Mission

To foster the critical understanding of Olympism and the Olympic Movement, particularly as this understanding may contribute to the enrichment of the human experience.

This is achieved by promoting, facilitating and generating academic research, teaching and the dissemination of knowledge and information concerning the pedagogical and socio-cultural aspects of Olympism and the Olympic Movement.
2013–2015 Strategic Goals and Achievements

1. Research

Goal 1.1 - To complete and participate in national and international research projects.

Achievements:

- International collaboration for joint editing of an international book on Olympic Education.
- Collaboration with Willibald Gebhardt Research Institute, University of Duisburg-Essen, Germany.
- Signed Memorandum Understanding with Olympic Studies Centre German Sport University of Cologne.
- Joint international research project with Olympic Studies Centre German Sports University of Cologne.
- Joint international research project with Dr. Ann-Christin Sollehed Kristianstad University Sweden.
- Collaborative research project with New Zealand Olympic Committee.
- Invited academic to the V. World Sport Forum for Government Ministers - Berlin May 29-31st.

Goal 1.2 - To provide overseas visiting scholar opportunities/exchanges with a view to establishing a Chair in Olympic Studies

Achievements:

- Visiting professorship (Ian Culpan) at Charles University Prague, Czech Republic.
- Visiting academic (Ian Culpan) German Sport University of Cologne; Germany.
- Visiting academic, (Ian Culpan), Kristianstad University, Sweden.
- Visiting teaching fellow (Erskine programme) Professor Mike McNamee Swansea University, UK (2012).
- Visiting teaching fellow (Erskine programme) Professor Mike Metzler University Georgia, USA (2014).
- The following visits to the New Zealand Centre for Olympic Studies have been arranged for 2014: Emeritus Professor Sheila Wigmore, Sheffield Hallam University UK; Dr Ann-Christin Sollerhed Kristianstad University Sweden; Professor Heather Sykes, University of Toronto. Professor Ludmila Fialova Charles University, Czech Republic.

2. Teaching

Goal 2.1 - To contribute to the teaching and supervision of undergraduate and postgraduate programmes in relevant areas

Achievements;

- Successful supervision completion PhD thesis by Samantha Nanayakkara “Olympism in practice: An evaluation of the effectiveness of an Olympism education programme to resolve conflicts between primary school students in Sri Lanka”.
- Supervising PhD student on Olympism pedagogy, Susie Stevens.
- Supervision of Masters Independent Study on Sport and Olympism, Anna McConne.
- Development of an Olympic Studies pathway within the present UC Masters of Education degree.
- Discussions (on-going) with a view to teaching on the University of Peloponnese Olympic Studies International Master’s programme.
- Established collaborative post-graduate teaching link with German Sport University of Cologne – teaching into the International Olympic Studies Programme.
- Established student research assistant internship with German Sport University of Cologne.
- Established and offered a 200 level 15 point Olympism, Sport and Education paper in the Bachelor of Sport Coaching degree.

3. Dissemination

Goal 3.1 - To convene national and international academic forums for critical discussion and debate

Achievement

- The 6th Olympic Studies Academic Seminar; following the Porritt Memorial Lecture. Seminar focused on Oscar Pistorious, Olympism and Paralympics ethics.
Goal 3.2 - To organise national and international academic seminars and symposia

Achievement


Goal 3.3 - To present at national and international conferences and congresses

Achievements


Goal 3.4 - To conduct an annual lecture series within New Zealand
Achievements

- Research Symposium: McNamee, M. Olympism, ethical development and ethnocentricity. Symposium to staff and students. School of Sciences and Physical Education 2012.

Goal 3.5 - To publish internationally and work towards the establishment of a peer-reviewed academic journal

Achievements


Goal 3.6 - To develop a documentation unit for students, researchers, educators and other interested parties

Achievements:
Present negotiating with the New Zealand Olympic Committee to take over all the New Zealand Olympic Committee’s library section – approximately 3500 titles. This documentation exists nowhere else in NZ.

Secured actual physical space for the NZ Centre for Olympic Studies after losing its original space due to earthquake damage.

Goal 3.7 - To produce public *exhibitions* that explore the work of the Olympic Studies programme

Achievements;

- No achievement in 2013.

Goal 3.8 - To maintain an interactive *website* with original contents and links to other network and collaborative partners

Achievements;

- Website development is an on-going task and challenge.
- Established links to other Olympic Studies Research Centres around the world.

4. Influence

Goal 4.1 - To build the *capacity of the Olympic Studies programme to communicate and realise its Mission*

Achievements:

- Fund development – presently seeking to develop and generate funds to better resource the Centre.
- Engaged with other Olympic Studies Centres throughout the world.
- Presently developing a network of New Zealand Olympic Studies scholars from other NZ Universities.
- Have established a UC list of Olympians.
- Compiling historical record of UC sport and the Olympic Movement.
Goal 4.2 - To grow the knowledge and understanding of Olympism and the Olympic Movement within the Olympic Studies programme

Achievements;

- Attendance (2 post graduate students) and presentation at the 2013 International Olympic Academy (IOA) Session in Olympia for Institutes of Higher Education in Physical Education – attendance is by invitation only; and the IOA pay approximately 60% of costs.

Goal 4.3 - To contribute to cooperation and development concerning Olympic Studies within New Zealand and beyond

Achievements;

- Established a Memorandum of Cooperation/Understanding with the German Sport University of Cologne.
- Continue to utilise the existing Memorandum of Understanding with the Willibald Gebhardt Research Institute Duisburg – Essen University, Germany.
- Continued cooperation with the International Olympic Committee’s Studies Centre in Switzerland.
- Continued cooperation with and the International Olympic Academy in Olympia Greece.
- Listed on the International Olympic Scholars Network at the University Autonomic Barcelona.
- Strong on-going liaison and collaboration with the Olympic Studies Centre at Loughborough University, UK.
- Have an on-going relationship with the International Institute Pierre de Coubertin.
- Established links to the International Federation of Physical Education (Oceania region).

5. Collaborating Academic Scholars

University of Canterbury and other NZ Universities

Judy Bruce, Jackie Cowan, Ian Culpan, Hugh Galvan, Sue McBain, Clive Moon (Visiting Academic), Samantha Nanayakkara – Just completed PhD, Susie Stevens – PhD student, Anna McCon – Masters student, Blake Bennett – PhD student; Seth Brown (Massey University); Clive Pope (Waikato University); Richard Pringle (University of Auckland); Elspeth McMillian New Zealand Olympic Committee.

International Collaborating Scholars
Emeritus Professor Sheila Wigmore, Sheffield-Hallam University, UK; Professor Jim Parry Leeds University UK; Professor Stephen Wassong German Sport University of Cologne; Professor Ian Henry, Loughborough University, UK; Professor Roland Naul Willibald Gebhardt Research Institute; Dr Ann-Christin Sollerhed Kristianstad University, Sweden; Professor Mike McNamee Swansea University Wales.

6. Future Developments and Considerations

- Consolidating Olympic Studies with Physical Education and Sport Coaching to form a Physical Education, Sport Coaching and Olympic Studies Hub (PESCOS) Hub. PESCOS – a Greek word meaning abundant. The New Zealand Centre of Olympic Studies would still maintain its identity (because of its international status) but would be under a ‘bigger umbrella’.
- Fund development to resource the activities of the Centre.
- Pursuit of research/contract monies.
- Continue to build post-graduate student numbers.
- Invitations to international scholars to formally join the New Zealand Centre for Olympic Studies.
- Investigate feasibility of hosting an International Research Symposium on Olympic Studies.
- Establishing a comprehensive New Zealand Olympic studies library as a result of the New Zealand Olympic Committee’s request to take over their library collection.

Note; In 2012 Clive Moon gave 40 hrs of voluntary time to the Centre and in 2014 he has offered to do 50 days of voluntary work.

Ian Culpan