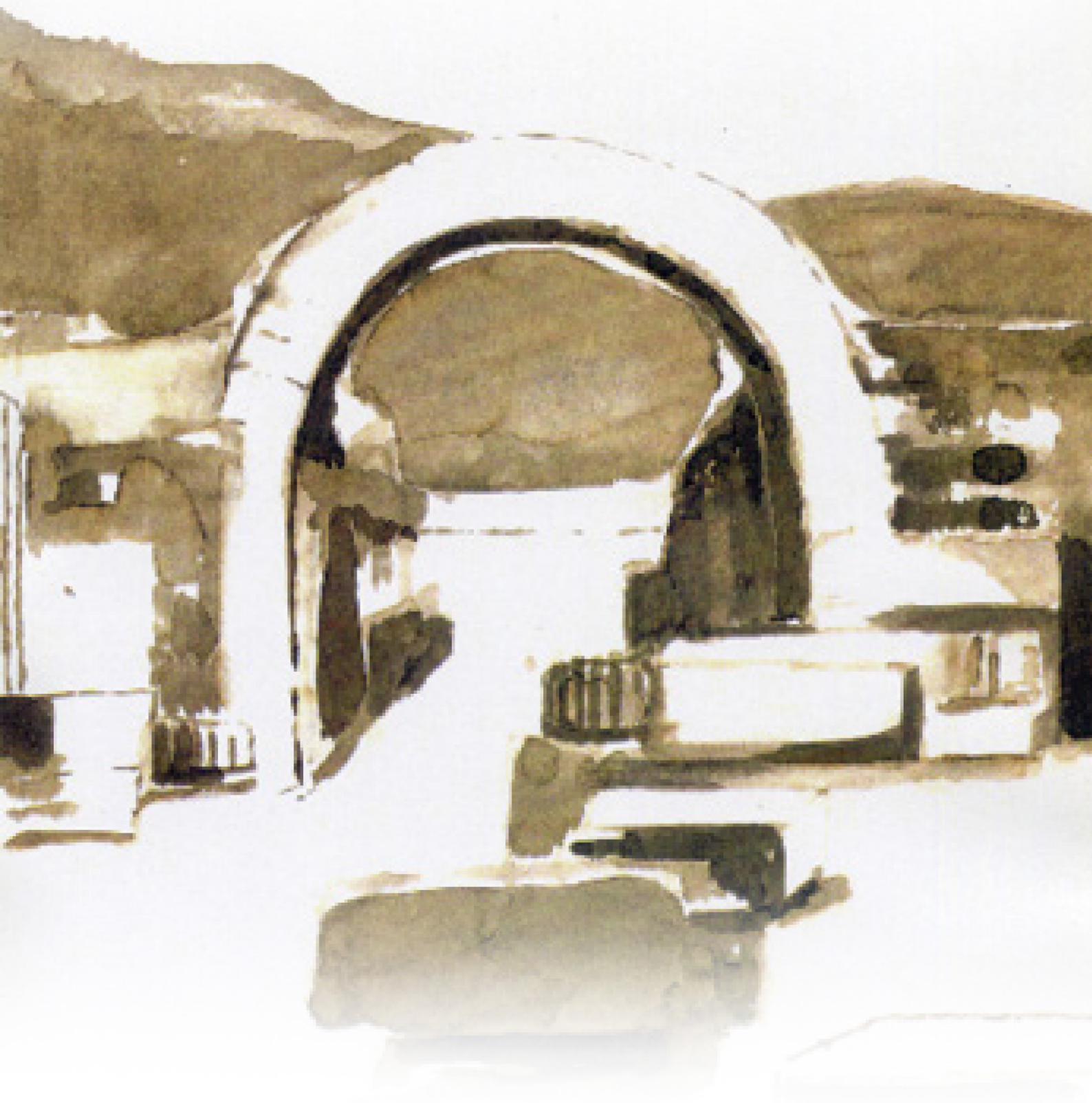


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The aim of **Diagoras:**

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Journal on Olympic Studies is to foster a critical understanding of Olympism, the Olympic Movement and the Olympic Games. The focus of the journal is Olympic Studies with an emphasis on the educative, pedagogical, historical, socio-cultural, communicative and sport and exercise science aspects of Olympic Studies. Diagoras seeks to become the prestigious multi-disciplinary scholarly journal on Olympic matters by extending knowledge and understanding of related areas. Published materials will be focused on original research, integrative and analytical reviews and philosophical discussions on Olympic matters.

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Emilio Fernández Peña is Full Professor at the School of Communication and Director of the Centre d'Estudis Olímpics de la Universitat Autònoma de Barcelona. He chairs the MOOC Course entitled *The Olympic Games and the Media* on Coursera Platforms with more than 20,000 enrolled students from 143 different countries for the last five years. Professor Fernández Peña is the founder director of the *Sport Communication Lab*, a research initiative promoted along FC Barcelona. He has been lecturer and invited professor at international universities like the University of Southern California (Annenberg School for Communication), the University of Beijing, University of Athens, University of Bologna, Université de Paris 3, Gama Fihlo and Pontificia Universidade Católica de Rio Grande do Sul (Brasil), as well as the International Olympic Academy, among many others. He is the author of more than 50 books, book chapters and academic articles. Dr. Fernández Peña has been interviewed frequently by international media outlets like BBC, CNN International, TVE, Folha de Sao Paulo, El País, La Vanguardia or La Nueva España, among others, to talk about sport, olympism and media.

Stephan Wassong is Full Professor at the German Sport University Cologne where he is Head of the Institute of Sport History and Director of its Olympic Studies Centre since 2009. He is the President of the International Pierre de Coubertin Committee, Executive Director of the international study programme Master of Arts in Olympic Studies and member of the International Olympic Committee's Olympic Education Commission. Professor Wassong is widely published on the national and international level. His fields of research include, amongst others, the history and development of the modern Olympic Games, socio-culture aspects of sport and physical education in the USA, development of sport in the German Empire and the Weimar Republic, and the archive-based project on 100 years of institutionalization of sport science in Germany. He has been appointed Adjunct Professor in the School of Health Sciences at the University of Canterbury, New Zealand, and Visiting Professor in the Faculty of Health Sciences at the University of Johannesburg, South Africa. Since 2012 he has been invited as lecturer at the International Olympic Academy regularly.

Preface

Learning to live

Diagoras: The International Academic Journal for Olympic Studies is now into its 2nd Olympiad. Initially established in 2016 this is the 5th issue. Of particular importance with this issue is the acknowledgement that two of our journal administrators, Adolfo Nieto Losada, and Oriol Figuera have just completed all requirements for their PhDs working with one of our Journal's Chief Editors Professor Emilio Fernández Peña. Both Adolfo and Oriol have been towers of strength and efficiency in making sure our Journal is published on-line in a timely and professional manner. They have been responsible for sending out manuscripts for review, collating the reviews, editing script, journal layout and design, and numerous other tasks that are essential in publishing Diagoras. Well-done, Adolfo and Oriol, on your respective achievements and many thanks for your wonderful work with the Journal. It is truly appreciated.

Well, Tokyo Games 2020 (2021) has come and gone. No doubt, in many countries around the world there was debate as to whether the Games 2020(2021) should have gone ahead. COVID-19 has created havoc across the globe and many thought that holding the Games was to be hosting a 'super spreader' of the virus. Furthermore, many thought that the Games were putting far too much pressure on a Japanese society that was already struggling with the public fallout created by the pandemic. The difficulty of the Games touched many, and they were affected in diverse ways – some positively and some adversely. While it is important to acknowledge and congratulate those responsible for the successful completion of the Games, under extremely challenging circumstances, it is timely to pause and think carefully about the role, purpose, and value of sport during a global crisis. When such thought is given, there is a realisation that individuals and community groups, within diverse societies, across the globe, gain significant benefit from having the freedom to play, move, exercise, and practice sport in unrestricted forms. This freedom becomes part of the human essence, the human condition, and it brings delight to individual and collective lives. It is an important component of wellbeing, and for many it's the key to a joyful flourishing life. After all, Epicurus and Aristotle claimed that joyfulness was the greatest virtue.

When explicit links are made between the joy of moving and de Coubertin's philosophy of Olympism, one can quickly see the significance, the power, potential, and potency that movement, in all its forms, has on our educative and social futures. If nothing else, COVID-19 has taught us that the freedom to move is simply more than a human right. It is an inherent need.

Prof. Ian Culpan
Prof. Stephan Wassong
Prof. Emilio Fernández Peña
Prof. Arnaud Richard (Guest Editor)

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