Postgraduate Research Grant Programme

2012 Edition

Objectives, priority fields of research and regulations

14 April 2011
The IOC Olympic Studies Centre (OSC) organises an annual grant programme intended for young 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 young 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 2012 selection, the priority fields of research are as follows:

- Young people and their relationship with physical activity, sport and Olympism (interest, participation and engagement).
- The relevance of Olympic education in today’s society, countries and school programmes.
- Sport for All: Health and social benefits of regular physical activity for people of all ages, both sexes and different social and economic conditions.
- Elite athletes: The role of the entourage in the athletes’ sport career and/or in the preparation of the post-sport career.
- Sport as a tool for human development. How can sport make the difference?
- The various aspects of the legacy of the Olympic Games. How can an Olympic city remain "Olympic"?
- Sustainability reporting in major events: best practices and trends in the communication of economic, environmental and social outcomes.
- 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.
- The participation of the National Olympic Committees in the Olympic Winter Games: origins, evolution and future perspectives.

1.2. Promote IOC patrimony consultation by facilitating access to the historical archives of the IOC, the library collections and the image collections. Please be informed that, due to the temporary closure of The Olympic Museum in 2012, the OSC staff will do their best to facilitate access to the IOC patrimony but this cannot be fully guaranteed.

1.3. Encourage exchanges of information and interdisciplinary and intercultural networking of young researchers. Particular attention will be given to collective applications which demonstrate collaboration between research members from different disciplines and countries.
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.

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 30 September 2011. 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 respect 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.

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 (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 and the assistance expected from the OSC staff (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, and any other intended form of production (e.g. film, CD-ROM, exhibition, etc.);

- a detailed budget in Swiss francs and justification of the amount requested for the award¹;

- 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 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.

¹ For those candidates proposing to stay in Lausanne, we suggest considering a daily budget of CHF 200 including food, accommodation and transport.
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.
- Research assistance.
- Transcription costs.
- Postage, mailing and copying.
- Image licence fees and other relevant research expenditures.

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
- 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 2012.

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 / Information Management Department 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. For the 2012 edition, the exceptional conditions concerning the limited access to the OSC collections, due to the temporary closure of the Olympic Museum building, will be also taken into consideration.

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 2011. For those selected applicants having requested to consult the OSC collections, the centre will review each individual case and schedule a research visit to Lausanne.
between February and December 2012. Every effort will be made to accommodate the students’ visits to the OSC with their schedules.

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 (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;
- 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 at least two copies of any such publications or productions.

7. SECRETARIAT

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

E-mail: research_grants@olympic.org
International Olympic Committee
Olympic Studies Centre
Quai d'Ouchy 1
CH – 1001 Lausanne
Switzerland

Tel.: +41 21 621 6318
Fax: +41 21 621 6386

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 2011, the Selection Committee received 35 candidatures and awarded 6 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, UK), 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 2010 AND 2011 GRANT HOLDERS

- Creating a Youth Olympic Legacy – A Case Study of Singapore 2010 Youth Olympic Games Donna Shy Yun Wong, Singapore

- Examining the Importance of Olympic Games Legacy Aspects Among Host City Residents: A Temporal Approach – Kyriaki Kaplanidou, Canada

- 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

- 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 Cultural Meanings and Environmental Effects of Skiing in Alpine Europe Before 1945 – Andrew Denning, United States of America

- The Olympic Cultural Programme and its Role in Fostering Local Creativity – Ilaria Pappalepore, Italy

- The Olympic Movement’s Response to the Challenge of Emerging Nationalism in Sport: An Historical Reconsideration of GANEFO – Russell Field, Canada


- The Use of Exiled Athletes by the United States Government at the Olympic Games – Toby Rider, Great Britain
- *Toronto’s Olympic Ambitions: An Investigation of the Olympic Bidding Legacy in one Modern City* - Robert Oliver, United States of America