Physical Education and Sports Science in Singapore

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Brief history of specialist physical education training in Singapore

The genesis of specialist physical education training for teachers started with the set-up of the College of Physical Education (CPE) in 1984 where specialist Diplomas for the teaching of Physical Education in secondary schools was awarded. From 1991, the National Institute of Education offered programmes at Diploma, Post-graduate diploma and Undergraduate degrees for the teaching of Physical Education at primary and secondary schools. Master and doctorate programmes in Education, specialising in physical education and sports science are also offered. Annually, PESS enrolls about 100-150 student teachers of PE and about 30-50 PE teachers in Master and PhD programmes. The vision of the PESS is to be the leading PE and Sport Science teacher education and research facility in the region and to help the NIE be the Institute of Distinction in the world.

New undergraduate degree in sport science and management

Since 2009, PESS launched a new 4-year direct honours undergraduate degree in Sport Science and Management where students interested in the academic study of sport can pursue their sporting passion and also become a sport professional when they graduate. For years 2009 and 2010, only 35 and 56 places were offered out of the 800-900 applications where the degree was the 1st choice.

Research in Physical Education and Sport Science in Singapore

The MOE has been generous with research funding that is focused on education and has in two 5-year instalments provide educational research funding of 46 and 97 million dollars, respectively. Examples of such research in physical education and sport science will be elucidated.

The Inaugural Youth Olympic Games in Singapore

The world's 1st Youth Olympic Games is held in Singapore from 14-26 August 2010 where 3500 of the top youth athletes of the world aged between 14 and 18 years competed in 26 sports in the spirit of friendship, respect and excellence. All of Singapore welcomed the world in the sport extravaganza. A video clip of the official Youth Olympics Games song called 'Everyone' and the Youth Olympic Games Cheer will be played.

III International Conference of Physical Education and Sports Science

As the official pre-Youth Olympics Games Conference, with the universal theme of Youth in Physical Education and Sport, the conference was hosted by PESS/NIE at NTU and NIE from May 25-28 2010, where it featured 111 invited presentations. The III ICPESS 2010 attracted at least 1200 participants from at least 30 countries from the East and the West, and from more than 240 different universities, institutions, research centres, schools and other sport organisations. Highlights of the conference are captured in a brief video presentation.

Sport Science and Studies in Asia: Issues, Reflections and Emergent Solutions

This timely tome was published in May 2010. The synopsis of the book reads: The book aims to challenge readers to be reflective practitioners - as students or researchers, or thinkers of sport, to be independent seekers of future sport knowledge, and yet mindful and grounded in a full knowledge and awareness of the social, cultural and country-specific nuances of sport and a greater appreciation that sport and human kind are inseparable.