



## Chairman of the International Committee

**T**his is the first issue after IOI 2004 and I would like to take some time to impress upon all of you the extent of our efforts to make IOI2004 come true.

The 16th International Olympiad in Informatics which was organised in Athens between 11th and 18th of September 2004 is already in the past. But I hope that the comfortable stay, the scientific support, the technical perfection of the entertainment and the cultural events created an atmosphere indicative of our efforts for all of the participants.

We managed to break some records along the way: For the first time in IOI history the registered countries were 80 and those that participated were 77. The students who participated were 296, along with 77 leaders and 74 deputy leaders. Furthermore, 20 members of the International Organising committee and International Scientific Committee participated with 71 observers and guests of the teams.

The organisation was supported by 57 volunteers who accompanied the teams and 25 technical volunteers who worked 24/7 to ensure a perfectly running competition network.

This organisation would never be so successful without the support of the members of the Organising, Scientific and Technical Committees, volunteers from all over Greece, as well as the supporters and the sponsors of the organisation.

During the Olympic Games 2004, Greece was the centre of the world for two weeks with, admittedly, excellent results. After this, it was our chance to create a memorable week in the IOI Village. Please feel free to provide feedback to [info@ioi2004.org](mailto:info@ioi2004.org), with the things you liked or didn't; also scan and send us any clippings or links about IOI2004 from media in your country.

I hope that all of you have a creative year until we meet again in Poland for IOI2005.

Spyros Bakogiannis

## From the desk of the Executive Director



**T**IOI 2004 in Athens has come and gone and by now all of us have hopefully settled back in to our normal routines and jobs. It is fascinating when one thinks of the very varied lifestyles, cultures, beliefs and philosophies that are brought together once a year to create opportunities for the brightest young minds in the world to compete at IOI. Having been involved with IOI since 1995 I find it absolutely wonderful to see all these young people meeting each other (mostly for the first time) and despite all the differences in backgrounds, finding

a common bond because of their skill in the field of Informatics. By the end of the IOI period many have made lasting friendships and formed bonds which will stand them in good stead for many years.

I suppose it is this, and because I live in Africa that I am concerned that so many young people are denied the opportunity to experience the excitement and joy of competing at an IOI. In the past few years we have succeeded in bringing to IOI several new countries, but there are still many outside the fold. In the year ahead I will therefore continue in my efforts to encourage the leadership in about 6 or 7 countries who have indicated that they want to become involved in IOI. Thanks to modern technology we are able to provide a great deal of assistance and guidance. Finances are in most instances the biggest stumbling block. This applies to the cost of running a Local and National Olympiad before even considering attendance at IOI.

Another important development in the world of IOI is the proposal to elect a President of IOI. A separate article on this issue appears elsewhere in this issue of IOI News and I urge all of you to give urgent consideration to this and to submit your inputs.

Finally, the International Committee of IOI will be meeting in Poland from 20 to 24 April 2005 and once again, if there are any issues which you would like to be discussed please let me know so that they can be added to the Agenda. IC is there to carry out the wishes of the members of IOI, so please use it.

Best wishes for the balance of 2004 and may 2005 bring only joy and happiness

*Lionel Hartmann - Executive Director of IOI*

### Call for Tasks.

While IOI may be many months away it is not too early for interested individuals to submit tasks for possible use at IOI 2005.

The closing date for submissions is December 31, 2004 and the relevant information can be found at:

<http://olympiads.win.tue.nl/ioi/ioi2005/cft-ioi2005.txt>

# Office of the President

General Assembly at IOI 2004 gave an in principle approval to the establishment of the Office of the President of IOI. A proposal prepared by Michael Cotter of Ireland was debated by General Assembly and after consideration by the IC an amended proposal was approved.

The establishment of this position brings IOI into line with other major Olympiads and gives greater credibility and status to our organisation.

The establishment of this office is a major step for IOI and it is for this reason that IC suggested that the process be handled on a phased basis and be implemented by IOI 2005. The interim period is to be used to call for inputs from as wide an audience as possible and to use the wisdom of these inputs to ensure that the new position receives the attention it deserves. The onus is on all of us to give serious thought to what we want included in this office and what we expect from the incumbent.

The following are key deadlines

Deadlines for submission of inputs to reach the Executive Director (lhartman@iafrica.com) by not later than 30 January 2005

All inputs received to be circulated to IC for discussion at its April 2005 meeting

All approved inputs and changes to Regulations to be circulated to members of General Assembly and be posted at [www.ioinformatics.org](http://www.ioinformatics.org) by not later than 15 May 2005

A final proposal will be submitted to IOI 2005 for approval.

If approved, the election of the President of IOI will take place at IOI 2005.

Arising out of the above it is clear that the new regulations will need to set out the procedures to be followed in respect of the Nomination of Candidates and Election procedures.

It is very important that the proposal be studied in detail and any suggestions and comments be forwarded by the deadline.

To access the full proposal please go to [www.ioinformatics.org/minutes/index.htm](http://www.ioinformatics.org/minutes/index.htm)

## IOI TRADITION CONTINUES



*One of the traditions of IOI is the handing over of the flag. This act symbolizes the handing over of the responsibility to host an IOI from the current to the next and is normally the culmination of the Closing Ceremony. Seen in the picture a smiling Krzysztof Diks, Chairman of IOI 2005 in Poland receives the official IOI flag from Spyros Bakogiannis Chairman of IOI 2004.*