

# May'19

## **WL NEWS**

Issue 17. Moving forward in the preparation of our big leisure events!





# Editorial

Dear members, dear colleagues,

This newsletter has become a space where we aim to be accountable to our members and stakeholders. It is with this objective that we regularly report on our activities, working meetings, business trips, etc. In this issue, we include information about the work done in our last trip to China in May, where we met the local teams in charge of the organization of the 2020 WL Congress in Pinggu-Beijing (17<sup>th</sup>-23<sup>rd</sup> October 2020) and of the 4<sup>th</sup> WL Expo & Forum in Hangzhou, China (18-20<sup>th</sup> October 2019).

We also introduce you to Prof. Dr. Atara Sivan through a video-interview in the Encounters section. Atara is not only an expert on Leisure Education, but also the facilitator of the WL Special Interest Group (SIG) on this topic, a member of WL Board of Directors, Founder and Chairperson of WL Hong Kong Chapter, President and Senior Fellow Member of WL Academy, and the editor-in-chief of the *World Leisure Journal*. We have also selected some *WLJ* articles on Leisure Education, who are brought to you with free access until the end of the month.

We thank you for reading and will be happy to hear your feedback on this specific issue of the newsletter or on our work more generally.

Yours truly,

Dr. Cristina Ortega Nuere  
WLO Chief Operating Officer

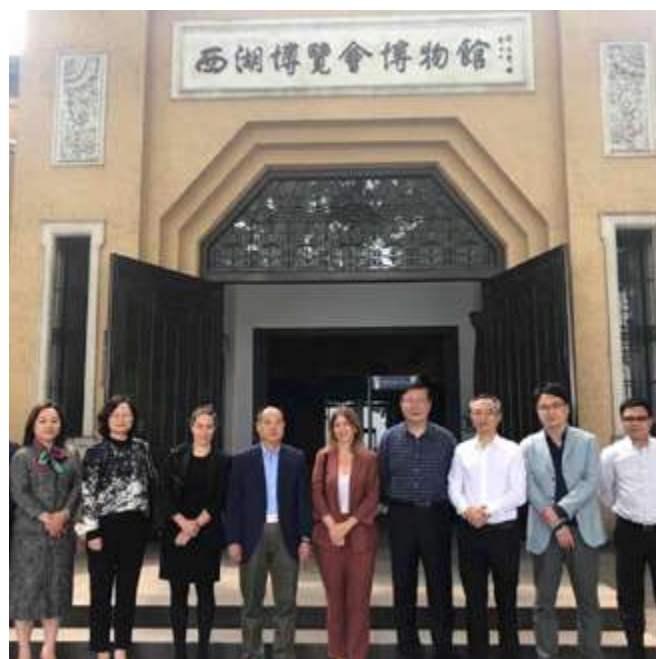


# WLO Highlights



## WLO meets the Pinggu 2020 WL Congress local organizing team in China

WLO Chief Operating Officer Dr. Cristina Ortega, WL Board of Directors member Dr. Jane Zhou, and Events and Communications Coordinator Mireia Iglesias met the local organizing team of the 2020 WL Congress in Pinggu-Beijing last May. WLO delegation visited the office that has been created for the scientific organization of the Congress within Beijing University of International Studies. The meeting was devoted to advance on the program definition, as well as to discuss on the next steps and coordination mechanisms. An effort has been made to bring together the local scientific community interests, in China and in Pinggu more specifically, and the hot topics in the academic leisure sphere worldwide, according to the work being developed within the network. Stay tuned for the call for abstracts to be launched shortly!



## New actors join the local organizing team of the WL Expo in Hangzhou, and the topics of the WL Forum are now set!

A WLO delegation met in Hangzhou the WL Expo & Forum office team, to discuss on progress made with regards to the program and general organization of the 4<sup>th</sup> WL Expo and Forum (18<sup>th</sup>-20<sup>th</sup> October 2019, Hangzhou, China), under the theme "Leisure City, Better Life". WLO team got to know the new players entering the local team: Hangzhou Bureau of Commerce and Hangzhou Commerce and Tourism Group, who join Zhejiang Provincial People's Government and Hangzhou Municipal People's Government in the organization of this major international leisure expo. Furthermore, the topics for the WL Forum have been now defined: with "Leisure city, better life" being the general theme of the WL Forum, some other topics will be explored in parallel: Leisure and Rural Revitalization; Leisure and Sports;



Leisure and the integration of Culture and Tourism, and Leisure and Industry Transformation.

As part of the May trip to China, a WLO delegation formed by WLO Chief Operating Officer, Dr. Cristina Ortega and Events, and Communications Coordinator, Mireia Iglesias, met the WL Expo Office in Hangzhou on the 14<sup>th</sup> May. This meeting was entirely devoted to the organization of the 4th WL Expo and Forum (18-20<sup>th</sup> October 2019, Hangzhou, China). This event is guided by Zhejiang Provincial People's Government, and hosted by Hangzhou Municipal People's Government and the WLO. As a novelty, new players have entered the local team in the role of organizers: Hangzhou Bureau of Commerce and Hangzhou Commerce and Tourism Group.

The local team provided WLO team with an overall state of the art of the event's organization, with regard to its thematic focus – "Leisure City, Better Life", programming and organizational aspects. Both teams discussed on more intense and collaborative ways of cooperation in the upcoming months, until the celebration of the WL Expo. High level speakers will be invited to take part in the Expo and the Forum, from the academic sphere, but also representatives of cities developing ground-breaking approaches to leisure and making innovative leisure policies. A joint committee will be formed between the WL Expo Office and WLO, for better coordinated work and enhanced communication and marketing joint efforts.

We are also pleased to announce the topics of the WL Forum. The general theme will be "Leisure city, better life", and there will be four parallel forums exploring the following topics: Leisure and Rural Revitalization; Leisure and Sports; Leisure and the integration of Culture and Tourism, and Leisure and Industry Transformation.

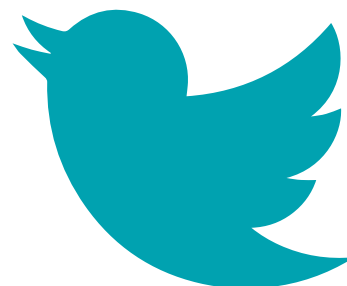


## The WL Youth Ambassadors Committee wants to know your opinion!

WLO is conducting a short online survey for the World Leisure Youth Ambassadors Committee (WLYA), to have qualified input from leisure field emerging leaders. In so doing, we are gathering information about the motivations and expectations, as well as the activities and projects, in which young leaders might be willing to take part. We invite all the Youth Ambassadors in the field of leisure studies to provide feedback and comments [here](#). Thank you in advance for your participation!

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**The World Leisure Journal is now on Twitter. Follow @WorldLeisureJ and stay updated!**



# WLO Insights



## Celebration of the Award Ceremony acknowledging Keqiao District as a WL Community of Excellence

The official Award Ceremony of World Leisure Community of Excellence – Keqiao (Shaoxing, China), took place on the 13<sup>th</sup> May 2019 in the city of Keqiao. WLO COO, Dr. Cristina Ortega Nuere accompanied by WL Board Member, Dr. Jane Zhou honoured the district of Keqiao and handed the official plaque to Mr. Rulang Zhao, Mayor of Keqiao.



## Meeting with WLCE at Zhejiang University to discuss internship opportunities for students at the WLO

A meeting was held on the 12<sup>th</sup> May with World Leisure Center of Excellence (WLCE) at Zhejiang University to establish the basis of a permanent cooperation scheme through which ZJU students can intern at WLO, both at the WL Secretariat in Bilbao and at WLCE at ZJU. Internships will focus mainly on two working dimensions: development and implementation of WL programs in China, and marketing and communication in the Asian country and the wider region, to promote membership and WLO programs there through translation of communication materials, use of most used social media in China, etc.



## WLO delegation attends the China Hangzhou International Tea Industry Expo and the “Taste of Hangzhou” – Asian Cuisine Festival

WLO Chief Operating Officer, Dr. Cristina Ortega, and Events and Communication Coordinator, Ms. Mireia Iglesias, had the opportunity to attend the opening ceremony as international invited guests of the China Hangzhou International Tea Industry Expo at Hangzhou International Expo Centre. The Tea Industry Expo, which took place between the 14<sup>th</sup> and the 19<sup>th</sup> May, convened famous tea producers, artisans and local and international experts. Representatives of the top tea industry, coffee and tea lovers gathered together to create a grand tea festival. WLO team, accompanied by Board members Dr. Jane Zhou and Dr. Ling Ping, also witnessed the opening ceremony of the “Taste of Hangzhou” – Asian Cuisine Festival, on the 15<sup>th</sup> May, which was part of celebrations for the Conference on Dialogue of Asian Civilizations held in Beijing. Both international high level events have been organized by the current local organizers of the 4<sup>th</sup> WL Expo & Forum, that takes place in Hangzhou from 18<sup>th</sup> to 20<sup>th</sup> October.



# Members' Voice



## Yu Niu (United States)

*My study aims to better understand the benefits of leisure for older adults*

Yu Niu is a PhD student at the Department of Tourism, Recreation & Sport Management of the University of Florida. She researches on leisure and tourism experiences among older adults and wishes to connect with fellow scholars from around the world.

Yu Niu is researching on the impact of leisure in older adults' lives. She is enrolled in a PhD program at the Department of Tourism, Recreation & Sport Management of the University of Florida. We are glad to welcome her as a new WLO member!

### **In one sentence: What does leisure mean to you?**

Leisure means opportunities to explore a "true" self and enjoy the world in a way that I choose.

### **What leisure projects, research and/or activities are you involved in?**

I study leisure and tourism experiences among older adults and the influences of these experiences on their health and well-being. In my leisure time, I like walking and participating in local events with friends. I'm learning photography, so that would be my future leisure activity.

### **How do you promote the development of leisure and leisure studies?**

My study aims to better understand the benefits of leisure for older adults, which in practice may help them better age in place.

### **How did you hear about WLO?**

From my advisor who encouraged me attending and presenting at WL Congresses.

### **Why did you decide to become a member of WLO?**

I would like to join several special interest groups that connect scholars with similar study interests. By resource sharing and discussion, we can learn from each other and improve ourselves.

### **What kind of synergies would you like to develop through your WLO membership?**

Networking with scholars from different areas of the world.



**Nicole Peel (Australia)**

*Leisure to me means being able to do something that makes me feel free and allows me to express myself*

This month we also welcome Nicole Peel, Associate Lecturer on Therapeutic Recreation at the School of Science and Health at Western Sydney University. She is currently exploring the leisure of young people in foster care, and we are very happy to have her among our members.

We give a warm welcome to Nicole Peel, who has recently joined us as a WLO member. She works as an Associate Lecturer on Therapeutic Recreation at the School of Science and Health at Western Sydney University, and has recently published about the state of leisure studies in Australia and New Zealand.

**In one sentence: what does leisure mean to you?**

Leisure to me means being able to do something that makes me feel free and allows me to express myself.

**What leisure projects, research and/or activities are you involved in?**

Exploring the leisure of young people in foster care.

**How do you promote the development of leisure and leisure studies?**

Through engaged student events within industry, marketing tools that build an identity of leisure uses within health, researching leisure and translating the benefits of leisure into appropriate language for relevant audiences.

**How did you hear about WLO?**

I have attended WL Congresses.

**Why did you decide to become a member of WLO?**

To be part of an international network that supports and promotes leisure.

**What kind of synergies would you like to develop through your WLO membership?**

I am keen to develop international partnerships for collaborative projects.



# WLO Network



## Reflections after the events supported by the WL Latin American Chapter in Mexico: progress in the Latin American process

During March 2019, two events were organized in Mexico, which counted with the support of the WL Latin American Chapter: the *Congress of the Latin American Association of Sports Management-ALGEDE* and the *VIII Latin American Recreation Encounter in Colima*, on the one hand, and the *IV Community Recreation Encounter*, in the city of Huajuapán de León (State of Oaxaca). WL Board of Directors member Carlos Alberto Rico has shared some post-event reflections. Keep reading to learn more about these events' contributions to the strengthening of the leisure and recreation field in the region.

*By Carlos Alberto Rico, WL Board of Directors member*

The first event articulated two academic spaces: The *Congress of the Latin American Association of Sports Management-ALGEDE* and the *VIII Latin American Recreation Encounter*. These were held in the city of Colima, Mexico, under the organization of the University of Colima. Advances in research, education and recreation management were discussed at these events. Nevertheless, one of the main achievements was the advance on the working agenda of the Latin American Recreation Network, given that several countries of the continent, which have been working systematically in the field, were present.

Taking advantage of the presence in Colima for such event, support was given to the State Center for the social prevention of violence and crime through citizens' participation by conducting a Course-Workshop titled "Public policies for the social prevention of violence and crime with a focus on the culture of peace". In so doing, it was sought to contribute to community interventions in recreational spaces, as well as strategic planning for the design, implementation and evaluation of recreational projects with children and youth of the state of Colima.

The second event in which the WL Latin American Chapter has taken part in is the *IV Community Recreation Encounter*, which took place in the city of Huajuapán de León, a municipality located in the State of Oaxaca, Mexico. The place itself was a sample of community recreation in its organizational style, of communality and sharing, demonstrating the real capacity of human beings to work collectively. The central axis of reflection was the relationship between recreation and basic education. Additionally, other important concerns emerged regarding children's rights, with the urgency

of having public policies which provide strong support to the management of processes in the field, with the imperative of considering a distinctive approach which considers, for instance, the historical needs of women in the region.

Within the framework of this meeting, the launching of five books was carried out, all of them published by the *Editorial Casa de las Preguntas* ("House of the Questions"): *Leisure Experience of Latin American Women*; *Present issues in the field of Recreation*; *Recreation and Dictatorship: a case of Latin America*; *Community Recreation: Identities, methodologies and experiences in Latin America*, and *Infrapolitic practices in the leisure time spaces of a group of Latin American women*.

The most important conclusion of these events is the recognition and awareness of the imperative of assuming the role of the field of recreation and leisure as a political ethical project, which strengthens its own capabilities to respond to the needs of transformation demanded by the current world. On the one hand, this involves recognizing us from what we are, from our ancestral philosophy, whereas on the other hand, it also refers to knowing how to articulate these processes, with a present that demands urgent interventions.



## Report now available on 2018 EU-China Tourism Year

A report is now available highlighting some of the 270 actions and events (co)initiated and/or (co)funded by the EU. This document also provides key figures on the impact of these actions and events. It shows significant contributions of the 2018 Tourism Year, for instance, among other things, to bring more Chinese travelers to all corners of the EU (generating +16.9 % in bookings from China to the EU, for January to April 2019), which is well above the overall increase of Chinese bookings for international destinations.

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## Learn, share and act with the UNWTO Tourism for SDGs Platform!

WLO in the person of its Chief Operating Officer (COO), Dr. Cristina Ortega has been participating in the UNWTO Working Group for Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). As a result of this joint work, the Tourism for SDGs Platform has been developed. This platform aims to inspire public policy makers to shape better policies for tourism, as well as to strengthen the engagement of the private sector in the SDGs implementation, along with the principles of the Global Code of Ethics for Tourism and their CSR strategies and to increase financing framework and enhance partnerships among different stakeholders, including travelers. Hence, we encourage our members and partners to check out, contribute to and disseminate such useful tool!

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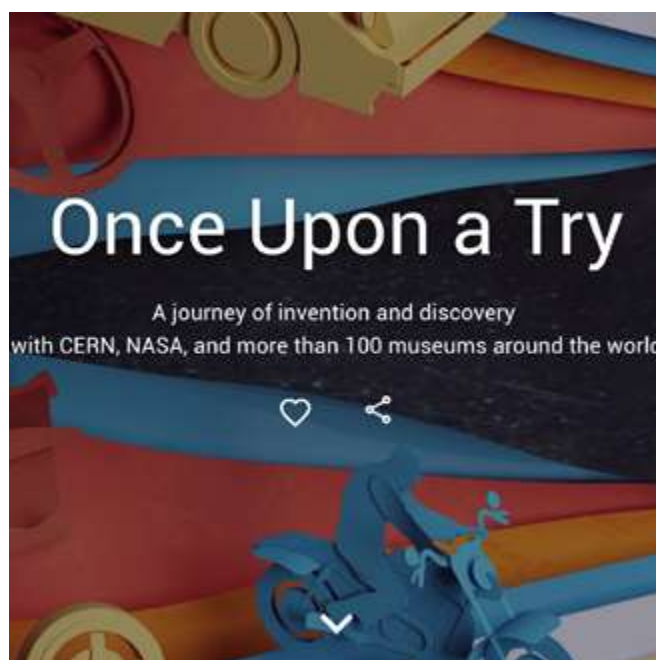
# Publications



## (Free access) WL Journal articles on Leisure Education

We have selected for you a few articles on Leisure Education published in the *World Leisure Journal*: “Developing the Leisure Education Scale”, by Süleyman Munusturlar and Coşkun Bayrak (2017); “Leisure education: definition, aims, advocacy, and practices – are we talking about the same thing(s)?”, by Atara Sivan and Robert A. Stebbins (2011), and “Taking leisure seriously: new and older considerations about leisure education”, by Douglas A. Kleiber (2012). Once more we need to thank our publisher Taylor & Francis for releasing them for free access consultation until the end of June. Remember that with [WLO membership](#) you get a free subscription to the *World Leisure Journal* (printed copies of 4 issues a year, plus unlimited free access to the electronic version!).

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## Google launches huge online science and human discovery museum platform

By Luke Cloherty

Google Arts and Culture has launched a massive online science museum platform with a number of museums, curators and archivists in 23 countries around the world. Featuring more than 200,000 artefacts, *Once upon a Try* is an ambitious digital project built in collaboration with teams from institutions including NASA, the European Organisation for Nuclear Research (CERN) and the Smithsonian Institute. (...) The project aims to tell the story of scientific discovery via images, videos, and other content and is available online and on the Google Arts and Culture app on Android and iOS. Each exhibition is a celebration of some kind of invention or discovery in science.

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# Opportunities



## OPEN CALL FOR ARTICLES for the *International Leisure Review* (deadline: 14<sup>th</sup> June!)

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The *International Leisure Review* – edited by the [Taiwan Leisure Association](#) (TLA) – invites papers on all aspects of leisure, recreation, and related issues from authors throughout the world for its volume 8 issue 1. The journal aims to publish studies of theoretical, applied and professional interest. Contributions may be in the form of original articles reporting the author's research, reviews of a topic or issue, or case studies. Proposals for sets of papers addressing a common theme or issue are also encouraged. Instructions for presentation are provided below. Manuscripts and other proposals, and books for review should be sent to the Guest Editors, [Dr. Cari Autry](#) and [Dr. Stephen Anderson](#). Check the [call](#) full text for more information. Deadline for submissions is Friday 14<sup>th</sup> June.

[READ MORE...](#)



## Call for participants: 2<sup>nd</sup> editorial meeting of the Youth Leisure and Safety book (Pápa, Hungary, 21<sup>st</sup>-29<sup>th</sup> August 2019)

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On behalf of the international organizing team we would like to invite you to participate in the second editorial meeting of the Youth Leisure and Safety book which is going to take place in Pápa, Hungary from the 21<sup>st</sup> to the 29<sup>th</sup> August 2019. During the meeting you will have the opportunity to discuss different youth topics, concerning safety problems in different countries. Read the full invitation for more information [here](#), and download the application form [here](#).

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# Upcoming events



## International Youth Conference in Vienna 4-8<sup>th</sup> August 2019

As 2019 marks the 40<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the United Nations Office at Vienna, the United Nations Youth and Student Association of Austria – Academic Forum for Foreign Affairs (UNYSA-AUSTRIA-AFA) invites young people from 18 to 35 years to the Vienna International Model United Nations (VIMUN) from the 4<sup>th</sup> to the 8<sup>th</sup> August 2019 at the UN Office in Vienna, Austria. At this UN simulation conference participants choose a country and research their chosen country's position regarding a specific topic. After preparation, they step into the shoes of diplomats and represent this country in a committee. They debate bringing forward new solutions and solving a world conflict with their own resolution.

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## Save the dates for the upcoming events with the participation of the WL Latin American Chapter

The WL Latin American Chapter will be participating in the International Seminar on sports management, governance and olympism, hosted in San José de Costa Rica during the 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> June 2019. Additionally, this year, from the 3<sup>rd</sup> until the 5<sup>th</sup> of October 2019, the Latin American Chapter will take part in EXPORECREACION 2019: Community, learning, creativity and well-being, an event organized by the Technological University of Pereira, which will be held in the city of Pereira, Colombia.



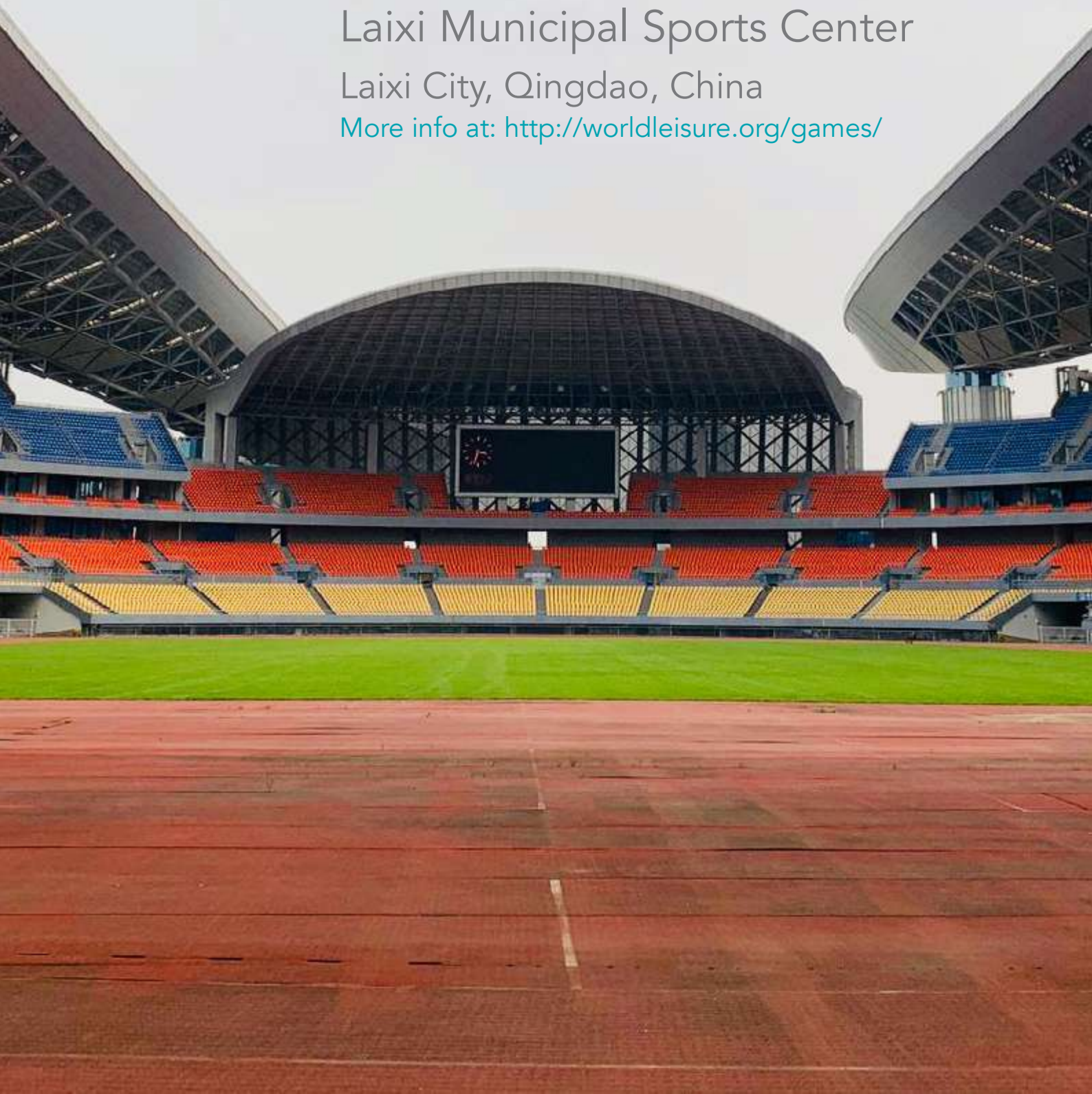
# World Leisure Games Opening Ceremony

July 27<sup>th</sup>, 2019

Laixi Municipal Sports Center

Laixi City, Qingdao, China

More info at: <http://worldleisure.org/games/>





# Encounter

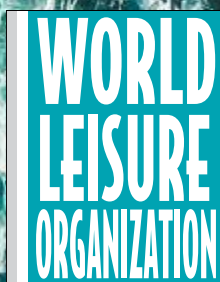


## Encounter with... Dr. Atara Sivan, on education through, in and for leisure

In this month's Encounter we talk to Prof. Dr. Atara Sivan, Head of the Department of Education Studies of Hong Kong Baptist University. Atara is an expert in the area of Leisure Education and serves as the facilitator of the World Leisure Special Interest Group (SIG) on this area. She is the President and Senior Fellow Member of World Leisure Academy, Editor-in-Chief of *World Leisure Journal*, member of World Leisure Board of Directors and Founder and Chairperson of World Leisure Organization – Hong Kong Chapter. We are very happy to have her on board. You can get to know Atara better through this interview. Click, learn and share!







## WORLD LEISURE ORGANIZATION (WLO)

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.

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