

WL NEWS

ISSUE 33

CELEBRATING AND
ADVOCATING FOR
LEISURE

MAY 2021



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Editorial

Dear members, dear colleagues,

In this issue of WL News, we write about the celebration of the first edition of the World Leisure Day. Under the theme 'Leisure for a Better Life', the program was hosted in both offline and online formats, and included varied activities. This initiative was also recently presented at the UNWTO Affiliate Members Corner at FITUR 2021 – the International Tourism Trade Fair in Madrid.

WLO's contribution to UN Secretary General Report on the implementation of the Resolution 74/230 on 'Culture and Sustainable Development', as well as our response to an open call for the organizations in consultative status with ECOSOC to contribute to matters of extreme importance to the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, are presented in this issue.

From research to industry news, the issue features relevant information for different actors across the leisure sector and field of study, such as the piece about the impact of the pandemic on museums and galleries visits in the Industry section.

Finally, we also announce the designation of Dr. Heather Gibson as senior fellow of the WL Academy, and share with you temporary free access *World Leisure Journal* special issue on 'Benefits and Threats of Travel and Tourism in a Globalized Cultural Context'.

This and much more just scrolling down! We hope that these contents are of your interest, and remind you that, as WLO members, you can submit your news to be shared in upcoming issues of WL News.

Yours truly,

Dr. Cristina Ortega Nuere
WLO Chief Operating Officer



WLO News



The World Leisure Day is celebrated for the first time on April 16th!

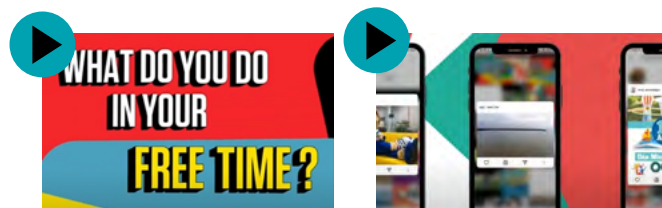
WLO's newest international initiative, the World Leisure Day (WL Day), was commemorated for the first time in history last April 16th. WL Day aims to reinforce leisure as a social right and its importance in daily life, as well as to expand its possibilities of manifestation and promote reflection on the accesses and barriers that still exist for many people around the world.

For the organization of this first edition, whose main theme was "Leisure for a Better Life", we counted on the great support of our Brazilian partners from the WLCEs of the University of São Paulo, SESC (Social Service of Commerce) and LAGEL (Laboratory of Management of Leisure Experiences). The World Leisure Centers of Excellence network, local Brazilian institutions and organizations from the Latin American region were also part of this working team, constituted by capable young people and committed faculty members.

Since it was held in a hybrid format, World Leisure Day could be celebrated in every corner of the globe, thus breaking down the mobility and travel barriers COVID-19 has created. 42 organizations and thousands of participants from 20 countries got involved in all the activities we carried out related to arts and culture, tourism and travel, sports and physical education, health and wellbeing, etc.

The WL Day was launched in a special event that took place on March 26th, 2021, through an online debate about the importance of the World Leisure Day, with the participation of Dr. Ricardo Uvinha (from the WL Center for Excellence at the University of São Paulo – USP), Dr. Cristina Ortega (Chief Operating Officer of the WLO), Dr. Antonio Carlos Bramante (LAGEL), Mr. Anderson Dalbone (National Department of Sesc). The webinar was moderated by Ms. Maria Luiza Souza Dias (Sesc São Paulo). It was broadcasted on Youtube.com/sescsp in Portuguese, which can be found here. The event gathered over 500 real time viewers through the different platforms where the event was streamed.

This initiative was originally designed as a pilot project. Given its success and repercussion, we are very pleased to announce that it will be running again next year, and we hope to do so for many years from now.





WLO presents the World Leisure Day at the UNWTO Affiliate Members Corner at FITUR 2021

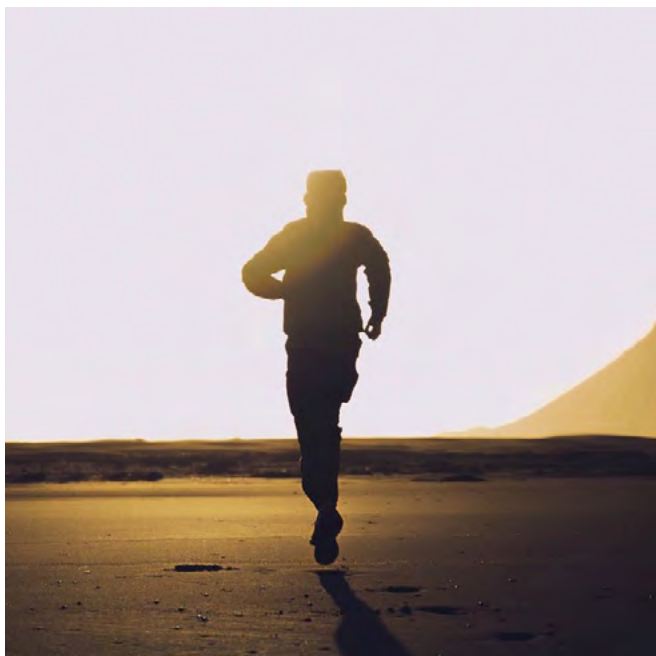
On the 21st May, WLO Chief Operating Officer Dr. Cristina Ortega Nuere delivered a presentation about the World Leisure Day at the UNWTO Affiliate Members Corner at FITUR 2021, the International Tourism Trade Fair in Madrid. This year's AM Corner focused on "Tourism Recovery", and included presentations on "Embracing digitalization and innovation in tourism", "Marketing strategies for tourism recovery", and "Reactivation strategies – Towards a safer, more inclusive and more sustainable tourism". And the materials used for presentations will be soon uploaded to UNWTO's website in the section [AM Virtual Corner](#). We thank the UNWTO AM program for the opportunity to showcase our newest international initiative, the WL Day, which was celebrated for the first time in history last 16th of April, and which we hope will become one flagship initiative building on this first edition's success.



UNWTO

Presentation of WLO activities to the UNWTO working group on support of the SDGs

From the WLO, we presented our activities and events to the World Tourism Organization (UNWTO) working group on support of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). All our initiatives are guided by the strategic working lines of research, education, knowledge transfer and advocacy. These include the Special Interest Groups; the Centers of Excellence; the Field School and Study Tour; the Global Leisure Debates and Network and Knowledge-sharing Experience; the different awards; events like WL Congress, WL Games, WL Expo, WL Festival; the *Charter for Leisure*; and the WL Cities initiative. We have embraced the SDGs to transform our world by 2030 by continuing to advocate for leisure, collaborating with strategic partnerships, enhancing research and scholarships, and expanding educational opportunities. The *Charter for Leisure* was revised to ensure that the benefits of leisure can be reaped by everyone. Our newest international initiative, the WL Day, aims at reinforcing leisure as a social right and reflecting on the accesses and barriers that exist across the globe. The first edition was celebrated on 16th April, 2021 under the theme 'Leisure for a better life'. The first hybrid WL Congress in 2021 aimed to give a platform to the leisure community to advocate for the importance and relevance of leisure. The 5th WL Expo & Forum will take place under the overall theme of 'Digital smart future, livable paradise', in October 2021. The upcoming [2022 WL Congress in Dunedin](#), New Zealand aims to explain the importance of leisure in learning and living well.



WLO contributes to UN Secretary General Report on the implementation of the Resolution 74/230

The United Nations General Assembly adopted [Resolution 74/230](#) on 'Culture and Sustainable Development', in December, 2019. The Resolution was developed through common application and coordination within the United Nations system which was fronted by UNESCO. It reiterates that culture plays a significant part in facilitating inclusive economic and social development, and environmental sustainability. Resolution 74/230 motivates "Member States, intergovernmental bodies, organizations of the United Nations system, relevant non-governmental organizations and all other relevant stakeholders, to give due consideration to the contribution of culture to the achievement of sustainable development in the formulation of national, regional and international development policies". The Secretary-General of the United Nations is required to submit a progress report on the execution of the Resolution at the 76th session of the General Assembly, in fall 2021. Thus, the culture forum at UNESCO called on the WLO to provide information how the Resolution was implemented during the period from June 2019 to June 2021 from the view of the organization. WLO responded to the call by answering the proposed questions on how the WLO fosters development through the use of culture.

In order to contribute towards harnessing culture for sustainable development, the WLO, organized and participated in several activities which included the WL Games in Qingdao, China in July 2019; designation of two new WL Centers of Excellence (University of Pecs, Hungary and Université du Québec à Trois-Rivières, Canada) in 2020; celebration of the first WL Hybrid Congress in 2021, and many more. A new strategic plan was introduced from 2021-25 surrounding the notions of research, education, knowledge transfer, advocacy and development. New programs included the World Leisure Cities initiative, World Leisure Debates, Think Tanks and the celebration of World Leisure Day. The revision of Charter for Leisure to help the entire world realize the benefits of leisure, was much appreciated. All these WLO events and activities also seek to stimulate international cooperation. The WLO has embraced the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) by continuing the six priorities of leisure which are: linking to UN SDGs; enhancing research and scholarship; advocating for leisure; expanding educational opportunities; strengthening partnerships and collaborative relationships; and expanding membership. The WLO also delivers grants to communities, organizations, associations, institutions and even individuals who want to implement activities that are in line with the mission, through the Strategic Priority Grants (SPGs) programme. To encourage development through culture at the regional level, the WLO is working on the new WL Cities Initiative, which aims to support cities in the development of policies, actions and programs in the field of leisure, focussing on the city level.



order to adapt to the current circumstances. To ensure the availability of leisure to all, we celebrated the first World Leisure Day which promoted the importance of leisure for human development. The pandemic forced the event industry to innovate and embrace digital transformation. We celebrated the World Leisure Congress in a hybrid format for the first time in 2021 and also introduced different webinar series' including Global Leisure Debates and Think Tanks. With the growing challenges and opportunities, knowledge will play an important role in development and it becomes necessary to understand leisure worldwide. Keeping in mind the role of observatories in transfer of information, we are working towards establishing a World Leisure Observatory. Therefore, we aim to rethink some aspects of leisure to make it accessible to everyone, and innovate according to the requirement of the situation.

WLO responds to open call for NGOs in consultative status with ECOSOC to address the Economic and Social Council at the 2021 ECOSOC High-level Segment

The 2021 ECOSOC High-level Segment (HLS) will be held from 13 to 16 July 2021, based on the theme of the [High-level Political Forum \(HLPF\)](#) on *"Sustainable and resilient recovery from the COVID-19 pandemic, that promotes the economic, social and environmental dimensions of sustainable development: building an inclusive and effective path for the achievement of the 2030 Agenda in the context of the decade of action and delivery for sustainable development"*. An open call was announced by the Office of Intergovernmental Support and Coordination for Sustainable Development of the United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs for the organizations in consultative status with ECOSOC to contribute to matters of extreme importance to the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, in the form of written statements. In response, the WLO has stated that it is continuously working towards sustainable human development.

The pandemic has negatively impacted the entire world and has made it difficult to achieve the Sustainable Development Goals. Thus, we, at the WLO, are dedicated towards improving the well-being of people through well-chosen leisure experiences. We have introduced a new strategic plan to keep working towards our mission and have revised the Charter for Leisure in

Research



The Future of Wellness: New report investigates changing Consumer Attitudes and Behaviour in Wellness Market

By Megan Whitby

A new report by McKinsey & Company reveals insights into shifting consumer attitudes and behaviour towards wellness across the globe. The [Future of Wellness Survey](#) surveyed 7,500 consumers in Brazil, China, Germany, the US and the UK during August 2020. Authored by McKinsey's Shaun Callaghan, Martin Losch, Anna Pione and Warren Teichner, the report identifies six main consumers wellness interest categories: better health; better fitness; better nutrition; better appearance; better sleep; better mindfulness. Better health was voted the most popular dimension and

experienced the highest level of spending across products and services in all six countries. This can likely be attributed to the pandemic spreading a new sense of urgency about the importance of good health and wellbeing. McKinsey expects this trend to continue as the emphasis on physical and mental health is going to last for a long time to come as a result of COVID-19.

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From *Spa Business*

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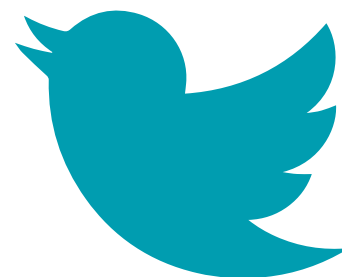
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The World Leisure Journal is now on Twitter. Follow @WorldLeisureJ and stay updated!





Survey on Sexual Harassment & Gender-Based Violence in Academia

A group of researchers are working to establish the extent of work-based sexual harassment and gender violence in tourism, hospitality and events academia. This is a crucial and relevant issue, given the global focus on sexual harassment in other professions and in other academic fields and disciplines, to survey and address. The aim of the research is to raise awareness about gender-based violence and harassment in the workplace. This will help de-isolate, empower and reassure survivors that they are not alone in being subjected to such traumas and create a platform for resistance. The research team includes Nigel Morgan (University of Surrey), Jocelyn Finniear (Swansea University), Donna Chambers (Sunderland University), Ana Maria Munar (Copenhagen Business School) and Annette Pritchard (Leeds Beckett University). Please follow the link below to complete the survey.

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Industry



World's top 100 Museums and Galleries suffer 77 per cent fall in visits during pandemic

By Tom Walker

The coronavirus pandemic has resulted in visits to the world's top 100 museums and galleries falling by three quarters. According to an annual survey, [conducted by The Art Newspaper](#), visits to leading museums fell by 77 per cent last year – down from 230 million in 2019 to just 54 million. According to figures from the survey, The Louvre in Paris, France, was the world's most visited museum during 2020, attracting 2.7m visits during the year – down 72 per cent from 2019. Beijing's National Museum of China was the second most popular museum with 1.6 million visitors, followed by Tate Modern in London, UK, where visitor numbers were

down by 77 per cent to 1.4m. In a statement earlier this year, Tate said it had been forced to close its doors for 173 days during 2020, resulting in an estimated £56m worth of lost revenue. The fall in European museums and galleries is largely down to the disruption to international travel.

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From Leisure Opportunities

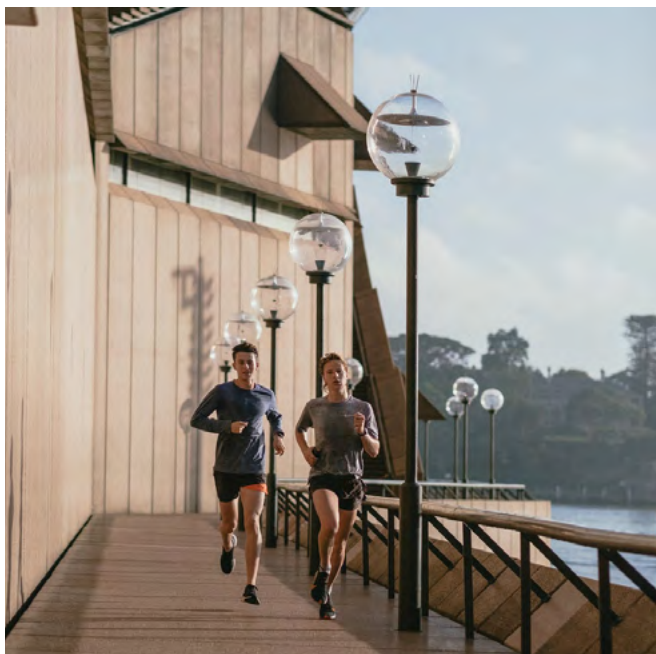
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Regular Exercise could cut COVID-19 Death Risk by one third

By Tom Walker

Undertaking regular physical activity could cut the risk of dying from infectious diseases – such as COVID-19 – by more than a third (37 per cent), according to new research. A study by an international team of researchers, led by Glasgow Caledonian University (GCU), also found that physical activity can reduce the chance of catching the virus by 31 per cent, while boosting the effectiveness of vaccines by up to 40 per cent. Led by GCU's professor of health behaviour dynamics, Sebastien Chastin, the study is believed to be the first in the world to look into the link between exercise and COVID-19 immunity. The research found that 30-minutes of activity which gets people out of breath – such as walking, running, cycling and strengthening exercises – five days a week (or 150-minutes per week) can have a massive impact on immunity to infectious diseases.

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From *Leisure Opportunities*

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Policies



Back to the basics: leisure in rural areas

Regional inequalities and rural depopulation are preoccupying topics that have during the last years been high on the policy agendas. International organisations have been taking into consideration these two challenges and are designing programmes or advocating for more policies in this area- including in relation to leisure. The [OECD Rural 3.0 people-centred rural policy](#) document captures a vision for rural development that considers economic, social and environmental objectives and places the needs of people at the heart of any policies developed to achieve these objectives.

How can leisure contribute to this conversation? Of course this is a wide question, but here we provide 2 examples of how rural geographies have been recently taken into account on the policy level, in relation to tourism and culture.

While tourism has been heavily hit by the COVID-19 pandemic, the United Nations World Tourism Organisation (UNWTO) announced in May 2021 a new initiative that will identify villages taking innovative and transformative approaches to tourism in rural areas in line with the Sustainable Development Goals. The [Best Tourism Villages](#) was announced in the same time as the opening of the first UNWTO office in the Middle East (Riyadh, Saudi Arabia) that will focus among others- on the role of tourism in rural development.

A month earlier, UNWTO has teamed up with key institutional collaborators to launch the [Global Rural Tourism Startup Competition](#), a new competition to identify the best ideas that will help rural communities recover from the impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic. In light of the restart of the tourism after the pandemic, the competition aims to attract ideas and support entrepreneurs and enterprises that help build resilience in rural communities. The deadline for applications is 1st of July 2021.

When it comes to culture, the [EU programme Voices of Culture](#) the structured dialogue between the European Commission and stakeholders in Europe tackled in 2020 the role of culture in non-urban areas in Europe. Culture was recognized as vital for sustainable rural development and a major catalyst in unleashing the potential in urban-rural and cross border cooperation. The [brainstorming report](#) that was published gathered the ideas of arts and culture organisations and starts with the affirmation that – as pronounced in the Article 27 of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights- equality of opportunity to participate in the cultural life of their community should not be defined by where we chose to live nor our ability to travel. Those participated in the dialogue discussed the urban-centric nature of

cultural policy and explored the topic through three themes: developing culture in non-urban areas, rural areas burned by over-tourism and territories affected by depopulation.



"I decided to join the WLO because I believe in recreation as an area of knowledge with a strong outreach in both research and the labour field. I am excited to be a part of this organization hoping to grow both professionally and on a personal level, and also within the institution I work for. I hope to become a part of the Latin American Chapter soon and to be able to contribute to the Costa Rican and LATAM region recreation".

"Decidí ingresar a la WLO porque creo en la recreación como un área del conocimiento con gran proyección en la investigación y el campo laboral. Me ilusiona formar parte de la organización y espero poder crecer profesionalmente a nivel personal y también con la institución en la cual laboro. Espero próximamente poder formar parte del Capítulo Latinoamericano y poder aportar a la recreación costarricense y de la region".

Joel Rodríguez Soto, Costa Rica

Network



Dr. Heather Gibson named senior fellow of WL Academy

Source: [HHP](#)

The World Leisure Academy (WL Academy) has named [Dr. Heather Gibson](#), professor in the Department of Tourism, Hospitality and Event Management, and associate director in the Eric Friedheim Tourism Institute, as a senior fellow in the academy. The academy was established by the WLO to promote leisure concerns through advocacy, research and educational endeavors and acknowledge the contributions of researchers, educators, practitioners and others credited with advancing leisure. The organization is committed to enlarging choice, affirming and enriching cultural identities, activating the human spirit and promoting sustainable and well distributed economic growth through leisure. Warmest congratulations and best wishes to Dr. Gibson!



WLO becomes part of the ICCA Global Association Advisory Group

WLO, as an engaged representative organization of the International Congress and Convention Association (ICCA), which is the global meetings industry network, is now part of the ICCA Association Advisory Group. The ICCA Association Advisory Group is an ad hoc workgroup responsible for providing advice and guidance on the development and delivery of association engagement activities undertaken by ICCA. An important focus is placed on developing activities to more actively engage current ICCA Association Community members. Becoming part of the ICCA Association Advisory Group comes as a great opportunity to share, learn and network with other international association representatives and ICCA members worldwide.



Advancing Harmonized Travel Protocols and Financing Tourism's Survival

Source: [UNWTO](#)

The World Tourism Organization (UNWTO) again convened its Global Tourism Crisis Committee to lead the sector in harmonizing travel and health protocols and securing vital financing for businesses struggling to survive a historic crisis. The ninth meeting of the Crisis Committee advanced solutions to the biggest challenges standing in the way of international travel returning. Committee members, drawn from political leadership, international organizations, including UNWTO's sister UN agencies, finance and the private sector, discussed the Crisis Committee's Recommendations, which focus on four core areas: the resumption of safe, cross-border travel; promoting safe travel at all points of the tourist journey; providing liquidity to tourism businesses and protecting jobs, and restoring confidence in travel. The virtual meeting was co-hosted by the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia.

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Publications



FREE ACCESS to WL Journal special issue on 'Benefits and Threats of Travel and Tourism in a Globalized Cultural Context'

The coronavirus pandemic brought all international tourism to a halt. Many tourist attractions had to close down while industries such as airlines and hospitality businesses suffered huge losses. The pandemic showed us how interconnected our world is, by impacting everyone to some extent. To deal with this crisis, it is important to take steps together and unite all cultures, which can be done by the industry of travel and tourism. Responsible tourism can reap benefits for all stakeholders and help in maintaining the physical and mental health of the people. Thus, we bring to you a [special issue](#) of *World Leisure Journal* with eight informative articles on the topic 'Benefits and Threats

of Travel and Tourism in a Globalized Cultural Context', available with free access, courtesy our publisher Taylor and Francis. It has been guest-edited by Professor Carolin Lusby from Florida International University, coordinator of WLO Special Interest Group on Travel and Tourism.

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MANAGING VISITOR EXPERIENCES IN NATURE-BASED TOURISM



New book *Managing Visitor Experiences in Nature-based Tourism* published by CABI

A new book titled *Managing Visitor Experiences in Nature-based Tourism* has been published by CABI. It has been edited by Dr Julia N. Albrecht from the Department of Tourism at University of Otago, New Zealand, a World Leisure Center of Excellence (WLCE). This book focuses on the experiences of tourists visiting nature-

based destinations, exploring current knowledge and providing insights into conceptual issues through the use of empirical evidence from five continents. Presented as three topics, the contents discuss tourism and nature-based experiences by looking at the role and relevance of nature and the uniqueness of such experiences. The book identifies visitor management challenges and provides explanations for the solutions reached. CABI is providing WLO members with a special discount. Members can use the code CCWLO25 for 25% off individual (non-trade) orders of the print book, up to a maximum of 10 copies per customer. This offer is available until the 31st December 2021, for orders placed on the [CABI Bookshop](#) only. This code is valid for all of their [leisure and tourism](#) books.

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Books in the Routledge Critical Leisure Studies series available at low prices

Leisure studies scholars frustrated by the high prices of monographs will be pleased to know that the following titles in the Routledge Critical Leisure Studies series are now available in paperback, priced at about US\$50:

- Whatever Happened to the Leisure Society? by A. J. Veal;
- Feminisms in Leisure Studies: Advancing a fourth wave, Edited by Diana Parry;
- Philosophy of Leisure: Foundations of the good life, by Johan Bouwer & Marco van Leeuwen;
- Re-Imagining Leisure Studies, by Tony Blackshaw.

We thank our member and WL Academy fellow A. J. Veal for sharing this interesting information!

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World Happiness Report 2021 discusses world happiness during COVID-19

Source: [SDSN](#)

The 2021 World Happiness Report, a publication of the Sustainable Development Solutions Network, was launched on March 20, the International Day of Happiness. The report focuses on the effects of COVID-19 and how people all over the world have fared. The aim was two-fold, first to focus on the effects of COVID-19 on the structure and quality of people's lives, and second to describe and evaluate how governments all over the world have dealt with the pandemic. In particular, it tries to explain why some countries have done so much better than others. Finland has been named the happiest place in the world for a fourth year running. The World Happiness Report saw Denmark in second place, then Switzerland, Iceland and the Netherlands. Despite 2020 being a challenging year, the world is optimistic about the future. The full report can be found [here](#).

Opportunities



Call for articles on Leisure, Inequalities and the Global South for the *Leisure Studies* Journal (Deadline for abstracts: June 18th, 2021)

Prof. Dr. Ricardo R. Uvinha, representative of the World Leisure Center of Excellence at the University of São Paulo, and a guest editor at the *Leisure Studies* Journal calls for articles on Leisure, Inequalities and the Global South. *Leisure Studies* is a leading international journal that publishes innovative theoretically-informed, methodologically rigorous, empirical, conceptual and applied leisure research within the Social Sciences and Humanities. This Special Issue advances the discussion about leisure and inequalities presenting an opportunity for hidden voices to be heard. It welcomes contributions related to the following themes: leisure in the global south; leisure, inequalities and the

sustainable development goals; inequalities and leisure constraints; leisure for reduction of inequalities; digital poverty; excluding leisure spaces; leisure and vulnerable populations; leisure as a social transformation in the community. The deadline to submit the abstracts is June 18, 2021. More information about the call can be found [here](#).



Call for applications to the International Fund for Cultural Diversity (Deadline: June 16th, 2021)

Source: [UNESCO](#)

The 2021 call for the UNESCO International Fund for Cultural Diversity (IFCD) is open. Established under the [2005 Convention on the Protection and Promotion of the Diversity of Cultural Expressions](#), the IFCD is

a voluntary multi-donor fund which supports the emergence of dynamic cultural sectors in developing countries. This year, the IFCD joins the celebration of the International Year of the Creative Economy for Sustainable Development by calling for projects that aim to make strong contributions to the creative economy in developing countries that are Parties to the 2005 Convention. Public institutions, and non-governmental organizations (NGO) from eligible countries are invited to submit their proposals, as well as international NGOs registered in countries that are Parties to the 2005 Convention. The call for applications will close on 16th June, 2021 at 12 pm CET.

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Upcoming events



'Learn well and live well' at the 2022 WL Congress in Dunedin

The 17th World Leisure Congress is scheduled to take place from 12 – 16 December, 2022 in the city of Dunedin, New Zealand. The overall theme of the Congress is 'Leisure: Learn well, live well'. As the world continues to deal with the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic and its impacts on our health and well-being, leisure in our lives becomes of crucial importance to help us learn and live well. We call for contributions from academia and industry alike that engage with the potential of leisure to contribute to our ability to both learn well and live well. Through this theme, we wish to encourage scholars and industry practitioners to consider:

- How leisure may contribute to individual, community and/or societal learning;
- How we may learn about leisure from others across disciplinary and practitioner boundaries;

- The contribution of leisure to living well, and conversely, the implications of lack of access to leisure for living well.

To learn more about the theme and discover more details of the congress, visit the [official website](#) of the WL Congress 2022, which is live now!

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Save the date:
12-16 December 2022 | Dunedin, New Zealand
visit [worldleisurenz2022.com](#)

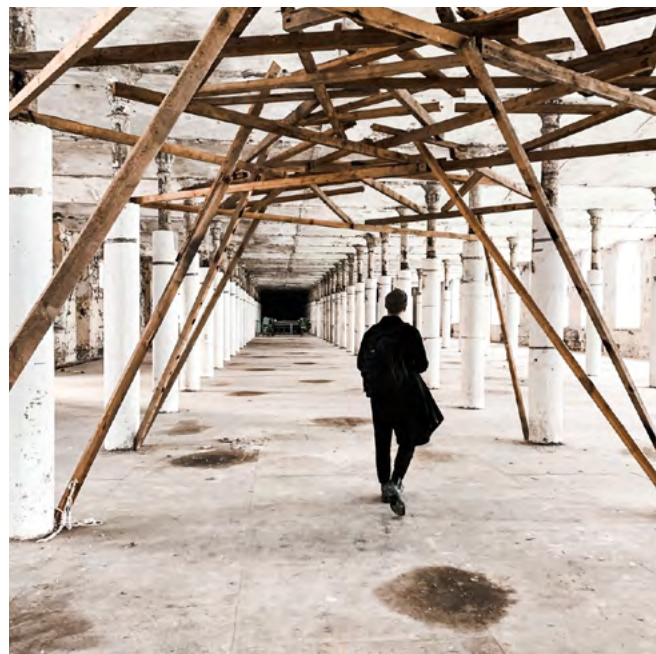


MOON BIKE 2021 challenge launched by the University of Pécs

The University of Pécs, which is a World Leisure Center of Excellence has re-launched an international cyclist's challenge in May, called the "MOON BIKE" challenge. Their goal is to break the records of 2020 by cycling (on bicycle or stationary bike) the Earth-Moon distance in two months, a total of 384,400 km, and to reach 1 million km over the duration of the challenge. All cycling enthusiasts have to send a screenshot of their distance covered to the project's [Facebook page](#). If they are taking part in the challenge on a stationary bike, they need to upload a photo of the odometer. Several minor contests will be announced during the challenge and meetups will be organized for the virtual members to get acquainted with each other, the University of Pécs, and its awareness-raising projects in healthy lifestyle and environmentalism. As the Greenest University in Hungary, UP's main goal with the project is to promote the environmentally friendly way of transportation: cycling. It is much safer than public transport in the pandemic situation, and it may help in mitigating the greenhouse effect by reducing CO2 emissions. The dates of the challenge are:

- 15 May: UP Campus Tour
- 29 May: Orfű - Lake Tour
- 26 June: Mohács-Baja-Mohács Tour
- 17 July: Gárdonyi - Lake Tour

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Webinar Series: reINVENT & reBUILD: Working together for a stronger, fairer and more inclusive physical activity and sport system for all

Source: [WHO](#)

The COVID-19 pandemic has increased the importance of being active for mental and physical health and yet exacerbated inequalities. Many now call for COVID-19 to be a catalyst for change and an opportunity to build forward better a stronger, fairer and more inclusive system that provides equitable opportunities for more people of all ages and abilities, everywhere. Through a series of eight webinars, involving panellists from across the sport and physical activity system and audience Q&A, four emerging and interconnected challenges will be explored to identify the practical actions needed during COVID recovery to build back better: innovation, partnership, use of evidence, and accountability and investment. These themes intersect and recommendations arising from the webinar series will inform WHO and stakeholder's future policy and practice. For more information on the schedule of the webinars and the registration process, please click [here](#).



Building lifelong learning systems: skills for green and inclusive societies in the digital era (June 21st – 25th, 2021)

Source: [UNESCO](#)

The event is being organised by the ETF and UNESCO with the collaboration of the EBRD and UNICEF. The conference will take place online over the course of a whole week from June 21st to June 25th, 2021. The theme is system change for lifelong learning: how can education and training systems adapt to the challenges of global change and green and digital futures and guarantee the right to education for all. It will bring together actors at all levels in the development of education and training systems: policy-makers, practitioners, employers, international organisations and bilateral and multilateral cooperation partners, experts, researchers, youth representatives, trade unions and civil society organisations. The conference has a twin objective: a) to create a forum for joint reflection on national and international experiences in transforming education and training systems into lifelong learning systems; b) to confirm priorities for future cooperation in the area of human capital development.

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The fourth UCLG Culture Summit to be held in Izmir (September 9th – 11th, 2021)

Source: [Agenda 21 for Culture](#)

Since 2015, the United Cities and Local Governments – UCLG has convened three editions of the UCLG Culture Summit, which were respectively hosted by the city of Bilbao (Spain, March 2015), the Jeju Self-Governing Special Province (Republic of Korea, May 2017), and Buenos Aires (Argentina, April 2019). Following the success of the three Culture Summits and considering the growing importance of culture in the framework of sustainable cities, the Executive Bureau of UCLG has decided to convene a fourth UCLG Culture Summit in 2021. The Summit is the meeting point of cities, local governments, national governments, civil society organizations and international organizations to discuss the current position of culture in the global agendas. Participants to the Summit are very committed to the successful implementation of policies and programmes on culture and sustainability. The UCLG announced that Izmir, Turkey is the chosen city to host the Culture Summit of UCLG in 2021. The Summit will be organised from 9 to 11 September 2021, with a previous online launch on 10 June 2021.

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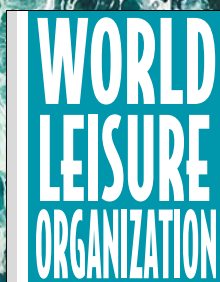
Encounter



Encounter with... Dr. Antonio Bramante, on the first edition of WL Day!

Dr. Antonio Bramante is a member of the WLO Board of Directors and the chair of the organizing committee of the World Leisure Day, whose first edition was celebrated on 16th April 2021. In this Encounter, he tells us more about this initiative, as well as about his background and the central role leisure plays in his life. Click and enjoy!





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.

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