Issue 4. Learn about leisure in Australia & New Zealand, and much more!
Editorial

From Australia to New Zealand, and then to China, October has been a very busy month for WLO. Keep reading to know what we have been up to!

In the last month, we interviewed some leading leisure and tourism scholars from Australia and New Zealand. We will be sharing these conversations with you in the Encounters section of the upcoming issues of WLO News. Here you can find the first of these video-interviews. I talked to Dr. John Tower, from Victoria University, President of the Australian and New Zealand Association for Leisure Studies (ANZALS) and member of WLO Board of Directors.

In New Zealand, Yvonne Klers, WLO Treasurer and Lecturer at NHTV Breda University of Applied Sciences, and I discussed on leisure as a driving force for city development in a seminar at the University of Otago in Dunedin, organized by Dr. Neil Carr and his colleagues at the Department of Tourism.

These were wonderful opportunities for us to learn about leisure and leisure studies in Australia and New Zealand, and we wanted to share this experience with you. With that aim, in this issue we do not only tell you about these activities, but we also offer you a selection of publications which will bring you closer to the highly interesting work being done in the field of leisure in that specific part of the world.

From New Zealand we jumped to China, were we lived some very intense days in terms of sharing and learning. A group of WLO Board members took part in the Sport, Leisure and Tourism Festival and Summit in Wuyi, in Zhejiang Province. Then, the whole team and Board met in Hangzhou for the big opening of the Third World Leisure Expo and the Third World Leisure Forum. We are very happy with the growth of the Forum as an academic space within the Expo, and very much enjoyed all the presentations! The presence of both local and international speakers was a perfect mix to gain knowledge on leisure in China and Asia, and in relation to the main global trends. A Board of Directors meeting was also celebrated in Hangzhou, and here we tell you about the main issues raised.

Finally, this October issue is completed with some information from our programs, members, affiliates and the extended WLO network.

Enjoy the reading, and thanks for sharing!

Dr. Cristina Ortega Nuere
WLO Chief Operating Officer
Open call for applications for WL Communities of Excellence: Why apply?

WLO launches the 2018 call for applications for the program World Leisure Communities of Excellence. If you are a representative of a community (neighborhood, village, town, city, state or region) and wonder why you should apply, we invite you to get inspired by the experience of the City of Richmond (Canada), which has been a WL Community of Excellence for five months now and is already having multiple opportunities to present its innovative leisure policies and actions to a larger, global audience. We look forward to your applications before the 31 January 2018!

WLO has recently launched a news call for applications to become a World Leisure Community of Excellence. The designation World Leisure Community of Excellence is bestowed for a three-year period upon communities that have successfully used leisure in its widest forms to reinvent themselves and to improve the economic, social and cultural lives of their citizens, and that have made substantive contributions consistent with advancing the mission of WLO.

Last July, the City of Richmond (Canada) was designated as a WL Community of Excellence for the year 2017. Since that moment, Richmond has benefited from several opportunities to present itself and its successful use of leisure to improve its citizens’ quality of life. Firstly, Elizabeth Ayers, Professor Manager, Community Services, Planning & Projects at the City of Richmond, presented Richmond's case study to an international audience in the Third World Leisure Forum “Leisure: Better Life” that happened in Hangzhou (China) the 20-21 October.

Secondly, Richmond received the visit in October of a group of graduate students from Vancouver Island University (VIU), a WL Center of Excellence. NHTV Breda University, which is also part of the network of WL Centers of Excellence, will visit Canada on a fieldtrip with students from the program International Leisure Management in November 2017. During this tour, the students will visit Richmond, to learn about this city and its operational excellence in leisure practices. NHTV Breda University students will also visit VIU, to meet their students and professors. These visits are not only one example of valuable connections between the various programs of WLO, but they also represent a major opportunity for Richmond, as a WL Community of Excellence, to present itself to future leading professionals in the field of leisure.
Jingde County in China was also designated as a WL Community of Excellence last October. We invite communities from all over the globe to join Richmond and Jingde and start benefit from the showcasing and networking opportunities offered by the WL Communities of Excellence program.

Deadline for application is the 31 January 2018, but Notices of Intent are highly encouraged before the 1 December 2017.

WLO Treasurer and WLO COO discuss on leisure as a driving force for city development in a seminar at the University of Otago

Yvonne Klerks, WLO Treasurer and lecturer at NHTV Breda University of Applied Sciences, Academy for Leisure, and Dr. Cristina Ortega, WLO Chief Operating Officer, were invited to deliver a seminar at the Department of Tourism at the University of Otago (New Zealand). The seminar was titled “Leisure transforming old European industrial cities: case studies of Manchester and Bilbao”, and it focused on the re-invention of some cities after the industrial decline by means of different cultural and leisure policies.

The seminar “Leisure transforming old European industrial cities: case studies of Manchester and Bilbao” took place at the Department of Tourism of the University of Otago, in Dunedin (New Zealand), on the 12 October. Yvonne Klerks, WLO Treasurer and lecturer at NHTV Breda University of Applied Sciences, Academy for Leisure, and Dr. Cristina Ortega, WLO Chief Operating Officer, ran this two part, 90 minute seminar, which started with a brief introduction about the industrial era in Europe, and then focused on two study cases that illustrate the role of leisure in a city’s transformation: Manchester (UK) and Bilbao (Spain).

As explained by Klerks, the transformation of Manchester was born out of a crisis situation. But, not every city in a crisis situation manages to have a successful transformation. Manchester succeeded however. A clear vision and excellent planning transformed the city from an old industrial city to a well-known sport city. The transformation of Bilbao, as described by Ortega, is on its part the outcome of 700 years of history (medieval heritage, trade with other nations through the estuary and port, economic power, etc.) which has been recovered and brought to the forefront over the last 30 years. The discussion
was enthusiastically welcome in Dunedin, whose industrial past and heritage find some commonalities with those of the presented case studies, Manchester and Bilbao. Yvonne Klerks and Cristina Ortega also attended the Harbour City Heritage Festival, a festival celebrating the unique character that the harbour gives Dunedin, where some of those commonalities became particularly visible.

Yvonne and Cristina want to take this opportunity to thank the University of Otago, and particularly Prof. Neil Carr and the Department of Tourism, for the invitation to discuss on such an exciting topic. For sure a conversation to be continued!

The Third World Leisure Expo and Forum in Hangzhou: a gathering platform to advance in global leisure concepts

The Third World Leisure Expo and Forum has become a platform to showcase the advance in global leisure concepts. Also, the WLO Board of Directors took this opportunity to hold its annual face to face meeting to report about delivered projects and actions during last year, and discuss organization’s future planning.

This year, and from the 20 October to the 12 November, the World Leisure Expo and Forum has a more international feel gathering exhibitors and speakers from all over the globe. The four main spotlights include the Third World Leisure Expo, the World Summit Forum on Leisure Development, the Leisure Festival for Citizens and the Route of Leisure Experience Demonstration Area.

Specially, the Third World Leisure Forum “Leisure: Better Life”, in its two-day program on the 20 and 21 October, reflected how a large variety of outstanding international scholars and professionals, with different backgrounds coming from different parts of the world, can cover topics related to the leisure field. The Third World Leisure Forum started with an impressive Opening Ceremony set up, and welcome words from distinguished guests like the Mayor of Hangzhou, Xu Liyi and the Chairman of WLO, Dr. Roger Coles. The Opening Ceremony was followed by the World Innovation Prize Award Ceremony presented by Dr. Cristina Ortega Nuere, WLO Chief Operating Officer, and closed with inspiring keynote presentations by Dr. Roger Coles (WLO Chairman), Mr. Song Rui (Director of Chinese Academy of Social Sciences Tourism Research Center) and Mr. Dou Wenyu (Vice President, Business School of City University of Hong Kong). The forum followed with presentations and parallel sessions connected to topics such as: leisure education, leisure and sustainability, leisure and happiness, digital leisure and innovation, community leisure and sports participation… and many more.

Furthermore, The WLO Board of Directors took this opportunity to hold its annual meeting in Hangzhou on the 22 October. With a very intense agenda, the Board Members went through the revision of the progress, projects and actions delivered during the last year. The chairs of the different committees – Membership, Youth Ambassadors, Research
and Knowledge Transference, Board organization and Governance, Educational services and Communication – had the opportunity to report on the work done. In general terms, Board members expressed their satisfaction with the transformation of WLO over the past couple of years, with greater orientation towards establishing synergies within and beyond WLO network, as well as for a more communicative and transparent action.

WLO Board Members participate in Sports, Leisure & Tourism Festival and Summit in Wuyi (Zhejiang, China)

Members of WLO Board of Directors were invited to take part in the 6th Sports Leisure Tourism Festival and in the Sport & Leisure Development International Summit 2017 Zhejiang, which were organized in Wuyi (China) on the 17-18 October. They delivered presentations on topics that ranged from sports to tourism, intangible cultural heritage or leisure for happiness and wellbeing. They also had the chance to admire the stunning landscape of Wuyi County, in Zhejiang province, and witness an impressive show of hot-air balloons as part of the festival.

The 6th Sports Leisure Tourism Festival and the Sport & Leisure Development International Summit 2017 combined academic discussion on leisure with the opportunity to enjoy some local cultural and leisure expressions. The Festival and the Summit, which took place in Wuyi County, in the Chinese province of Zhejiang, counted with the participation of several WLO Board of Directors members, who were invited by Lijun Jane Zhou, Associate Dean at the College of Education, Zhejiang University, and also a WLO Board Member.

With their presentations, they drew a panorama touching some of the hottest topics in the field of leisure today:
- “Bicycle Trails & Leisure Tourism”, by Roger Coles, WLO Chairman, Professor and the Interim Vice Provost for Community Engagement at Central Michigan University.
- “What Makes Us Happy”, by Stephen Anderson, Professor at Florida International University – Miami, Florida, USA.
- “Sport Tourists as Special Travelers”, by Miklos Banhidi, Professor at the Health and Sport Science Faculty, Szchenyi University, Gyor, Hungary.
- “Trends on Training Programmes on Intangible Heritage”, by Cristina Ortega Nuere, WLO Chief Operating Officer, Associate Professor at Universitat Oberta de Catalunya.
- “Simulation in Leisure for People with Disabilities: Quality of Life and Virtual Reality Sailing”, by Cary E. Autry, Clinical Assistant Professor at Florida International University – Miami, Florida, USA.

In a unique natural environment, Wuyi presents itself as a city of vitality and a county of institutional innovation and ecology.

The Festival and the Summit were hosted by the Sports Bureau of Zhejiang Province and the Bureau of Zhejiang Province, organized by Wuyi County People’s Government, and co-organized by CountyZhejiang Chenge Sports Culture Development Co., LTD.
Representatives of WLO visit Zhejiang University

A group of representatives of WLO visited the facilities of Zijingang Campus of Zhejiang University on the 21 October, after the Third World Forum, invited by Lijun Jane Zhou, Associate Dean at the College of Education, Zhejiang University, and member of WLO Board of Directors. The visit included a guided tour through the University History Museum and a presentation on the research work carried out by the University in the field of Sports, Health and Leisure.

On the 21 October, right after the closing of the Third World Leisure Forum, WLO representatives were offered a guided tour through the Zijingang Campus of Zhejiang University. After a visit to the University History Museum, the group was welcome by Prof. Li Min, director of the International Relations Office. Then, Prof. Roger Coles, WLO Chairman, introduce the work of the network, followed by an introduction to Zhejiang University’s College of Education research on Sports, Health and Leisure, delivered by Lijun Jane Zhou, Associate Dean at the College and also a WLO Board Member.

The history of Zhejiang University goes back as far as 1897, when its predecessor Qiushi Academy was established. With over 133 undergraduate programs, 334 Mater programs and 332 Doctoral programs, it ranks today among the best universities in China and in Asia in the most important international university rankings.

As pointed out by WLO COO, Dr. Cristina Ortega, “getting to know the people behind our institutional members, even the facilities were they develop their work, is an extremely enlightening experience that help us better understand their circumstances and needs. We want to make this experience extensive to a greater number of people within the WLO network, and this is why we keep working of promoting synergies and exchanges through programs such as WL Communities of Excellence or WL Centers of Excellence”.


ANZALS’ project on the state of leisure studies in Australia and New Zealand

Leisure scholars and practitioners may be interested in how leisure studies are developing in Australia and New Zealand. ANZALS conducted a project over the last few years to explore the state of leisure studies in Australia and New Zealand. The project involved input from ANZALS Patrons, ANZALS Conference workshop participants and a rigorous review of the whole process with collaborative authors from around the world. The article about the project is now available via World Leisure Journal and Routledge, Taylor and Francis has generously given it free access. Enjoy the reading! READ MORE...

2018 WL Field School: Are you a leisure student? This will surely be of your interest!

A new World Leisure Field School is being planned by WL Centers of Excellence Vancouver Island University and NHTV Breda. This new edition of the WL Field School will be developed right before 2018 World Leisure Congress in São Paulo and it will allow participant students to practically explore leisure constraints in a local Brazilian community.

The World Leisure Field School is an international experience combining field experience and Congress attendance. The 2018 World Leisure Congress to be held in São Paulo (Brazil) focuses on the theme “Leisure Beyond Constraints”. The theme refers to the issue of leisure and access in its broadest sense, and comprises at least three dimensions of barriers – physical, socio-economic and symbolic – which must be recognized, discussed and overcome, so that all people can fully enjoy and take advantage of leisure. Utilizing that theme, students will study and experience leisure constraints in a local Brazilian community. Students will be in the field for approximately 3-4 days followed by the Congress attendance. The first inaugural WL Field School took place in Mobile, Alabama, and the second one in Durban (South Africa) with 30 students from 9 countries, so a very dynamic, global experiential exposure is expected in beautiful Brazil!

We will regularly post information about the Field School, as well as some testimonials from participants in previous editions. If you are a student and would like to get involved in the next WL Field School, stay tuned for more information!

Date and place: Brazil, 28 August-1 September 2018
Costs: to be announced
Contact: Joanne Schroeder, Schroeder@viu.ca
The Field School is organized by World Leisure Centers of Excellence. If you are working in a higher education institution teaching leisure and you would like to join the network and give your students priority access to this hands-on educational experience, stay tuned for a call for applications to become a WL Center of Excellence to be launched in the next issue of WLO News.

Get to know the facilitators and join WLO’s Special Interest Groups!

A total of 11 Special Interest Groups (SIGs) have been created to date and here we share with you the list of facilitators for each one of them. We invite WLO members to get in contact with the corresponding facilitator to join a SIG and work together with other members at a global level.

Special Interest Groups (SIGs) are intended to focus upon a significant segment of leisure study and/or service. Member-generated and member-driven, they provide a space for WLO members to meet and work together at a global level. SIG are coordinated by the WLO Research and Knowledge Transference Committee, and particularly by the chair of the Committee Dr. Douglas A. Kleiber, University of Georgia.

This is the list of facilitators for the SIGs which are already up and running, and which will play a role in the organization of the sessions in 2018 World Leisure Congress in São Paulo and beyond:

- **Leisure Management and Policy**, Dr. John R Tower, PhD, Victoria University, Australia. John.Tower@vu.edu.au
- **Diversity, Access and Inclusion**, Jerome F. Singleton, PhD, CTRS, Dalhousie University, Canada. Jerome.Singleton@Dal.Ca
- **Leisure for Children and Youth**, Cari E. Autry, Ph.D., CTRS, Florida International University, USA. cautry@fiu.edu
- **Leisure Education**, Atara Sivan, Ph.D., Hong Kong Baptist University, Hong Kong. atarasiv@hkbu.edu.hk
- **Leisure Well-being**, Teresa Freire, PhD, Universidade do Minho, Portugal. tfreire@psi.uminho.pt
- **Leisure in Later Life/Ageing**, Laura Payne, Ph.D., University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign (UIUC), USA. lpayne@illinois.edu
- **Leisure and Gender**, Heather Gibson, Ph.D., University of Florida, USA. hgbison@hhp.ufl.edu
- **Leisure and Innovation**, Lénia Marques, Universidade Aberta, Lisboa, Portugal. lenia.marques@ua.pt
- **Travel and Tourism**, Liza Berdychewsky, Ph.D., University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, USA. lizabk@illinois.edu
- **Community and Economic Development**, Joanne A. Schroeder M.A. Leisure Service Admin., Vancouver Island University, Canada. joanne.schroeder@viu.ca
- **Leisure and Sport**, Mogens Kirkeby, International Sport and Culture Association (ISCA), Denmark. mk@isca-web.org

Contact the facilitators for more info or to join the SIG!
Jerome Singleton (Canada): “Leisure is any experience that have the following characteristics: it is fun, enjoyable, and relaxing, it is freely chosen”

Dr. Jerome Singleton is a Professor or Leisure Studies at the School of Health and Human Performance at Dalhousie University (Canada). His areas of expertise are Leisure and aging, Social gerontology, Leisure research and Therapeutic recreation. He just renewed his WLO membership but he has a long history of active participation within the network. He is now the facilitator of the Special Interest Group (SIG) “Diversity, Access and Inclusion”. This short interview will allow you to know a bit more about him and his work.

Jerome Singleton is a professor and a leisure researcher at Dalhousie University (Canada). He is also the facilitator of the Special Interest Group (SIG) “Diversity, Access and Inclusion”. Jerome just renewed his membership and we took the opportunity to ask him a few questions to let you know him better.

In one sentence: What does leisure mean to you?
Leisure is any experience that has the following characteristics: it is fun, enjoyable, and relaxing, it is freely chosen.

What leisure projects, research and/or activities are you involved in?
I am currently working on a text on Therapeutic Recreation Assessment with Dr. Thom Skalko, Tristan Hopper and Andrea King.

How do you promote the development of leisure and leisure studies at Dalhousie University?
I promote the development of Recreation and Leisure Studies through the professional organizations in which I am involved as well as working toward Accreditation of the Recreation and Leisure Studies program at Dalhousie University in Halifax, Nova Scotia.

Why did you decide to become a member (and renew membership) of WLO?
You need to think globally and act locally due to global migration. WLO provides the opportunity to engage with a global community.

You were chair of the old Commission “Access and Inclusion” and you will now facilitate the SIG “Diversity, Access and Inclusion”, how would you encourage people to join the SIGs?
The SIG “Diversity, Access and Inclusion” is only as strong as its membership. I would encourage members to join and make us strong.

What kind of synergies would you like to keep on developing through your WLO membership?
To understand how “Diversity, Access and Inclusion” are defined, how policy is shaped within the culture and heritage of a global society.
FREE ACCESS to World Leisure Journal articles on leisure in Australia and New Zealand

The full text of three important articles on leisure in Australia and New Zealand published in the World Leisure Journal can now be accessed for free. On top of the already mentioned “State of leisure studies in Australia and New Zealand” (2017), by John Tower et al., you can now freely access, until the end of the year, “Serious and Other Leisure: Thirty Australians” (1993), by Stan Parker, Elery Hamilton-Smith and Penny Davidson, and “Tourism in New Zealand” (1990), by Grant Cushman.

READ MORE...

BOOKS: Recent and upcoming publications by scholars of the University of Otago (New Zealand)

In order to expand our range of resources on leisure studies being developed in Australia and New Zealand, we asked the University of Otago (New Zealand) to send us a selection of works on leisure or leisure-related issues, recently published by its scholars, or which will be published in the upcoming months. Thank you colleagues for suggesting such high quality volumes for our leisure library!

If you want to feel the pulse of the work being produced in the field of leisure in Australia and New Zealand, here you are a selection generously provided by our colleagues at the Department of Tourism of the University of Otago. The following selection is focused mainly on tourism and, particularly, on tourism management, sustainable tourism, indigenous peoples, animal welfare, and sports tourism.

Published in 2017

Due for publication in 2018


FREE ACCESS to World Leisure Journal articles on leisure, happiness and wellbeing

As a closure to the Third World Leisure Forum (20-21 October) in Hangzhou, which focused on “Leisure: Better Life”, we asked Routledge, Taylor and Francis to select and give free access to some relevant articles on this topic. From now and until the end of the year, you can access and download these two World Leisure Journal articles free of charge: “In the pursuit of happiness all family leisure is not equal” (2016), by Karen K. Melton and Ramon B. Zabriskie, and the Guest Editorial to vol. 58, no. 4 (2016) by R. W. Robertson, titled “The relationships between leisure and happiness”.

READ MORE...

New OITS-ISTO Publication Tourism in actions

This new, open access report published by the International Social Tourism Organisation (ISTO), Tourism in actions. 20 examples of social policies & programmes around the world, presents 20 examples from 17 different countries which have benefited large numbers of people as well as the local economy, contributed to the training of stakeholders and increased the quality of supply. To learn more about good practices in social tourism, click and read!

READ MORE...
**WLJ CALL FOR PAPERS: “Eco-Leisure: seeking and doing ecologically oriented leisure and recreation activities”**

*World Leisure Journal* has launched a call for papers for a special issue covering a range of topics and perspectives that will complement our understanding of eco-leisure. Given that this concept is not well documented, *WLJ*’s editors intend to engender debate, engage scholars and practitioners in issues of ecological relevance and social change in leisure perspective. The Guest Editor for this issue will be Professor Lawal Marafa from The Chinese University of Hong Kong. Articles due date is 31 March 2018.

READ MORE...

**EXTENDED CALL FOR BOOK CHAPTER Submissions – Events Tourism: contemporary and critical issues of the 21st century**

This book on Events Tourism is planned to be released in late 2018. While 21 abstracts were received in an initial submission, editors of the volume, Dr Violet V. Cuffy (University of Bedfordshire, United Kingdom), Dr Fiona Eva Bakas (University of Aveiro, Portugal), and Dr Willem Coetzee (University of Otago, New Zealand), would now like to give colleagues another opportunity to be part of this exciting project in a few areas they would like to include in this volume as indicated in the attached call for book chapter submissions. These areas include a wide range of theoretical and contemporary perspectives. Extended deadline for abstracts submission is the 20 November 2017.

READ MORE...

**JOB OPPORTUNITY at NHTV Breda University of Applied Sciences: Lecturer Operational Management in Tourism**

WL Center of Excellence NHTV Breda University for Applied Sciences (The Netherlands) is looking for Lecturer Operational Management in Tourism, with hands-on experience as (operational) manager in tourism industry, for their Bachelor program Tourism Management. Deadline for application: 6 November 2017.

READ MORE...
November events in the Official Calendar of the #IY2017 of Sustainable Tourism for Development

The 2017 International Year of Sustainable Tourism for Development, facilitated and implemented by UNWTO, enters the final stretch with some important events ahead in the calendar. The International Conference on Promoting Sustainable Tourism, a Tool for Inclusive Growth and Community Engagement in Africa will be celebrated on the 16-18 November in Lusaka (Zambia), and Montego Bay (Jamaica) will host the Global Conference on Jobs & Inclusive Growth: Partnerships for Sustainable Tourism, organized by UNWTO, the Government of Jamaica and World Bank Group. Remember that you can also contribute to the #IY2017 by participating in the Travel. Enjoy. Respect Campaign.

READ MORE...

The European Culture Forum, “a biennial flagship event organised by the European Commission”

The European Culture Forum will take place in Milan (Italy) on the 7-8 December. As expressed in the event’s site, the European Culture Forum is aimed “to raise the profile of European cultural cooperation, to bring together cultural sectors’ key players and to debate on EU culture policy and initiatives. Its 2017 edition will also mark the official launch of the European Year of Cultural Heritage 2018, the thematic EU year devoted to our common cultural assets and all their aspects”. Deadline for registration is the 10 November.

READ MORE...
Encounter with... Dr. John Tower, Victoria University, President of ANZALS and WLO Board member

Dr. John Tower has been working in the leisure, recreation, and sports industry for over 40 years with a particular interest in community sport and recreation participation and the delivery of community sport and recreation services. John is currently an Honorary Research Fellow at the Institute of Sport, Exercise and Active Living (ISEAL) of Victoria University in Melbourne (Australia). He is also the President of the Australian and New Zealand Association for Leisure Studies (ANZALS) and member of WLO Board of Directors. His involvement in sport and recreation academia is driven by a keen interest in the capacity of positive recreation and sports experiences to contribute to a community’s quality of life.
World Leisure Organization is a non-profit organization registered in the State of New York in Special Consultative Status with the UN Economic and Social Council since 1990.

Scientific and Technical Office -
Arenal 1. Segunda Planta 48005
Bilbao, Spain - www.worldleisure.org