Editor’s Notes
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At the time of my editor’s notes going to press, I was returning from the XXXIII conference of the European Group of Pediatric Work Physiology (PWP) held in Chepstow, Wales and hosted by the University of Swansea. The first PWP conference was held in Dortmund, Germany, in 1968. There is no record of how many presentations were given in Dortmund, but the second PWP conference held in Liblice, Czechoslovakia, in 1969 consisted of 16 papers, which were published by the University of Karlova Press. Consequently, PWP is now an internationally recognized meeting of scientific excellence with each conference attracting delegates from about 30 countries and including approximately 120 oral and poster presentations. Conferences for both PWP and its sister organization, the North American Society for Pediatric Exercise Medicine (NASPEM), are held biennially and are ones not to be missed. It would, therefore, be remiss of me not to mention the next NASPEM conference, which will be held in Louisville, Kentucky, from August 7th to 10th 2024 and will be followed by PWPXXXIV in Jyväskylä, Finland in mid to late September 2025 [exact dates to be confirmed].

A unique feature of the PWP presentation schedule is that there are no parallel sessions and only single sessions, which allows all delegates to hear the latest research findings. This feature also encourages early, mid, and senior career researchers to interact with one another and has produced many international collaborative working relationships. A highlight of the conference was the Han Kemper Lecture delivered by his long-time collaborator Professor Willem van Mechelen, who outlined Han’s collaborative research since the late 1960s. His leadership on the Amsterdam Growth and Health Longitudinal study, a unique, multidisciplinary cohort study set up to examine growth and health among teenagers, has spawned many similar projects around the world. Han continues to be an active and passionate member of PWP and, incredibly, has only missed 3 PWP conferences in his career.

While I was a delegate at the XXXIII conference, I also took time to wear my other hat as editor and outlined some exciting new plans for Pediatric Exercise Science. The first plan is to increase the editorial board membership, and this now includes 6 new members: Dr. Alfred Nimmerichter—University of Applied Sciences, Austria; Dr. Ricardo Ribeiro Agostinethe—University Estadual Paulista—UNESP, Brazil; Dr. Marietta Nuñez Câmara—University of Valparaíso, Chile; Dr. Laura Joensuu—University of Jyväskylä, Finland; Dr. Tetsuhiko Kidokoro—Nippon Sports Science University, Japan; and Prof. Shlomit Radom-Aizik—University of California Irvine, United States. I look forward to working closely with them. I am still keen to expand the editorial board, particularly with members from outside Europe, the United Kingdom, and North America. Therefore, if you wish to apply, please email me at pes-editor@exeter.ac.uk.

The second plan is to increase the number of associate editors to 4; so, currently, I am accepting applications for this position to help me drive the journal in terms of reach, significance, and impact. Finally, my third action is to initiate an Outstanding Paper of the Year award. Any paper published in Pediatric Exercise Science in a calendar year, that is, starting in 2023, will be eligible for entry. The editorial board will, according to criteria such as originality, impact, significance, and potential for advancement in the subject area, make the final decision. I am excited to announce that Human Kinetics has agreed to provide a stipend for one author to be able to travel to either the NASPEM or the PWP conference and be awarded the prize.

It goes without saying that collaboration, cooperation, and a willingness to give can only enhance our pediatric science and create a legacy. These factors were recently demonstrated by the tributes given at the sad news of the passing in the last few months of several cherished colleagues; Professor Don Bailey (University of Saskatchewan, Canada), Professor Dianne S. Ward (University of North Carolina and Chapel Hill, United States), and Professor Christos Kotzamanidis (Aristotle University of Thessaloniki, Greece).

Finally, I encourage readers to publish their research in our journal, to get involved in disseminating it at our unique NASPEM and PWP conferences and support their fellow scientists in collaborative actions.

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