

In the footsteps of Vlado Psalman



We very much regret having to announce that a member of our Editorial Board, a member of the Department of Sports Studies, Faculty of Education, University of South Bohemia, and, most of all, our friend, Associate Professor RNDr. Mgr. Vladimír Psalman, Ph.D. died on 06 August 2017 after a long and insidious illness.

Vlado Psalman was born on 21 February 1961 in Nitra. He completed university education, first majoring in Teaching of Physical Education and Mathematics during 1980-1986 at the Faculty of Mathematics and Physics, Charles University, and later during 1990-1995 at the Faculty of Physical Education and Sports, Comenius University in Bratislava. He was conferred the academic degree of Ph.D. by the latter institution in 2005. Subsequently, in 2011, he was conferred the degree of Associate Professor in kinanthropology.

Vladimír Psalman set off on his professional career path as a teacher at the Engineering Vocational School in Myjava. In 1988, he started to teach, first full-time and later part-time, at the Faculty of Physical Education and Sports, Comenius University in Bratislava. During 2011-2012, he worked part-time and then as an outside tutor at the Faculty of Sports Studies, Masaryk University in Brno. In 2012, he worked part-time and then as an outside tutor also at the Faculty of Education, Catholic University in Rožumberok. He started to work full-time in the position of an Associate Professor at the Department of Sports Studies, Faculty of Education of the University of South Bohemia on 01 February 2013.

In his professional and research activities, he was engaged in the issues of sports performance and physical and coordination abilities. He specialized and achieved an international reputation in the biomechanical analysis of movement. He succeeded in applying his specialization to a whole array of sports disciplines, ranging from his most loved discipline - windsurfing and yachting to gymnastics, handball, tennis and several other sports disciplines.

He was an author and co-author of many noteworthy - including international - research projects. His extensive publication activities amounts to virtually 150 recorded outputs and the number of citations and references has so far reached approximately the same amount.

He completed several important lecturing stays and internships, for example, twice at the University of Illinois, Eckerd College St. Petersburg Florida, or Holmes Colleges, Sydney.

A fluent speaker of English, he delivered lectures in international conferences and congresses in Australia, Croatia, China, Finland, India, Lithuania, Hungary, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Slovenia, Serbia, Spain, Switzerland, Italy and the USA. He was a member of a number of international research and professional associations and sports organizations.

He succeed in reshaping his practical sports abilities (he was, *inter alia*, a champion of Slovakia in windsurfing) into much success in his position of a coach, when his personal charge took the second position in the European Windsurfing Championship. In addition, he was an excellent yachtsman. His official captain's logs refer to a number of important sailings; as the captain of his beloved yacht "M. R. Štefánik" (the largest sailing yacht to be registered in Slovakia), he joined the International Regatta in 2012 across the Atlantic Ocean - Atlantic Rally Cruising.

First and foremost, the premature demise of Vlado Psalman is a terrible tragedy for his family. Nevertheless, his death has brought with it an immense and in fact an irretrievable loss for his last workplace and our Department is honoured to have been such a workplace.

Vlado, we wish you peaceful sailing across the infinite ocean for which, to our sorrow, you set out. Your soul will certainly find peace and quiet during your cruise and you will stay in our hearts forever.

Editorial Board and colleagues from the Department of Sports Studies, Faculty of Education, University of South Bohemia