Postgraduate Research Grant Programme

2013 Edition

Objectives, priority fields of research and regulations

2 April 2012
The IOC Olympic Studies Centre (OSC) organises an annual grant programme intended for early career researchers engaged in scholarly research on the Olympic Movement, its history and ideals, and the impact of the Olympic Games on the various aspects of contemporary society and culture.

1. OBJECTIVES

The objectives of this programme are as follows:

1.1. Encourage early career researchers to undertake research with a humanities or social sciences perspective on the Olympic phenomena. All projects dealing with the Olympic Movement and/or the Olympic Games will be considered. However, for the 2013 selection, the priority fields of research are as follows:

- The various aspects of the legacy of the Olympic Games. How can an Olympic city remain “Olympic”? 
- The various ways of living the Olympic experience through the Games. Benchmarking with other major events.
- The contributions of the cultural and/or educational programmes to the Olympic Games’ reach in the host country and/or beyond.
- Olympic Games Candidate Cities - A Legacy after the Bid?
- Sustainability reporting in major events: best practices and trends in the communication of economic, environmental and social outcomes.
- The impact on local young people and their perception of the Youth Olympic Games in the host cities of Singapore and Innsbruck.
- Elite athletes - The role of the entourage (parents, coaches, agents, etc.) in the athlete’s sport career and/or in the preparation of a post-sports career.
- Benchmarking of organisations involving active or retired champions as ambassadors. Background, champion’s role, actions and reach.
- Evaluation tools to assess the impact of Sport for All programmes on society.
- The keys for successful Sport for All programmes – Best practices and policies in terms of intersectoral cooperation and environmental development (architecture, urban design, transport, etc.) to encourage physical activity.
- The participation of the National Olympic Committees in the Olympic Winter Games: origins, evolution and future perspectives.
- Young people and their relationship with physical activity, sport and Olympism (interest, participation, engagement and opportunities to get involved in sports occupations and careers).
- Sport-for-development programmes - The challenge of establishing key performance indicators to measure their impact on society.
- The relevance of Olympic education in today’s society, countries and school programmes.
- Governance of sports organisations: Future challenges for the Olympic Movement.
- Elite athletes’ health.

1.2. Promote IOC patrimony consultation by facilitating access to the historical archives of the IOC, the library collections and the image archives.

1.3. Encourage exchanges of information and interdisciplinary and intercultural networking of early career researchers. Particular attention will be given to collective applications which demonstrate collaboration between research members from different
disciplines and countries and include at least one researcher from one region underrepresented in previously successful IOC OSC grants.

2. ELIGIBILITY

The following researchers are eligible to apply:

- All current postgraduate students undertaking a PhD degree.

- All university professors/lecturers who have completed their doctorate or equivalent terminal degree (including masters, depending on the field) in the past five years (from PhD completion to the submission of the grant application), and who currently hold an academic appointment.

Other eligibility criteria to be fulfilled are as follows:

- Applicants should be preparing a thesis, dissertation, scholarly article or book in one or more of the disciplines of human and social sciences (e.g. anthropology; arts; communications; economics/management; history; law; linguistics; pedagogy; philosophy; political sciences; sociology; sport sciences and urban, cultural, religious or literature studies) and have Olympism, Olympic sports or the Olympic Games as one of the research topics.

- Applicants must be completely fluent in either French or English.

- Candidates may submit their application with the same research subject for no more than two editions of the programme.

- Candidates can apply on an individual or collective basis. In the second case, all research group members have to fulfil the eligibility criteria. In addition, one member of the group should be nominated as coordinator and remain the main person of contact with the IOC OSC.

Previous IOC OSC grant holders are not eligible to apply.

These eligibility criteria will be strictly applied.

3. APPLICATION PROCEDURES AND DEADLINE

Applications must be received by e-mail or post at the OSC (see address below) no later than 28 September 2012. A candidature acceptance confirmation will be sent by e-mail at the latest one week after it is received.

Applications and all supporting documentation must be submitted in either French or English, the two official languages of the Olympic Movement. The candidature file must include only the information required (see below) and must not exceed the maximum number of words / pages. It must be presented on A4 paper, unbound, numbered consecutively, and it must be typed in size 12 font using single spacing.

1 To learn more about the represented regions in previous successful IOC OSC grants, please follow this link.
Completed application files must include:

- an official application form, duly filled in (forms are available from the OSC upon written request or through the OSC web site - see address below);

- a description of the research topic and objectives (400 words maximum);

- a description of the project’s contribution to academic knowledge (400 words maximum);

- a description of the relevance of the research to the understanding of the Olympic Movement and its potential impact on the practical activities of the Olympic Movement (400 words maximum);

- a description of the applicant’s training and preparation for this project, any work already undertaken by the applicant on the project, and a list of the applicant’s previous publications. Postgraduates students studying for a PhD must also explain how the research project submitted for the grant is integrated into the applicant’s doctoral thesis plan (two pages maximum);

- the methodology to be applied, and the working schedule for the project, including key tasks, deliverables and milestones (800 words maximum);

- a description of previous academic work undertaken by others in this field of study, including a detailed analysis of the relevant literature and a description of how the applicant’s research builds on the existing scholarship (800 words maximum);

- a detailed bibliography of sources and studies related to the research (five pages maximum);

- an identification of the collections the applicant plans to consult. If the applicant wishes to use the OSC collections, the application must include a justification of the need to use these collections and the proposed length of stay in Lausanne, including details of the documents to be studied (with this in mind, it is highly recommended that candidates consult the OSC’s web site (http://www.olympic.org/studies) to find out about the general content of the collections available and the IOC Archives Access Rules);

- a statement of the applicant’s plans for scholarly publication of the research results;

- a detailed budget in Swiss francs and justification of the amount requested for the award;

- two letters of recommendation written by professors or qualified academic staff members of a university or a university-level research institute. The Selection Committee is particularly interested in the reference’s assessment of the following points: the scholarly significance of the research project; the methodology and original character of the study; the impact of the project on the Olympic Movement; the candidate’s training, abilities, achievements to date and motivation for the research proposed; and the likelihood that the candidate will complete the project on time. The recommendation letters must be written on institutional letterhead and sent

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2 For those candidates proposing to stay in Lausanne, we suggest considering a daily budget of CHF 200 including food, accommodation and transport.

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directly to the Olympic Studies Centre or included with the applicant's dossier. In the latter case, they should be placed in a sealed envelope signed across the flap by the person recommending the candidate. It is the candidate’s responsibility to ensure that the letters are received by the OSC on time.

4. GRANT AWARDS

Successful applicants will receive a research grant of a maximum of CHF 10,000 for an individual and CHF15,000 for collective projects. The total amount to be awarded will be decided by the Grant Programme Selection Committee after having analysed all the elements of the application.

Grants will not cover international travel expenses, except for those who need to come to consult the OSC’s collections in Lausanne.

Expenses permitted:

Research expenses directly related and essential to the project as follows:

- National travel and living expenses when outside the applicant’s place of residence.
- Translation costs for relevant research materials.
- Postage, mailing and copying.
- Other relevant research expenditures.

Research assistance and transcription costs will only be funded in exceptional circumstances.

Expenses regarding participation at approved conferences where applicants are presenting results of this research must not exceed the 10% of the total budget.

Expenses not permitted:

- Salary and/or fringe benefits, including insurance.
- Tuition and study fees.
- Institutional overheads or institutional support.
- Expenses incurred prior to the effective date of the grant.
- Purchase of technological material (laptop, camera, etc.).

Research projects supported by a grant must be completed and submitted to the IOC in either French or English before 31 December 2013.

The grant will be awarded to successful applicants according to the following schedule: one-third when awarded, one-third after an intermediary progress report and one-third on receipt of the final research report.
5. SELECTION AND NOTIFICATION

The Grant Programme Selection Committee is composed of experts who are world-renowned for their involvement in Olympic studies, and the OSC officers and professionals. Decisions are based upon the quality of the application file, the significance and originality of the proposed research, the feasibility of the project and the candidate’s ability to carry out the research satisfactorily.

The same criteria will be taken into consideration by the OSC to determine the maximum number of grants available each year.

Applicants will be notified of the results of their application by the end of December 2012. For those selected applicants having requested to consult the OSC collections, the centre will schedule their research visits between February and December 2013 in consultation with them.

6. PUBLICATIONS AND COMMITMENTS

Grant holders will commit to provide the OSC with a progress report (electronic copy) six months after the award notification. This report will include a description of the project development, including an explanation of any major changes in the research project since submission to the grant programme; an updated working schedule, describing the work already done, ongoing and yet to be done until completion of the research; and an identification of any difficulties the grant holder faces in conducting the project (4,000 words maximum).

The final research report will be provided to the OSC (electronic version and two paper copies) one year after the award notification.

The final report, which may be used by the IOC for publication, must be presented on A4 paper, numbered consecutively, and it must be typed in size 12 font using single spacing. It will be made up of four parts:

- an executive summary of the research result with a list of key words;
- a 30-50 page (12,000 – 20,000 words) document including the research subject and objectives; the academic significance of the project and its impact on the Olympic Movement; the methodology applied; the key information sources consulted for the project; and the results and conclusions of the research project;
- the annexes, including any additional information of interest for the project;
- a financial accounting of all funds provided by the OSC (receipts required). This last part must be sent in a separate document.

Grant holders will commit to publish/disseminate their research results within the academic world. They will undertake to ensure that all subsequent publications or productions, using in whole, or in part, the results obtained under the auspices of the research grant, will appropriately acknowledge the IOC OSC and the Postgraduate Research Grant Programme. In addition, they will provide the OSC with one copy of any such publications or productions.

Grant holders may be invited to give a presentation of the results and conclusions of the research project to the IOC upon completion of the funded research project.
7. SECRETARIAT

Application files, and any related correspondence, should be sent to:

E-mail: research_grants@olympic.org
The Olympic Museum
IOC Olympic Studies Centre
Quai d’Ouchy 1
Villa du Centenaire
1006 Lausanne
Switzerland

Tel.: +41 21 621 6318
Fax: +41 21 621 6718

To find out more about the activities and collections of the IOC Olympic Studies Centre, please consult our web site: http://www.olympic.org/studies

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

For the Postgraduate Research Grant Programme 2012, the Selection Committee received 34 candidatures and awarded 7 grants. The Selection Committee was composed of OSC officers and professionals and the following experts: Gudrun DOLL-TEPPER (Freie Universität Berlin, Germany), Beatriz GARCÍA (University of Liverpool, Great Britain), Ian HENRY (Loughborough University, Great Britain), Bruce KIDD (University of Toronto, Canada), Françoise PAPA (Université Stendhal Grenoble 3, France), Kristine TOOHEY (Griffith University Gold Coast, Australia) and Cesar TORRES (State University of New York, United States).

RESEARCH SUBJECTS OF THE 2011 AND 2012 GRANT HOLDERS

- An Olympic City in the Making: Rio de Janeiro mega-event strategy 1996-2016 – Gabriel Silvestre, Brazil

- A philosophic analysis of Olympic entourages: Views from the perspectives of fairness, justice, and Olympism – Sarah Teetzel, Canada

- Evaluation of the innovative elements of the YOG 2012 sports programme with particular emphasis on Spectators and Media – Martin Schnitzer, Italy

- Historical Analysis of the Ethical Foundation of the IOC Anti-Doping Fight - Marcel Reinold, Germany

- Impact of Technology on Olympic Snowboard Judging – Perceptions of Athletes and Officials - Jason William Harding, Australia

- Influence of the Entourage in Developing Athletes’ Readiness for Career Transition out of Sport – Sunghee Park, South Korea
- International Olympic Committee resistance to political interference from governments and state officials – Byron Peacock, United States of America

- Learning in Temporary Organisations: Assessing the Factors Enabling and Disabling Knowledge Transfer in the Olympic Games - Martin Müller and Allison Stewart, Switzerland and Great Britain

- Paradoxes of Humanism. Human Rights Advocacy the Olympic Movement and the 1980 Olympic Boycott - Umberto Tulli, Italy

- Preparing Olympic Athletes for Lives Outside of Elite Sport: Towards Best Practice - Natalie Barker-Ruchti, Dean Michael Barker, Jessica Lee and Steven Rynne, Switzerland and Australia

- The Olympic Movement and the Development of Global Citizenship Education Policy – Simon Darnell, Canada

- The sport and physical activity legacy of the Olympic Games for youth of low social economic classes in Río de Janeiro - Arianne Carvalhido Dias Dos Reis and Fabiana Rodrigues De Sousa Mast, Brazil

- Toronto’s Olympic Ambitions: An Investigation of the Olympic Bidding Legacy in one Modern City - Robert Oliver, Canada