



INTERNATIONAL
OLYMPIC
COMMITTEE

**PHD STUDENTS RESEARCH GRANT PROGRAMME
2016 AWARD
IOC OLYMPIC STUDIES CENTRE
OBJECTIVES, RULES AND GUIDELINES**

The IOC Olympic Studies Centre (OSC) organises an annual grant programme intended for PhD students 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. CATEGORIES AND OBJECTIVES

The grants are allocated to candidates whose applications are submitted under two differentiated categories and objectives:

A. Open Subject

Objective: Encourage PhD students to undertake doctoral research with a humanities or social sciences perspective on any aspect of the Olympic phenomenon. All projects dealing with the Olympic Movement and/or the Olympic Games will be considered.

B. National Olympic Committees' Policy Priority

Objective: Encourage PhD students to undertake doctoral research with a humanities or social sciences perspective on topics of interest to the National Olympic Committees (NOCs) of their country.

Category B is organised in collaboration with Olympic Solidarity.

The grant programme has a third objective common to both categories, which is to promote IOC heritage consultation by facilitating access to the historical archives of the IOC, the library collections and the image archives.

2. ELIGIBILITY

All current postgraduate students enrolled in a PhD degree programme are eligible to apply.

Applicants should be preparing a PhD thesis in one or more of disciplines within 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.

It is expected that candidates will submit an application when the theoretical framework, the methodology and the literature review relevant to the project are already clearly defined.

Applicants can apply for only one of the two categories.

The intention of this programme is to support thesis research, but not post- or non-doctoral research. Students who have completed their thesis research or submitted their thesis for examination before receiving the grant are not eligible to apply.

Other eligibility criteria to be fulfilled are as follows:

- Applicants must be fluent in either French or English.
- Applicants may submit their candidature with the same research subject for no more than two editions of the programme.

Previous IOC OSC grant holders are not eligible to apply.

These eligibility criteria will be strictly applied.

3. APPLICATION PROCEDURES AND DEADLINE

Applications and all supporting documentation must be submitted in either French or English, the two official languages of the Olympic Movement.

Completed application files must include the following documents:

- 1) The **official application form** duly completed.

The form is available through the **OSC website** or from the OSC **upon written request**. Please note that **instructions for completing the Research Grant Programmes application forms** are available on our website.

- 2) **Official proof of registration** as a university doctoral student from the administration of the university (*Appendix 1*).

- 3) A **letter of recommendation** written, signed and sent by the **applicant's supervisor**. The Selection Committee is particularly interested in the referee's assessment of the following points: the scholarly significance of the research project; the methodology and original nature 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 applicant will complete the project on time.
- 4) If the applicant's research proposal involves interviews, surveys or any other methodologies that require **ethical approval**, a certificate written on the university letterhead and signed by the head of the appropriate university division stating that all ethical requirements have been fulfilled (*Appendix 2*).
- 5) A letter **of support** written and signed by the **President** or **Secretary General** of the **NOC** explaining the significance of the research proposal for the NOC's activities and projects (for applications in the NOCs' Policy Priority category only).

The recommendation/support letter(s) must be written on institutional letterhead, scanned and sent directly by the referee (and the NOC if applicable) to **studies.centre.grants@olympic.org**.

The deadline for submitting applications (only **by email**) is **25 September 2015**. It is the candidate's responsibility to ensure that the letter(s) is/are received by the OSC on time.

After the deadline, incomplete or new applications will not be accepted. A candidature acceptance confirmation email will be sent at the latest one week after the application is received.

4. GRANT AWARDS

Successful applicants will receive a research grant of a maximum of USD 8,000. 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 (economy class) and living expenses when outside the applicant's place of residence.
- Translation costs for relevant research materials.
- Other relevant research expenditure.

Research assistance and transcription costs will only be funded in exceptional circumstances.

Expenses for participation in relevant conferences where applicants are presenting results of this research must not exceed 10 per cent of the total budget identified in the proposal.

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.
- Purchase of technological material (laptop, camera, etc.).

The grant will be awarded to successful applicants according to the following schedule: one half when awarded, one quarter after a mid-term progress report has been submitted and one quarter on receipt of the final research report.

For NOCs' Policy Priority grant holders, the grant will be paid via the NOC supporting the project.

5. SELECTION AND NOTIFICATION

The Grant Programme Selection Committee is composed of experts who are world-renowned for their involvement in Olympic studies, and of OSC 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.

The same criteria will be taken into consideration by the OSC to determine the maximum number of grants available each year.

For the NOCs' Policy Priority category, the Selection Committee will recommend the list of grant holders to Olympic Solidarity. Based on this list, Olympic Solidarity will make the final selection taking into consideration additional factors such as continental balance, potential benefits for the NOC and the national sports movement and the NOC's use of the Olympic education, culture and legacy programme.

Applicants will be notified of **the results of their application by the end of December 2015**. For those selected applicants who have requested to consult the OSC collections, the Centre will schedule their research visits between February and December 2016 in consultation with them.

6. PUBLICATIONS AND COMMITMENTS

All grants are conditional upon the successful applicant's signature of an agreement describing the terms and conditions of the collaboration between the grant holder and the IOC OSC.

Grant holders undertake to provide the OSC (and the NOC for category B grant holders) with the following documents, in either French or English:

- A **progress report six months after notification of the award**, describing the project's development (2,000 words maximum).
- A **final research report before 31 December 2016**. The final report, which may be used by the IOC for publication, will be made up of four parts:
 - An executive summary of the research result with a list of key words;
 - 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 (or specifically on the NOC's activities for applications submitted to category B); 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 report for all funds provided by the OSC (including receipts for expenses exceeding USD 200). For the NOCs' Policy Priority category, grant holders will have to submit a financial report co-signed with their NOC.

Grant holders will undertake to publish/disseminate their research results within the academic world. They will undertake to ensure that all subsequent publications or productions, using all or part of the results obtained under the auspices of the research grant, will appropriately acknowledge the IOC OSC and the PhD Students Research Grant Programme (and their NOC for category B grant holders). In addition, they will share with the OSC any such publications or productions.

7. SECRETARIAT

For any additional information concerning the PhD Students Research Grant Programme, please contact the OSC [via email](#) or phone (+41 21 621 6611).

To find out more about the activities and collections of the **IOC Olympic Studies Centre**, please consult [our website](#).

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

For the 2015 PhD Students Research Grant Programme, the Selection Committee received 20 candidatures and awarded seven grants. The Selection Committee was composed of OSC officers and professionals, as well as the following experts: Gudrun DOLL-TEPPER (Freie Universität Berlin, Germany), Ian HENRY (Loughborough University, Great Britain), Sigmund LOLAND (Norwegian School of Sport Sciences, Norway), Ana Maria MIRAGAYA (Universidade Estácio de Sá, Brazil), Françoise PAPA (Université Stendhal Grenoble 3, France), Cesar TORRES (State University of New York, United States) and Thierry ZINTZ (Université catholique de Louvain, Belgium).

RESEARCH SUBJECTS OF THE 2014 AND 2015 GRANT HOLDERS

- *A cross-cultural study into the junior-senior transition of Olympic athletes* - Nathalie Rosier, Belgium
- *Early Developmental Environment and Olympic Success: An Analysis of Australia's Top Sporting Communities* – Kristy O'Neill, Australia
- *From Los Angeles to Helsinki (1932-1952): the way the French daily newspapers dealt with Olympism* – Tom Busseuil, France
- *Italy and the Olympic Movement after the Second World War. From exclusion to glory* - Nicola Sbeti, Italy
- *Olympic values and sports journalism ethics. The international press coverage of the 2012 Olympics* - Xavier Ramon, Spain
- *Olympism and Paralympism: Is Unified Sport Possible* – Matthew Waddell, Canada
- *The Competitiveness of the Hungarian Elite Sport System* – Erika Gulyas, Hungary
- *The Evolution of Olympic Commercialism: A Mixed Methods Perspective* – Jonathan Jensen, USA
- *The IOA as educational organization and its structure of functioning within the Olympic Movement* - Paraskevi Salepi, Greece
- *The Role of Media in Young People's Memories and Expectations of the Olympic Games* – Sandra Tavares, Portugal
- *Where the English Refused to Tread: India's Role in Establishing Hockey as an Olympic Sport* - Nikhilesh Bhattacharya, India