******* The 10th Anniversary Essays *******

**Circumstances of the foundation of the International Journal of Sport and Health
Science (IJSHS)**

Kando Kobayashi

Professor Emeritus, the University of Tokyo

Abstracts of papers in the Japan Journal of Physical Education, Health and Sport Sciences (JJPEHSS) have been translated into English and published, and in response to requests, the English version of the journal was published.

In the days when Japan was the second largest economic power in the world, the most effective way for Japanese researchers to gain status as researchers was to publish papers in American and European academic journals. This is also the case at present, and some universities firmly maintain an intra-university agreement that the “doctoral” degree is granted only if a submitted paper is accepted by a foreign or internationally high-level academic journal.

Most famous foreign academic journals are published by organizations as the official journal of a scientific or medical society: journals published in English have many readers and, therefore, have great social influence. It is important for researchers to work hard so that papers are accepted by journals in which it is difficult to publish papers.

This is related to the worldwide trend of “globalization” and is a movement aiming at “identification” with the values and value standards of Western scientific

societies. Such an argument is sound for people who hold up honest views on science, such as “scientific universality” and “no national boundaries in science”.

However, on the other hand, some people think that the assertion of “identity” is valuable under the progress of “globalization”. It is culturally significant how the “identity” is asserted and how it is accepted by international society.

Physical education and sport sciences cover very wide research fields, including arts, sciences and interdisciplinary areas. Research themes and contents in these fields are often difficult to match with journals published by foreign scientific societies.

Some studies use natural science methods with no international barriers for Japanese people, but some research fields, contents and methods have such barriers. However, upon asserting “identity,” it is considered necessary for the Japan Society of Physical Education, Health and Sport Sciences to consider such studies academically valuable and publish them as papers.

There have been various opinions about the foundation of an international journal covering the fields of physical education and sport sciences, and not a few people opposed it. However, by establishing the following logical and financial basis, it was decided to found the international journal of the Japan Society of Physical Education, Health and Sport Sciences.

1. We asked famous researchers in each specialized area to become editorial committee members to clearly show the international nature of the journal (foreign researchers were willing to accept the invitation to be members).
2. Papers may be submitted in Japanese. If a submitted paper passes the peer-review process in Japanese, it is translated into English. Translation fees are subsidized by the

Japan Society of Physical Education, Health and Sport Sciences (publication of papers is encouraged and advantage are given to members of the Society).

3. With regard to the financial aspects, a system was established in which corporate juridical persons cannot retain a large amount of money, and our money, kept in reserve, is used for the publication of the international journal (we had enough money in reserve).

4. Even after the foundation of the international journal, the JJPEHSS was published as before.

5. Submissions from other than members in foreign countries are allowed and peer-reviewed.

6. If the funds become insufficient in the future, the Society membership fees will be increased.

Although a considerable exchange of opinions was needed to draw this conclusion, the Council and general meeting decided to found the international journal. Prof. Seiji Ohsawa, Otsuma Women's University, served as the Editor-in-Chief of the first issue.

Although there were some notable events after that, we are celebrating the 10th anniversary of the journal due to the efforts of our members, and I am filled with deep emotion.