

Members: Benno Becker Jr. (Brazil); Denis Glencross (Australia); Bola Ikulayo (Nigeria); Richard Magill (USA); Jittendra Mohan (India); Jurgen Nitsch (Federal Republic of Germany); Semen Slobunov (USSR); Marit Sorensen (Norway); Gershon Tenenbaum (Israel)

1993 (Lisbon, Portugal) - 1997

Honorary President: Ferruccio Antonelli (Italy);

President: Denis Glencross (Australia), 1993-1994 (died during the term); Atsushi Fujita (Japan), Interim President 1994-1997

Past President: Robert Singer (USA)

Vice-Presidents: Atsushi Fujita (Japan), 1993-1994; Marit Sorensen (Norway); Bola Ikulayo (Nigeria)

General Secretary: Gershon Tenenbaum (Israel)

Treasurer: Dieter Hackfort (Germany)

Members-at-Large: Marisa Arumi (Spain); Benno Becker Jr. (Brazil); Guillermo Dellamary (Mexico); Joan Duda (USA); Howard Hall (England); Keith Henschen (USA); Jittendra Mohan (India); Hubert Ripoll (France); Sidónio Serpa (Portugal)

1997 (Netanya, Israel) - 2001

Honorary President: Ferruccio Antonelli (Italy)

President: Gershon Tenenbaum (Israel)

Past President: Atsushi Fujita (Japan)

Vice-Presidents: Guillermo Dellamary (Mexico); Howard Hall (England); Keith Henschen (USA);

General Secretary: Sidónio Serpa (Portugal)

Treasurer: Dieter Hackfort (Germany)

Members-at-Large: Dorothee Alfermann (Germany); Nicole Bardaxoglu (Belgium); Likang Chi (Taiwan); Myung-Woo Han (Korea); Bola Ikulayo (Nigeria); Christine Le Scanff (France); Ronnie Lidor (Israel); Taru Lintunen (Finland); Tony Morris (Australia)

2001 (Skyathos, Greece) - 2005

Honorary President: Ferruccio Antonelli (Italy)

President: Keith Henschen (USA)

Past President: Gershon Tenenbaum (Israel)

Vice-Presidents: Dorothee Alfermann (Germany); Howard Hall (England); Bola Ikulayo (Nigeria)

General Secretary: Ronnie Lidor (Israel)

Treasurer: Tony Morris (Australia)

Members-at-Large: Duarte Araújo (Portugal); Likang Chi (Taiwan); Natalie Durand-Bush (Canada); Dieter Hackfort (Germany); Akihiko Kondo (Japan); Athanasios Papaionnou (Greece); Dietmar Samulsky (Brazil); Natalia Stambulova (Russia); Judy Van Raalte (USA)

2005 (Sydney, Australia) - 2009

Honorary President: Ferruccio Antonelli (Italy)

President: Dieter Hackfort (Germany)

Past President: Keith Henschen (USA)

Vice-Presidents: Natalie Durand-Bush (Canada); Sidónio Serpa (Portugal); Judy Van Raalte (USA)

General Secretary: Ronnie Lidor (Israel)

Treasurer: Athanasios Papaionnou (Greece)

Members-at-Large: Abderrahim "Abdou" Baria (Morocco); Jean Côté (Canada); Gangyan Si (Hong Kong); Akihiko Kondo (Japan); Dietmar Samulsky (Brazil); Rico Schuijers (Netherlands); Natalia Stambulova (Sweden); Traci Stadler (USA); Ernest Tsung-Min Hung (Taiwan)

2009 (Marrakesh, Morocco) - 2013

Honorary President: Ferruccio Antonelli (Italy)

President: Sidónio Serpa (Portugal)

Past President: Dieter Hackfort (Germany)

Vice-Presidents: Traci Stadler (USA); Natalia Stambulova (Sweden); Abderrahim "Abdou" Baria (Morocco)

General Secretary: Gangyan Si (Hong Kong)

Treasurer: Ernest Tsung-Min Hung (Taiwan)

Members-at-Large: Athanasios Papaionnou (Greece); Thomas Schack (Germany); Tatiana Ryba (Finland); Ruy Krebs (Brazil); Hiroshi Sekiya (Japan); Antoinette Minniti (England); Alex Garcia-Mas (Spain); Newton Santos Vianna Jr. (Brazil); Bola Ikulayo (Nigeria)

2013 (Beijing, China) - 2017

Honorary President: Ferruccio Antonelli (Italy)

President: Gangyan Si (Hong Kong)

Past President: Sidónio Serpa (Portugal)

Vice-Presidents: Natalia Stambulova (Sweden); Athanasios Papaionnou (Greece); Thomas Schack (Germany)

General Secretary: Alex Garcia-Mas (Spain)

Treasurer: Ernest Tsung-Min Hung (Taiwan)

Members-at-Large: Tatiana Ryba (Finland); Hiroshi Sekiya (Japan); Rob Schinke (USA); Athanasios Nwanegbo Amasiatu (Nigeria); Lauren Loberg (USA); Fabio Lucidi (Italy); Artur Poczwadowski (USA); Young-Ho Kim (Korea); Franco Noce (Brazil)