

## Oceania Sport Information Centre 2009 Annual Report

### Introduction

2009 will be another challenging year for OSIC as we strive to take advantage of the success we had in 2008. The challenges to meet the needs of our clients and expand our services will be paramount. The continuation and increase of funding from the IOC is a positive sign of support from the Oceania National Olympic Committees. However, it would be a challenging period for OSIC as we work with the new leadership changes within ONOC. Meetings with ONOC will be on going to iron out any procedural changes that may have an effect on OSIC.

### Sport Education and Related Programs

In 2009 there have been a number of developments in sports related courses that have cropped up at USP where OSIC staffs have been part of the initial discussions. The Regional Centre for Continuing and Community Education (RCCCE) is in its final stages of preparations to offer Oceania Sport Education Program (OSEP) courses in Fiji and other regional USP Centres. The OSEP Program is part of the ONOC Sport Education program which was established about 3 years ago.

Another IOC/ONOC related sport education that is also in the pipeline of discussions is the Olympic Values Education Program (OVEP). The OVEP Program is expected to be launched next year at the ONOC General Assembly which is scheduled for March 2010 in Nadi. The OVEP program is expected to be offered by the RCCCE at USP and also at the Fiji Institute of Technology School of Sport Science Physical Education and Recreation.

Talks have also been underway between FIFA (International Football) and USP for courses in Sports Management to be offered at USP. USP is currently working on an MOU with FIFA while further discussions are still under way with key stake holders within USP. In the meantime discussions have continued within the Faculty of Arts and Law (FAL) on the possibility of USP offering Physical Education as a degree program in the near future. This proposal has been strengthened by an initiative by the School of Education to host an international conference on Physical Education at the USP Laucala Campus in June 2010. The conference is supported by the FIEP (International Federation for Physical Education). The possible introduction of a degree program in PE at USP will definitely boost our role as information providers within the region.



*Picture: OSIC Coordinator in a group discussion during the 2009 ONOC Assembly in Queenstown, New Zealand*

### Requests and Service

During 2009 OSIC staffs received a number of requests that required a substantial amount of time to research. Some of these requests are highlighted below. We anticipate an increase in use of online database as access to the internet becomes more readily available throughout the region. USP has also increased its subscription to online resources which should have an effect on the number of uses in the future.

1. Fiji Weightlifting Federation.  
The FWF had requested all medal winners in the sport of weightlifting dating back to the 1963 South Pacific Games. The request also included past results and statistics from the Oceania Weightlifting Championships.
2. Sports Discus  
OSIC received about 40 requests from USP students relating to information available on the sports online database. This was by far the most requests received since Sports Discus was made available as a full text resource. We expect this trend to continue as student become more aware of this service.
3. Medals Won by the Cook Island at past South Pacific Mini Games.  
This request was received from the Cook Islands National Olympic Committee as they prepared for the 2009 Mini Games. The Cook Islands NOC was putting together the history of how its athletes had performed in past games.
4. Solomon Islands medal winners in past Mini Games Athletics Results.

We also received a request from the Solomon Islands on the history of medal winners in past Mini Games.

5. History of Traditional Wrestling in Melanesia

A request was received from the National Sports Information Centre of Australia on the history of traditional wrestling in Melanesian countries.

6. Email Requests

In the past emails from students requesting sport related information was very few in 2008 which is a contrast to 2009. OSIC staff received a substantial number of requests through the email which has replaced the traditional face to face requests that was prevalent in the past.

7. History of Fiji Netball

8. Medals won by Tongan athletes in the sport of Boxing and Athletics in the South Pacific Games and Oceania Championships.

9. PNG NOC request for medal winners in past South Pacific Games (1991 – 1999) and Mini Games

## Analysis of Statistics for 2009

	onoc	org	staff	student	library	school	other	visitor	media	TOTAL
Jan -Aprl	10	238	60	300	0	9	120	20	26	<b>783</b>
May - Aug	5	492	61	87	0	0	281	1	3	930
Sept - Dec	20	645	130	335	0	0	437	17	10	1594
										<b>3307</b>

Statistics presented above shows a profound increase in the number of requests throughout the year which has been the usual trend over the years. Statistics for 2009 shows a slight increase in the overall statistics in comparison to 2008.

## OSIC Website (<http://www.oceaniasport/osic> )

Presented below are the stats for number of hits on the OSIC website. It is apparent that website needs constant updating in order to keep the interest of the general public who may be looking for information. This is indicated by the low number of hits for the months of January, July and December when very little updating on the OSIC website was carried out. Our aim is to continue to improve the OSIC website by providing more sports related information that could be easily accessed by our users throughout the region.

### *Presented below are stats for the number of hits on the OSIC website for 2009*

Page Requests	Traffic (Mb)	
Dec 2009	542	6
Nov 2009	1,175	15
Oct 2009	1,009	15
Sep 2009	940	12
Aug 2009	1,251	20
Jul 2009	600	8
Jun 2009	1,180	18
May 2009	1,002	14
Apr 2009	1,073	16
Mar 2009	956	12
Feb 2009	991	13
Jan 2009	598	8

## Workshops and Conferences

Listed below are workshops and conferences that were attended by OSIC staff. The attendance of OSIC staff to regional workshops and conferences is important since it provides an opportunity

### 1. IASI World Conference

It was unfortunate that OSIC was not represented at the 2009 IASI World Conference which was held at the Australian Institute Of Sport in Canberra. The conference was scheduled for March 9 – 13. OSIC

Library Assistant, Ms. Taufa Domona was supposed to have attended but due to visa problems her trip had to be cancelled. This has been a learning experience where advance planning is important.

## **2. ONOC General Assembly**

The ONOC Annual General Assembly was held at Queenstown, New Zealand from March 28 – April 2<sup>nd</sup>. The OSIC Coordinator attended the Assembly where he made a presentation based on the OSIC 2008 Annual Report. The 2009 Assembly was important since ONOC members were going to elect new office bearers. Dr. Mitchell and Rick Blas from Guam were elected President and Secretary General respectively. A meeting with the new ONOC administration is scheduled for later on in April in order to sort out issues relating to OSIC. It was announced at the ONOC Assembly that funding to OSIC would increase for the next Olympiad (4 Years) 2009 – 2012.

## **3. Fiji Sports Medicine Workshop (June 12 – 14)**

I attended the Fiji Sports Medicine Workshop that was organized by the FASANOC Medical Commission which was held at the Tanoa Plaza in Suva. I made a presentation on the role of OSIC and how we could assist individuals obtain sports related information. As a result of my presentation a number of participants from the Fiji School of Medicine sent me requests for research projects they were working on. This reiterates the importance of OSIC being involved in such workshops.

## **4. Olympic Values Education Program (July 28 – August 1)**

International Olympic Committee Regional Seminar on the Olympic Values Education Program (OVEP) was held at the Tanoa Plaza Hotel in Suva from July 28 – August 1. The Coordinator was part of the ONOC staff that was invited to attend the seminar. The OVEP is a new world wide initiative for the IOC International Cooperation and Development Department. The IOC is looking at educational institutions to implement the OVEP program. The Director of the International Cooperation and Development Department Mr. Tomas Sithole and Dr Robin Mitchell took time out from the seminar to visit OSIC. Mr. Sithole was interested in seeing OSIC and how his department could assist in providing resources for the Centre to support the implementation of the OVEP program in the region.

## **5. Office Visit**

On March 10 we had two Sport Development Officers (SDO) from Tonga and Kiribati spent half a day at OSIC as part of their training attachment with the Oceania National Olympic Committee. Ms. Ahosivi Kaitapu (Tonga NOC) and Ms. Tebatawa Kaetu (Kiribati NOC) were gathering information on how to start a Resource Centre for sports in their respective countries. We have always encouraged visitations and attachments of SDO's and other employees of the National Olympic Committees whenever they are in Suva for ONOC workshops or related matters.



*OSIC Assistant, Ms Taufa Domona pictured with professional rugby players Marika and Sisa Komaibole during a visit to the Centre in June 2009*

## **Community Outreach**

OSIC staffs continue to play an active role in the development of resources in a number of institutions around Fiji and the region. These educational institutions include Sports Academies, Fiji Institute of Technology School of Sports Science Physical Education and Recreation (SPESSAR) and USP Centre Libraries in Fiji and the region. The OSIC Coordinator is also involved in a number of sports education related advisory committees which are responsible for the introduction and development of new programs. Commitments to these committees are ongoing as new programs are being developed to cater to the needs of the communities. These committees includes the USP Sports Science Program, FIT – SPESSAR Program and the OSEP Program.

OSIC staffs are also part of the organizing committee for FIEP (International Federation for Physical Education) Conference which will be held in Fiji in June 2010. The conference is being organized by the USP School of Education in association with the Faculty of Arts and Law. The FIEP Conference would include participants from

around the world and Pacific region. The OSIC Coordinator is also expected to make a presentation on the history and role of the Centre.

### **OSIC Equipment**

ONOC has been responsible for the acquisition and servicing of equipments which are been used for the day to day operations of OSIC. Here is a list of equipments currently been used by OSIC staff?

1. 2 X IBM Think Centre PC (2 and 4 years old)
2. 1 X Lenovo Laptop ( 1 year old)
3. 1 X HP Photo Smart Printer C4385 (1 year old)
4. 1 X Panasonic TV (8 years old)
5. 1 X Hitachi Video Tape Player (8 years old)
6. 1 X Panasonic Video Tape Player (8 years old)

These equipments are very basic and some have become obsolete like the two video tape players which are hardly being used due to the introduction of DVDs. The purchase of a DVD player has become necessary in order for clients to view discs on coaching and other sport related resources. There is also a need for a digital camera that would enable OSIC staff to capture images that could be used on the OSIC website and other public relations events.

### **Conclusion**

As we move into 2010 some have questioned the need of having the Centre and if it has outlived its usefulness? OSIC was established as a model for the rest of the world to see the importance of regional cooperation where different agencies such as; the Australian Sports Commission, USP, UNESCO, ONOC, and the IOC, can come together and establish a sport information centre that is unique to the Pacific region and its needs.

OSIC has established an extensive collection of South Pacific Games results which has taken over 10 years to compile. These collections have proven to be valuable archival material and are in constant use by, sporting organizations, and National Olympic Committees and individuals' world wide.

Another valuable collection is the Olympic Bid documents which were kindly donated by former ONOC President, Mr. Kevan Gosper and current President, Dr. Robin Mitchell. Not too many sports libraries in the world can claim that they have such a collection.

With the assistance of the OSIC staffs the USP library now has some of the latest sports related publications and resources. These books and online resources have become valuable resources for regional students, coaches and athletes who may have some interest in sports or involved in a sport education program. As new IOC educational programs are being introduced around world the supporting role of OSIC becomes even more obvious and important. We hope that OSIC will continue to receive the support of ONOC and the IOC as we venture into the New Year.

### **Extra Curricular Activities**

- Chairman Fiji Institute of Technology-Sports Physical Education and Recreation (SPESSAR) Program Advisory Committee
- General Secretary – Athletics Fiji
- Member FASANOC Medical Commission
- Member USP Sports Science Advisory Committee.
- Board Member Fiji Sports Association for the Disable.
- Member Oceania Athletics Coaches Association

### **USP Committees**

- USP Representative on the Oceania Sport Education Program (OSEP) Board.
- Lecturer USP Sports Science Program
- Coach USP Athletics Team
- Member FIEP 2010 Conference Organizing Committee

**Albert Miller**

**Coordinator**

**Oceania Sport Information Centre**