

Jan.'18

WLO NEWS

Issue 6. Ready for 2018! A promising year ahead in our 66th anniversary.



ANNIVERSARY

**WORLD
LEISURE
ORGANIZATION**



Editorial

Dear members, dear colleagues,

In 2018 we celebrate our 66th Anniversary. Nice number, isn't it? And what a better way to celebrate it than with a new edition of the WL Congress? In this issue of *WLO News* we bring you some updates on this major leisure event, which will not only gather leading scholars and professionals in São Paulo from the 28 August to the 1 September this year, but will also be an excellent opportunity to review our history and think about our future.

Another, very important anniversary is celebrated this year. The *World Leisure Journal* turns 60! I want to take this opportunity to send my congratulations to the editorial team for their excellent work. And to celebrate it, and just for now, here we offer you a selection of the most read and most cited articles with free access. More celebratory initiatives will be coming soon. Stay tuned!

We are also enormously happy that 2018 brings us new partners in this journey. In this issue we introduce you to the newly elected members of WLO Board of Directors. We also welcome the Department of Tourism of the [University of Otago](#) as a new World Leisure Center of Excellence. And of course we thank our members and partners for their continuous support and enthusiasm.

The bar is set certainly high for 2018 and the future looks full of challenges, but those are challenges we are extremely eager to take! Let's go for 2018! Are you coming?

Yours faithfully,

Dr. Cristina Ortega Nuere
WLO Chief Operating Officer



WLO Highlights



WLO welcomes new members of the Board of Directors

It is with great pleasure that we announce the names of the six newly elected members of the WLO Board of Directors. Elected for the period 2018-2021, new Board members come from Brazil, China (2), India, New Zealand, and South Africa. The renewed [WLO Board of Directors](#), composed of 20 members, is commissioned to increase the network's international outreach and strengthen its different programs and strategic lines. This election safeguards the diversity of the Board in terms of background, gender and geographic area of affiliation. Read more to get to know the members of the WLO Board of Directors.

We warmly welcome six new members of the WLO Board of Directors, who will represent the organization for the period 2018-2021. They were elected by current members of the Board after an open nominations process launched last October.

The newly elected members of the Board are:

- Gulshetty Basawaraj – International Institute of Social Science Research Foundation, India
- Antonio Bramante – University of Sorocaba, Brazil
- Zhongqiang Ma (Victor) – Consultant of Foreign Affairs for Qingdao and Laixi, China
- Ling Ping – Hangzhou Normal University, China
- Trudie Walters – University of Otago, New Zealand
- Marie Young – University of the Western Cape, South Africa

We thank all of them for their willingness to contribute to the WLO, and look forward to start working with them to make the most out of their expertise and abilities, for the benefit of the WLO community as a whole.

The renewed Board of Directors is composed of 20 members, with the six newly elected members joining:

- Stephen Anderson – Florida International University, USA
- Miklos Banhidi – Szechenyi Istvan University, Hungary
- Roger Coles – WLO Chairman; Central Michigan University (Emeritus), USA/Canada
- Jalloh Abubakarr – Migrant Education Program, Iowa Department of Education, USA
- Richard L. Hayes – The Hayes Group, USA
- Yvonne Klerks – NHTV Breda University of Applied Sciences, The Netherlands

- Lawal Mohammed Marafa – The Chinese University of Hong Kong, Hong Kong
- Lénia Marques – Erasmus University Rotterdam, The Netherlands
- Galit Nimrod – Ben-Gurion University of the Negev, Israel
- Cristina Ortega Nuere – WLO Chief Operating Officer (COO), Spain
- Carlos Alberto Rico – Universidad Nacional de Colombia, Colombia
- Joanne A. Schroeder – Vancouver Island University, Canada
- Atara Sivan – Hong Kong Baptist University, Hong Kong
- John Tower – Victoria University, Australia

We also take this opportunity to thank leaving Board members whose mandate had expired for their valuable contribution to the organization in the past few years, and hope to maintain the collaboration with them through different mechanisms in the future.

The new WLO Board of Directors will meet face-to-face for the first time in São Paulo, on the occasion of the [WL Congress 2018](#) (28 August-1 September 2018), which will be also an excellent opportunity for WLO members to meet all of them and share with them their ideas and expectations for the WLO in the near future.

The composition of the current WLO Board of Directors can be checked [here](#).

WL Congress 2018 in São Paulo to open very soon, keep your eyes open!

The registration for the [WL Congress 2018 in São Paulo](#) (28 August-1 September 2018) will open by the end of the month. We invite you to regularly check the Congress' site for more information. In the meantime, we inform you that abstract submission closed on the 10 January and nearly a thousand proposals were received, distributed among the 15 thematic areas. We are extremely happy with the response of the leisure community and thank everyone for their contributions, as well as the local partner, [Sesc São Paulo](#) and the scientific partner [University of São Paulo](#) for the amazing work. Selection will be communicated in due course. More information to be coming soon, stay tuned!

[READ MORE...](#)



SAVE THE DATE

2018 WLO Study Tour in Sao Paulo

August 24th. to 26th.
(prior to the 15th.
WLO Congress)

More info will be available very soon!





WLO Insights



We reveal the names of the WLO Photo contest winners!

The first winner of the WLO Photo contest is... drumroll please... Peter van der Aalst! Congratulations to Peter, who gets a free registration ticket for WL Congress 2018 in São Paulo and a free one year WLO individual membership. The prize for the second winner is also a one year WLO individual membership and it goes to... Regiane Galante! Congratulations! You will be contacted shortly to start enjoying your well-deserved prizes. We thank all the participants for sending their amazing pictures, you really made us travel to your best 2017 leisure moments! Let's make 2018 a year full of new leisure memories! Go on reading to know more about Peter's and Regiane's best leisure moments.

Last December we invited you to share with us your best leisure moments of 2017 through a photo contest. Your pictures and texts were very inspiring and we loved to share a bit of your leisure experiences. Now we reveal the names of the two photo contest winners and thank everyone for their participation!

First winner: Peter van der Aalst

Prize: Free registration ticket for WL Congress 2018 in São Paulo and a free one year WLO individual membership

"My best leisure experience was when my colleague and I worked as visiting professors at Shanghai Normal University for a period of three week last November and December. The first day we arrived we got overwhelmed by the city and its possibilities. In the lobby of our hotel we met four Canadian lecturers, who were also part of an exchange program. Really nice guys, we went into town with the six of us. When we got out of the metro our first encounter with the city was a parade of Chinese ladies in beautiful traditional dresses. They paraded in the People's Park, at the same time there was a kind of a fair going on where Chinese parents tried to connect their adult Children to potential marriage partners. It was kind of a surreal experience. When the Chinese ladies saw our group we became the attraction and the subject of a long, hilarious and pleasant photoshoot. Welcome to Shanghai!! We couldn't have wished for a better start of our adventure. By the way, I'm the guy with the red jacket and white Nikes, front row at the right".

Second winner: Regiane Galante

Prize: Free one year WLO individual membership

"It was a very special leisure moment in my life this year. It was my first time in Rock n'Rio Festival. I love music concerts, specially Rock n'Roll, and Red Hot Chilli Peppers it's one of my favourite rock' bands. They came to Brazil, and I was there! It was amazing!"



WLO participates in high level international meetings in the field of leisure and culture

Last December, WLO Chief Operating Officer (COO), Cristina Ortega Nuere, took part in the [European Cultural Forum \(ECF\)](#) and in the [Eleventh ordinary session of the Intergovernmental Committee of the UNESCO 2005 Convention on the Protection and Promotion of the Diversity of Cultural Expressions](#). Both events are excellent spaces for networking and exchanging views on culture at the international level. WLO COO had the opportunity to learn about the current international research and action agenda in the area, as well as to bring WLO's vision of culture as a leisure dimension to the informal exchanges with colleagues.

It is within WLO's mission to closely follow the latest developments in the field of leisure or in relation to its dimensions, as well as to bring WLO's voice to international forums on leisure, culture, sports, recreation and tourism. Last December, Cristina Ortega Nuere, WLO Chief Operating Officer (COO), participated in two of the most important meeting and networking spaces in the field of culture at the international level.

The first of them was the [European Cultural Forum \(ECF\)](#), organized by the European Commission and held in Milan on the 7-8 December 2017. Under the title "Our heritage: Where the past meets the future", the 2017 edition of this biennial flagship event marked the official launch of the [European Year of Cultural Heritage 2018 \(EYCH 2018\)](#). With the celebration of this year, the EC wants to encourage more people to discover and engage with cultural heritage, a call to which the leisure community could certainly respond. In the words of Cristina Ortega, "leisure intersects with cultural heritage in many ways, which becomes very clear in the case of some specific areas such as sustainable tourism or creative leisure; it would be highly interesting to have the leisure community's inputs on the occasion of this time of collaboration fostered by the EYCH 2018". Furthermore, with the participation of the main political leaders and academic and professional experts, the ECF tackled some of the areas of interest of the [WLO SIG on Leisure and Innovation](#) (to which we devoted the [December issue of WLO News](#)), such as creativity or the creative industries.

Only a few days later, on the 12-15 December 2017, the [Eleventh ordinary session of the Intergovernmental Committee of the UNESCO 2005 Convention on the Protection and Promotion of the Diversity of Cultural Expressions](#) took place at UNESCO Headquarters in Paris. The event included a panel debate on "Cultural and Creative Industries: A New Agenda for the Development Community?", on the 12 December, the launch of the [UNESCO 2018 Global Report "Re-Shaping Cultural Policies"](#), and a debate on "Towards Support Policies for Independent Cinema?", both on the 14 December. Again, this high level meeting was an excellent opportunity for networking and foreseeing future challenges for culture as leisure.



WLO Network

Future leisure managers from WLCE NHTV Breda visit the City of Richmond, World Leisure Community of Excellence

A group of undergraduate students from [WL Center of Excellence NHTV Breda University of Applied Sciences](#) visited last November the [City of Richmond](#), designated as a [WL Community of Excellence](#) in 2017. The visit included diverse presentations, by the Director of Parks and Recreation and by three managers in the Community Services Division, as well as a tour around Richmond's leisure sites and services such as award-winning Terra Nova Rural Park, the Britannia Heritage Shipyard the Olympic Oval and the Richmond Olympic Experience (ROX). The visit was an excellent opportunity for future leisure managers to learn more about the practical implementation of methods and theories related to Experience Design, Community Design and Process Design, among others, and it was very positively valued by both hosts and visitors as a first step for future collaborations.

On November 14, 2017, 39 undergraduate students from the [NHTV Breda University of Applied Sciences](#) in the Netherlands visited the [City of Richmond](#) and toured its leisure sites and services.

The day commenced with a welcome and introduction from the Director of Parks and Recreation at Richmond's newest community centre in the heart of the city. Three presentations were given by managers in the Community Services Division on the unique features that make Richmond a [World Leisure Community of Excellence](#); the events that took place in Celebration of Canada's 150th birthday as well as the community grants program; and how the City of Richmond implements its sustainable sports and events program through the use of a toolkit.

Following these presentations, the students toured several facilities. The first stop was the award-winning Terra Nova Rural Park, where students saw community gardens and learned about the Sharing Farm. They visited the Nature Preschool, an outdoor preschool for 3 to 5 year olds founded upon learning about nature, agriculture, and experiencing the outdoors. Students also saw the Terra Nova Adventure Playground, a nature playground with unique play elements.

The second stop was the Britannia Heritage Shipyard where students got to view how history, culture, and public art are intertwined to create unique spaces that are free and accessible to the public.





As explained by Marcel Grooten, lecturer at [NHTV's Academy for Leisure](#): "This combination of leisure facilities illustrates the role of what we call 'Social Innovators'. In this program students not only learn how to interact with stakeholders, but also how to use methods and theories from the fields of, for instance, Experience Design, Community Design and Process Design".

The day finished with a tour of the Richmond Olympic Oval and the Richmond Olympic Experience (ROX). Students learned how the venue was built to host the 2010 Olympic Long-Track Speed Skating events and then converted into a world class centre for sport, health, wellness, entertainment and culture. A highlight was visiting the ROX, where students sped down the bobsled course, took a turn as a race car driver, and flew through the air ski-jumping, all interactive features found in the only Olympic Museum in North America. "The Dutch have a long tradition in speed skating. No doubt one of the most memorable sports experiences in Dutch history is the disqualification of our best athlete ever, Sven Kramer, on the 10,000 meters distance for missing the right lane. We took a group picture exactly at this notorious spot which plays an important part in our collective memory", Grooten declared.



The students follow different (international) programs and share different cultural backgrounds. Elizabeth Ayers, manager at the Community Services, Planning & Projects Division, created, together with her colleagues from the City of Richmond, an inspiring and diverse program for all students; directly related to their curriculum and strongly appealing to the imagination of future leisure managers. The students evaluated the combined visit of the City of Richmond and the WLCE Vancouver Island University (VIU), organised by Joanne Schroeder, a very stimulating incentive in creating awareness for the international educational opportunities the NHTV offers.

From a Community Services perspective, as Ayers declared, "it was interesting to learn and gain a better understanding of what students are learning internationally in regards to leisure and how it improves the human condition. The opportunity to meet the instructors from Breda first hand and share learnings was interesting, and may lead to future collaborations on research and/or students coming to Richmond for work experience opportunities".

The City of Richmond was designated as a WL Community of Excellence in 2017, in recognition of its substantive contributions to promoting leisure as a means to promote the social, cultural, economic, and sustainable environmental development of the community. Joanne Schroeder from WLCE VIU and member of WLO Board of Directors, visited Richmond on December 11 to present the official plaque recognizing the City of Richmond as a WL Community of Excellence. She made a short presentation to Council regarding the WLO and specifically what a Community of Excellence is. She then presented the plaque to the Honorable Mayor Brodie.

Your community too can become a WL Community of Excellence and start benefitting from the networking opportunities. Check the open call [here](#).



WLO is happy to welcome the Department of Tourism of the University of Otago as a new WL Center of Excellence

The WLO Board of Directors unanimously agreed to recognize the Department of Tourism of the [University of Otago](#) (Dunedin, New Zealand) as a [World Leisure Center of Excellence](#) (WLCE). Highly qualified, international research and teaching staff, the top class facilities of the university campus, or the research area of specialization of the Department of Tourism on “wellbeing: growing personal and ecological wellbeing through tourism and leisure”, were some of the strong points highlighted by the evaluators. The University of Otago now joins NHTV Breda University of Applied Sciences (the Netherlands) and Vancouver Island University (VIU, Canada) in the WLCE network.

The Department of Tourism of the [University of Otago](#) (Dunedin, New Zealand) has been recognized as a new [World Leisure Center of Excellence](#) (WLCE). The University of Otago is within the top two percent of universities worldwide according to the QS World University Rankings, is a major employer in the region and makes a significant contribution to the local economy. The University of Otago Business School in general and particularly the Department of Tourism plays a significant role in promoting tourism and leisure in the region, undertaking research for the tourism industry and producing a large number of tourism and leisure publications: books, journal articles, working papers and industry reports. The focus for leisure research at the University of Otago is wellbeing, with projects focused on growing personal and ecological wellbeing through leisure, which includes tourism, recreation, events, and hospitality.

The Head of the Department of Tourism, Professor Neil Carr, welcomed the announcement and declared that the association with the WLO is important as it gives the university access to a global network of leisure researchers and educators: “It is very positive for Otago that our research and teaching programme has been recognised as being world class”. Professor Carr said quality leisure experiences are becoming increasingly central to modern life, and it is important that research and research-informed teaching can provide meaningful insight into enhancing the human condition. “Being part of a global network will benefit students and staff, creating an important link between academic programmes and research ideas for our teaching and for our researchers. Students wanting to be the leaders of tomorrow now have access to a growing international network of Centers of Excellence”, Dr. Carr added.

Together with [NHTV Breda University of Applied Sciences](#) (the Netherlands) and [Vancouver Island University](#) (VIU, Canada), the University of Otago is now part of the WLCE network. The center will be known as the WLCE University of Otago, and will be situated within the Department of Tourism. As a new WLCE, it will now benefit from learning opportunities for undergraduate and postgraduate students via participation in collaborative research and teaching projects, PhD colloquiums, and international field trips and field schools.

We at WLO look forward to working hand in hand with the University of Otago and consider that this new collaboration can be a highly valuable



contribution and an added value to the WLCE network and the wider WLO community in terms of research and international outreach. In the words of WLO Chief Operating Officer, Dr. Cristina Ortega, “the appointment of the University of Otago as WLCE becomes a great opportunity to expand the network’s activities and strengthen leisure advocacy in a new regional area for WLO”.

As part of a growing commitment to the work of the WLO, Dr Trudie Walters of the Department of Tourism has recently been appointed to the WLO Board of Directors.



Members' Voice



Paul Chua (Singapore): "The WL Forum impressed me and I thought we are on the same page in promoting leisure and good health for everyone"

We introduce you to new WLO member, Paul Chua, the Secretary General of the [World Bodybuilding and Physique Sports Federation \(WBPF\)](#). We had the chance to meet him in Hangzhou, during the WL Expo & Forum, and we can confirm how passionate he is about promoting sports and leisure for good health and well-being. Keep reading to learn more about Paul and the WBPF!

Paul Chua, Secretary General of the World Bodybuilding and Physique Sports Federation (WBPF), is a new WLO member. We asked him a few questions for you to know a bit more about him.

In one sentence: What does leisure mean to you?

For me, leisure means quality of life and sharing happiness with everyone in this world.

What leisure projects, research and/or activities are you involved in?

I am involved in bodybuilding and physique sports throughout the world.

How do you promote the development of leisure and leisure studies?

As a retired person, I normally mix around with many old folks and teach them not to be negative people and march forward positively. Exercise is my main goal for all walks of life.

How did you hear about WLO?

We had a fitness competition at the same venue where the WL Forum took place at the Westlake International Expo in Hangzhou (China).

Why did you decide to become a member of WLO?

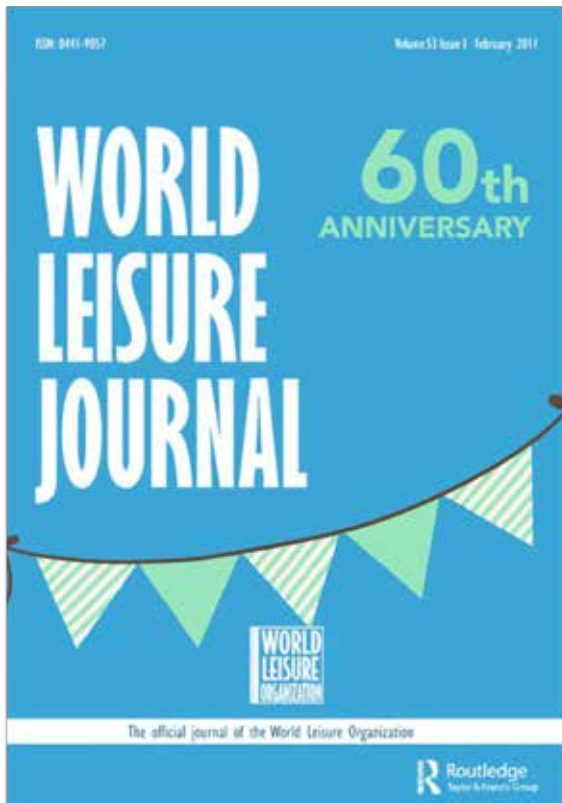
The WL Forum impressed me and I thought we are on the same page in promoting leisure and good health for everyone.

What kind of synergies would you like to develop through your WLO membership?

I would like to meet people of leisure and to learn more.



Publications



The *World Leisure Journal* celebrates its 60th Anniversary!

It is certainly not every day that an academic leisure journal turns 60 years. Along these years, and with recent important developments such as its acceptance into Scopus last year, the *World Leisure Journal* has consolidated as a reference publication for the production of scientific knowledge on leisure. We want to celebrate this occasion with you, and for that we have selected and given free access to some of the most read and most cited article in the journal's history: "Enhancing Youth Development Through Sport" by Steven Danish, Tanya Forneris, Ken Hodge and Ihirangi Heke, "Gifts of the Ordinary: Casual Leisure's Contributions to Health and Well-Being", by Susan L. Hutchinson and Douglas A. Kleiber, and "Recreation for all: providing leisure and recreation services in multi-ethnic communities", by Monika Stodolska. Join the celebration and get inspired for that writing in your New Year resolutions!

[READ MORE...](#)

A supplementary issue of *World Leisure Journal* is now published!

World Leisure Journal closed 2017 with a supplementary issue including selected papers from the 14th World Leisure Congress held in Durban on 27-30 June 2016, the LARASA WL Congress "Challenges, Choices and Consequences". We invite you to read some of the contributions in this issue, generously offered free access to by Taylor & Francis: the first in the issue, "Literature-informed conceptual framework for meaning-focused leisure practice", by Yoshitaka Iwasaki, and the last, "Home-based digital leisure", by Jordi López-Sintas, Laura Rojas de Francisco and Ercilia García-Álvarez. The Editorial, News and the Call for Papers for a new WLJ special issue can also be consulted free of charge. Feel free to spread the word!

[READ MORE...](#)





WLJ ARTICLE (free access) by Dr. Neil Carr (University of Otago) on young women's use of leisure spaces and times

On the occasion of the recognition of the Department of Tourism of the University of Otago as a new [World Leisure Centre of Excellence \(WLCE\)](#), we want to share with you an article by Dr. Neil Carr, Head of the Department of Tourism, published in the *World Leisure Journal* in 2000: "An exploratory study of young women's use of leisure spaces and times: constrained, negotiated, or unconstrained behaviour?". Enjoy the reading!

[READ MORE...](#)



WLO members now get a 30% discount in Routledge, CRC Press, and Taylor & Francis books

From now and until the end of the year, WLO members can benefit from a 30% discount when purchasing Taylor & Francis Group books. You can check the wide range of titles at [CRC Press](#) or [Routledge](#). If you are a WLO member, request your voucher by sending an e-mail to media@worldleisure.org. Not yet a member? [Become a member](#) now and enjoy this and multiple other benefits!



Opportunities



SCHOLARSHIP to attend WL Congress in São Paulo: Thomas and Ruth Rivers International Scholarship

The [Thomas and Ruth Rivers International Scholarship](#) (TRRIS) is intended to provide opportunities for senior or graduate students who are studying recreation, leisure studies, leisure services, leisure resources, or tourism studies in college or university programs to attend and present a scholarly paper at the biennial international [WL Congress 2018 in São Paulo](#) (28 August-1 September 2018). Each scholarship recipient is awarded a scholarship of USD1,000 to cover the costs associated with attending the 2018 WL Congress, as well as free registration to the Congress.

[READ MORE...](#)



OPEN CALL FOR APPLICATIONS: WL Communities of Excellence 2018

Apply to become a [WL Community of Excellence](#) in 2018! This recognition is bestowed upon communities (neighborhood, village, town, city, state or region) that have successfully used leisure to reinvent themselves and to improve the economic, social and cultural lives of their citizens. In so doing, WLO brings global attention to the excellence those communities have achieved through working together as citizens to promote leisure as a means to enhance the human condition. Looking forward to your applications before the 1st July 2018!

[READ MORE...](#)



CALL FOR PROPOSALS: Sport Tourism Management book

A book proposal on sports tourism management has been drafted by a group of WLO Board members. With topics ranging from destination/human/travel management to managing the benefits of sport tourism or sport tourism products' marketing, among others, the book should provide information for academics and tourism providers to design and manage sport tourism products. Editors are now inviting new contribution proposals; abstracts (500 words max.) must be sent to Dr. Miklos Banhidi (miklosbanhidi@gmail.com) by the end of February 2018. Read more to access the full text of the call.

[READ MORE...](#)



CALL FOR PAPERS *International Leisure Review* issue on “Innovation and Leisure”

The *International Leisure Review* has an open call for papers for its volume 7 issue 1, on “Innovation and Leisure”, which will be guest-edited by Dr. Chung-Shing (Johnson) Chan from The Chinese University of Hong Kong. Deadline of manuscript submission is the 31 March 2018, and the issue will be published in June 2018. Authors are strongly encouraged to contact the Guest Editor (ccs_johnson@cuhk.edu.hk) to discuss potential submissions to assure topics fit the special issue. The *International Leisure Review* is the official refereed journal of the [Taiwan Leisure Association](#) (TLA).

[READ MORE...](#)



LAST CALL for VIU (Canada) opportunities: Recreation/Tourism Professor and Visiting Scholar (Deadline: 31 January 2018)

WL Center of Excellence [Vancouver Island University](#) (VIU) is looking for a [Recreation/Tourism Professor](#) for their Tourism, Recreation and Hospitality Management department, to start on the 1 August 2018. Application is also open for [VIU's Visiting Scholar Program](#). The Program is designed to bring local and international leaders to VIU to engage with students, faculty, and the Vancouver Island region. Application deadline for both opportunities is the 31 January 2018. Don't miss it!



JOB OFFERS in leisure management, by Leisure Media

As part of our collaboration agreement, Leisure Media has selected the following job offers in leisure management:

- University of Essex – [Senior Health and Fitness Supervisor](#). Closing date: 18 February 2018
- WTS International – [Spa Director](#) (Monticello, NY, United States). Closing date: 28 February 2018
- GOCO Hospitality – [Spa Director](#) (Venice, Italy). Closing date: 15 February 2018

Stay tuned for more job opportunities!

[READ MORE...](#)



CALL FOR ARTICLES *World Leisure Journal*: “Eco-Leisure: seeking and doing ecologically oriented leisure and recreation activities”

We remind you that an open call for articles is open for a special *World Leisure Journal* issue on “Eco-Leisure: seeking and doing ecologically oriented leisure and recreation activities”. WLO Board member Dr. Lawal Marafa (The Chinese University of Hong Kong) will be the Guest Editor for this issue, which aims to provoke discussions, while identifying and promoting theoretical and analytical frameworks that will enrich the academic and possibly the practical content of eco-leisure. Articles due date is the 31 March 2018. Check the call for more information!

[READ MORE...](#)



2018 International Photo Prize Contest “Heritage for Planet Earth”

The photo prize contest “Heritage for Planet Earth” is one of the initiatives within the wider awareness-raising project *Life Beyond Tourism*, carried out by the UNWTO Affiliated Member *Fondazione Romualdo Del Bianco* (Florence, Italy). The contest is dedicated to the theme of fragility of heritage – cultural and natural – strongly linked to the planet Earth’s environmental equilibrium and climate change. It invites to develop the concept of “cultural travel” with opportunities for encounter, communication and dialogue among cultures, for the knowledge and respect of cultural diversity and for the respect of the health of the planet Earth. A total of 10,000€ will be awarded in 26 prizes along the year 2018.

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Upcoming Events



56th Session of the UN Commission for Social Development (CSocD56)

The [fifty-sixth session of the Commission for Social Development \(CSocD56\)](#) will take place at the United Nations Headquarters in New York from 29 January to 7 February 2018. Representatives of Member States, UN entities, and ECOSOC-accredited non-governmental organizations (NGOs) from all regions of the world will attend this session, whose priority theme is “Strategies for eradicating poverty to achieve sustainable development for all”. We invite you to check the site of the event for all the information, as well as for a comprehensive report on the discussions and some video summaries, to be published after the session.

[READ MORE...](#)



Innovation and Cultural Heritage: High-level Horizon 2020 conference of The European Year of Cultural Heritage

Registration is now open for the [High-level Horizon 2020 conference of The European Year of Cultural Heritage](#), to be held at the Royal Museum of Arts and History in Brussels on the 20 March 2018. Part of the programme of the [European Year of Cultural Heritage](#), the conference will contribute to its legacy by launching the public discussion about the objectives of European research and innovation policy for cultural heritage beyond 2020.

[READ MORE...](#)



2019 ANZALS Conference Announcement!

[ANZALS](#) recently announced that the 2019 Conference will be held in Queenstown (New Zealand) from 11-13 December. Yes, we do know that is almost two years from now. But, how nice it is to picture yourself in beautiful New Zealand for a few days to discuss on “The Diversity of Leisure”, 2019 Conference theme? Lincoln University, the University of Otago and Queenstown Resort College will host the event. More information will follow in due course, but start thinking of booking your leave and seeking funding!

[READ MORE...](#)

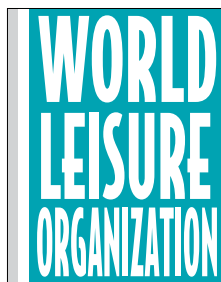


Encounters

Encounter with... Neil Carr, Head of the Department of Tourism, University of Otago



Dr. Neil Carr is the Head of the Department of Tourism at the [University of Otago](#) in beautiful Dunedin (New Zealand). He is also greatly responsible for the Department joining the network of WL Centers of Excellence (WLCE), which makes us extremely happy and looking forward to starting working together in the field of leisure studies and education. In October we presented some of the work done by Neil and his colleagues at the University of Otago, in [an issue of WLO News](#) with a special focus on leisure in Australia and New Zealand. Now we bring you this Encounter, which would allow you to know more about Neil and his extensive academic career, his views on leisure as a field of study or his personal preferences when it comes to enjoying his free time, among others. Thank you Neil for the nice talk!



WORLD LEISURE ORGANIZATION (WLO)

World Leisure Organization is a non-profit organization registered in the State of New York in Special Consultative Status with the UN Economic and Social Council since 1990.

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