



## International Association of **Judo** Researchers

# IAJR 2009 Report

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April 2009

*"To facilitate world peace and safety by improving international and intercultural understanding, cooperation and relationships through judo by supporting judo-related research and education".*





## International Association of **Judo** Researchers

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## International Association of **Judo** Researchers

### Acknowledgements

We would like to deeply thank the various people, institutions and organisations who, during the last years, provided us with useful assistance. Without their care and consideration, this association would likely not have matured.

We are grateful for the “NPO - Solidarity of International JUDO Education” and the University of Bath for the financial and managerial support over the last few years. Without their willingness and assistance this association would not be possible.

We would like to thank specially those who work on the day-to-day basis with Judo research. Without their hard work and dynamism to develop the scientific boundaries involving Judo in the contemporary world, this association would be irrelevant.

Finally, we would like to express our sincere gratitude to the executive Committee of the IAJR for their commitment and care over the last few years.





## International Association of **Judo** Researchers

### Vision Statement

- To create an open, transparent, and sustainable organization to achieve our mission statement.
- To bring Researchers together.
- To provide researchers with opportunities for publications and presentations.
- To improve the availability of research related sources.
- To improve the quality of judo-related research through providing education and scholarships.
- To encourage and support judo-related educational activities.
- To support and facilitate judo teaching and coaching methods.
- To work collaboratively and develop synergistic partnership with other organizations and programmes who can benefit from the resources of this organization.



### The IAJR executive committee

Dr Mike Callan, University of Bath, UK – President

Dr Emerson Franchini – University of Sao Paulo, BRAZIL – General Secretary

Professor Takeshi Nakajima – Kokushikan University, JAPAN – Treasurer

Professor Taketo Sasaki – Fukushima University, JAPAN – Council Member

Professor Michel Brousse – University of Bordeaux, FRANCE – Council Member

Mr Diego Scardone, University of Bath, UK – Coordinator



## International Association of **Judo** Researchers

### **Introduction**

The International Association of Judo Researchers was founded in Tokyo in 2006 in order to coordinate and foster the development of Judo-related academic research and educational activities.

During the 5<sup>th</sup> International Judo Federation World Research Symposium in Rio de Janeiro in 2007, the International Association of Judo Researchers was officially established through elections. Subsequent to the election, an organisational structure was created and a constitution was approved, generating an open and transparent organisation which will work towards its mission statement.

Throughout the last 2 years the IAJR has been committed to achieve the targets established during the Organisational Meeting in Tokyo in May 2006.

### **Goals and Objectives Achieved**

Following its establishment, the IAJR registered members has been growing steadily. After the inaugural meeting in Rio in 2007 the IAJR had 178 registered members, and in January 2009 this number has risen to 205 registered members. The IAJR members come from a variety of backgrounds but a large percentage of these researchers are active and based in Universities.

The additional goal achieved for the international scientific judo community, was the IAJR website ([www.judoresearch.org](http://www.judoresearch.org)), which was launched in November 2007.

The website received 6769 visits, where 25688 pages were viewed. The average of pages viewed in each visit is 3.79 pages, and the bounce rate for the website is 45.85% (considered low for international standards).



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The visitors come from 113 different countries, speaking 34 different languages and spending an average of 3 minutes on the website. Approximately 170 different Universities around the world have used the IAJR website for academic purposes. The IAJR researchers are mainly involved in 10 different “macro-subjects”, including biomechanics, physiology, psychology, sociology, pedagogy, disability and sport, refereeing, history and culture, performance analysis and others. Although, only 10% of the researchers on our database are females, this percentage goes up to 25% during the International of Science of Judo Symposiums, showing that this is an effective way to increase participation of female researchers in the association.

Our website provides 350 judo related abstracts for students and researchers around the world, and it is the biggest judo database in the world.

In November 2007, the IAJR website was translated into Japanese, increasing the access of researchers from Japan by approximately 50%. Our next goal in this field will be the translation of the website into Portuguese and Spanish.

The Bowen Archives, a collection of more than 2000 documents containing the origins and history of the British and European Judo, which is based at the University of Bath Library in England, has supported directly or indirectly more than 10 research projects from Japan, USA, France, Israel, Italy, Germany and the UK.

During the 2008 Senior European Judo Championships, the IAJR was an active supporter of the I European Scientific Congress of Judo in Lisbon, Portugal. This year we are organising the 6th International of Science Judo Symposium, which will take place in Rotterdam, Netherlands.



## International Association of Judo Researchers

### Rio de Janeiro 2007

The 5<sup>th</sup> International Judo Federation World Research Symposium in Rio de Janeiro in 2007 was not only special for the 100 delegates representing 43 different countries during the event, or the 61 poster and 10 oral presentations delivered during the symposium, but it marked the formal establishment of the International Association of Judo Researchers.

The symposium started with an introduction from Professor David Matsumoto. The first session, chaired by Michael Callan, saw a distinguished group of speakers presenting on a range



of topics from psychological and motivational factors to injury reduction in judo. The presenters Dr Jose Manuel Garcia Garcia, Dr Carl De Cree, Professor David Matsumoto, Wantuir Jacini and Takashi Watanabe carry out their research in various academic institutions worldwide.

In his speech as the newly elected President Mr Callan promised to serve the IAJR to the best of his ability and pledged that the IAJR would work to ensure good relationships with the International Governing Bodies and research institutions around the world.

The afternoon session saw the largest number of poster presentations being shown since the Judo Research Symposium started. Sixty one high quality posters were displayed and were evaluated by three independent judges with three prizes of outstanding poster award being given.





## International Association of **Judo** Researchers

### **IAJR and Rotterdam 2009** - The 6th International Science of Judo Symposium.

The conference is a primary international biennial forum for researchers, students and international delegates working in topics relating to Judo. In 2009, the Symposium will be held before the 2009 IJF Senior World Championships in Rotterdam, Netherlands.

The event is mainly organised by the IAJR and the University of Bath, in the United Kingdom. This year we are pleased to announce a partnership with the Erasmus University Rotterdam.

The Symposium will provide an excellent environment for participants to meet fellow academic professionals, students and international delegates, to enhance communication, exchange and cooperation of most recent research, education, and application on relevant fields. It also provides a friendly platform for students, academics and other professionals to establish new networks by facilitating communication with each other.

The IAJR expects to have an increase by 50% on the number of delegates, 30% on oral presentations and 40% on poster presentations during the Symposium in Rotterdam compared with the previous event in Brazil. During the 6th edition of this event, it will be presented a new feature: A round table composed by 3 presenters who will discuss an issue affecting contemporary Judo.

The tradition of awards will be maintained, and this year, awarded presentations will be rewarded with an opportunity for publication on international scientific journals.

### **Organisers**

International Association of Judo Researchers  
Erasmus University Rotterdam

### **Support**

University of Bath  
Solidarity of International Judo Education  
European Judo Union  
International Judo Federation  
Judo Bond Nederland  
Rotterdam TopSport





## International Association of **Judo** Researchers

### **The IAJR Database**

The IAJR Database will be presented during our congress in Rotterdam. The database, which is being tested at the moment will support researchers to develop their projects on a virtual laboratory hosted on the IAJR website. The database has been developed using Moodle, which is an e-learning software platform, also known as “Virtual Learning Environment, which has been adapted to support projects developed by Judo Researchers. The IAJR Database will contain:

**The IAJR Calendar** has been created to support and promote academic events and seminars around the world. As a member, researchers will be able to suggest and add events to the Calendar Database. Information will be also added on the software calendar, allowing researchers to keep up to date about events around the world.

**The IAJR News** is a tool which will allow researchers to exchange information about research opportunities around the world (scholarships, grants, exchange programmes, job offers and many others prospects).

**IAJR Library** is where researchers will “meet” to exchange abstracts of academic papers. The Library is divided into 10 Macro-subjects: Biomechanics, Physiology, Psychology, Sociology, Pedagogy, Disabled Sport, Refereeing, History and Culture, Performance Analysis, and Others. The Library aims to maximise our current database by allowing researchers to add other abstracts.

**The IAJR Network** was designed to bring universities closer and also support and facilitate cooperation and exchange between academics as well as students between institutions.

**The IAJR Discussion Forums** were designed to provide researchers with an area where they can relax and discuss a wide range of subjects, such as competitions, judo videos, techniques, kata, culture, judo etiquette, and miscellaneous.

**The IAJR Research Groups** are designed to create a virtual area where researchers will be able to work on the same project from different locations. For example: Researcher 1 (in Europe) uploads a video, audio, text or photo demonstrating a part of a group project research to the IAJR Research Group Database. Researcher 2 (in Oceania), analyses the data uploaded on the IAJR Research Group Database by the researcher 1, providing him with feedback and suggestions. Researcher 3 (in Asia), reads the feedback provided by the researcher 2, and produces a new video showing the corrections suggested by the researcher 2 (...)



## International Association of **Judo** Researchers

### Conclusion

In order to create a sustainable and well organised structure throughout the next years, the executive committee of the IAJR is working on projects that would raise money for the association. These projects will involve several individuals, institutions, national and international governing bodies and members of the IAJR.

Through the strategies and projects cited throughout this report we can ensure to our sponsors that the IAJR is a growing and reliable association capable to multiply each penny invested on the international scientific judo community by providing researchers, students and the general international judo community with the necessary opportunities that they need to achieve our mission:

*"To facilitate world peace and safety by improving international and intercultural understanding, cooperation and relationships through judo by supporting judo-related research and education".*

I would like to take this opportunity to thank you for your interest in the International Association of Judo Researchers 2009 Report.

Please do not hesitate to contact us if you have any questions.

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