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Global Therapeutic Recreation I

Selected papers from the

1st International Symposium on Therapeutic Recreation

edited by

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INTRODUCTION

*The original concept for an international therapeutic recreation (TR) symposium was based upon the model of the Midwest Symposium on Therapeutic Recreation, held annually in the United States in the states of Missouri, Wisconsin and Illinois. This model emphasizes the **practice** of therapeutic recreation along with research and development. The reader will find this focus evident in the papers included in these proceedings.*

Both the University of Missouri and Indiana University have a history of cooperative efforts in TR with social service agencies and educational institutions in Nottinghamshire, England, which made this an appropriate site for the 1st International TR Symposium. My first professional contact in this area was Jim Jeal, Inspector of the East Midlands Region of the Social Services Inspectorate of the Department of Health. He, along with Councillor Joan Taylor, Chair of the Social Services Committee of Nottinghamshire County Council, Frank Boylan, Assistant Director, David Williams, Principal Assistant, and Sue Jacques, Administrative Officer, were instrumental in the success of the 1st International TR Symposium.

Additionally, I would like to thank Stuart Shepley and Sue Chilton, who promoted the therapeutic recreation concept in the UK and worked with American TR students at Willow Woods Daycare Center in Nottinghamshire and Sheffield, England. Stuart Shepley is now the Coordinator of Challenge Education and Summer Camping at Bradford Woods and Indiana University. Sue Chilton is Senior Principal Assistant, Family and Community Service Department, Sheffield City Council in Sheffield, England.

I would be remiss in not thanking the British and Scottish Sports Associations for the Disabled and their development officers for assisting us in establishing internships, classes and formal ties in England and Scotland in the late 1970s and early 1980s.

Equally important to the success of the Symposium was the co-sponsorship by Indiana University along with the work they have done in the past nine years in internships, workshops, publications and research in the United Kingdom. Gary Robb, (Director of Bradford Woods Outdoor Education Center) who was co-coordinator of the Symposium, has certainly shared the vision that we have had for an international forum in TR. Dr. Bert Brantley, Chair of the Department of Parks & Recreation Administration, and Dr. Tom Mobley, Dean of the College of Health, Physical Education and Recreation at Indiana University are to be commended for supporting these international efforts.

Finally I would like to thank Dr. Roger Mitchell, Dean of the College of Agriculture at the University of Missouri, Dr. Al Vogt, Director of The School of Natural Resources, and Dr. Stephen Lamphear, Program Director for the Department of Parks, Recreation and Tourism, for supporting me in the development of the International TR Symposium Series.

The signing of the international cooperative agreements between the University of Missouri and Indiana University and Leeds Polytechnic University and Loughborough University of Technology in conjunction with the 1st International TR Symposium will provide a significant stimulus to student exchange, research and faculty development in Therapeutic Recreation. We look forward to seeing the benefits from our cooperative efforts.

It is our plan to hold future International TR Symposia with related topics in the arts, sport, recreation, leisure, outdoor education and rehabilitation every two years in a different country. We will be holding the 2nd International TR Symposium on July 29-31, 1991 in San Juan, Puerto Rico. We encourage individuals in other countries to place a bid in writing if they are interested in hosting a future symposium. For more information on the International TR Symposium, please write to **International TR Symposium, 344 Hearn Building, Conference Office, University of Missouri, Columbia, MO 65211** (314/882-4087 or FAX 314/882-1953)

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None of the work could have been completed without the cooperative agreement of the Director of Social Services, David White, and the Assistant Chief Inspector of the East Midlands Region, Brian Stimpson. Thanks must also go to those members of the Social Services staff who worked diligently and often beyond the call of duty, behind the scenes, and particularly the technical officers who managed and serviced the accommodations and audiovisual facilities:

Tony Burroughes

Andy Thorpe

Charlie Hall

Darren Lee

These proceedings, produced by the University of Missouri under the general editorship of Gerald Hitzhusen, are presented to reflect the general tenor of the Symposium. They consist of papers made available by some, but not all, contributors. It is hoped that they will provide a valuable resource to both participants of the Symposium and those who share the growing conviction of the important contribution recreation, leisure and sport can make in helping everyone realize their potential to live creative and fulfilled lives. Additionally it is hoped that the paper will be the basis of a continuing search for excellence in developing both strategies and professional practice in furthering work in a range of agencies and services where the use of recreation and leisure is seen as increasingly relevant.

Nottinghamshire County Council will continue to raise the awareness of therapeutic recreation through the United Kingdom and has been instrumental in establishing a national TR network of interested persons. This is one positive "spin off" from the 1st International Symposium. We all look forward to the 2nd International!

COUNCILLOR THE HON JOAN TAYLOR
Chairman of the Social Services Committee
Nottinghamshire County Council

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