

An Olympic Mosaic

Multidisciplinary Research and Dissemination of Olympic Studies
CEO-UAB: 20 Years

Editors

Emilio Fernández Peña
Berta Cerezuela
Miquel Gómez Benosa
Chris Kennett
Miquel de Moragas Spà



Centre d'Estudis Olímpics
Universitat Autònoma de Barcelona



Ajuntament de Barcelona

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Centre d'Estudis Olímpics (CEO-UAB)
Universitat Autònoma de Barcelona
Campus UAB — Edifici N, planta 1
E-08193 Bellaterra (Cerdanyola del Vallès)
Barcelona, Catalunya — Spain
Tel. +34 93 581 19 92
Fax: +34 93 581 21 39
ceoie@uab.cat
<http://ceo.uab.cat>

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Preface

Alejandro Blanco

President of the Spanish Olympic Committee

Time marches on inexorably, and five Olympiads have now passed since the Olympic Studies Centre at the Autonomous University of Barcelona (CEO-UAB) began its operations.

Way back then, the project underpinning its foundation and operations was uniquely original because no other comparable institution existed. Its creation was, therefore, a very wise decision, as were its location and name. Indeed, the celebrated French humanist Pierre de Coubertin had historically used ‘Olympic Studies Centre’ and not ‘Olympic Academy’ as the name of the organisation that oversaw and defended Olympic principles.

Likewise, locating the Centre in a university was a fitting way of paying tribute to the cultural setting in which modern Olympism was born: the highly significant Session held on 30 June 1894 at the prestigious Sorbonne University.

Over all these years, the Barcelona-based Olympic Studies Centre, the first of 27 that can now be found in Spain, has undertaken intensive and extensive research work both nationally and internationally, effectively driven by the robust and varied institutional support that has endowed it with the necessary resources and operational strength.

The Barcelona-based Olympic Studies Centre is a paradigmatic point of reference for all other centres undertaking similar tasks, and it is a source of ongoing satisfaction for the Spanish Olympic Committee that it not only rightly and resolutely supported the Centre’s creation, but has, since then, cooperated in its operations and functioning.