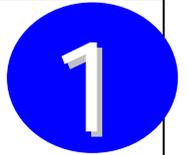




Sunday, September 12, 2004



# NEWSLETTER

16<sup>TH</sup> INTERNATIONAL OLYMPIAD IN INFORMATICS [www.ioi2004.org](http://www.ioi2004.org)

## Today's Schedule

### contestants

8:30 Practice Session  
*Contest Hall*

11:30 Opening Ceremony  
*University of Athens*

### leaders

11.30 Opening Ceremony  
*University of Athens*

16:00 GA Meeting 1  
*GA Hall*

18:00 GA Meeting 2

21:00 Translations  
*Translation Rooms*

### guests

11:30 Opening Ceremony  
*University of Athens*

18:00 Walking tour of Athens  
*Plaka & Thission*

## Question of the day to...

**Don Piele, Chair of IC IOI**



**What are your expectations from IOI 2004, that officially starts today?**

Even though the IOI 2004 officially starts today, you don't put on an IOI without hard work from a team of very dedicated organizers. That any country accepts this responsibility once is admirable, but to do it twice (IOI 1991 was held in Greece) is amazing. So with experience like that, my expectations for IOI 2004 in Athens Greece are nothing but the best. The facilities are beautiful, the people are friendly, I expect it will be a great competition. The contestants, team leaders, and guests greatly appreciate the effort you have made to host IOI 2004. *Ef-ha-ri-sto* (thank you) Greece!

# An Olympiad full of ideas and energy

Welcome by Marietta Yannakou,  
Minister of Education & Religious Affairs

I salute the start of the 16th International Olympiad in Informatics as a momentous international event for the secondary-education youth. This year's IOI, that has already broken all participation records, is integrating the Olympic ideals with the energy that young people bring to any event, and of course it connects the whole event with the Information Society.



We live in a time of technological revolution, but man remains the center of all activities. What is immensely necessary for the young people to prove, is that the use of technology is what makes the result and creates a wider social effect.

The fact is that through this Olympiad young people realize that the human kind remains in the center and that technology is not what directs human life - the important thing is that man develops technology to make his life easier, to strengthen individual rights, to strengthen participation.

I congratulate the organizers of this event in Greece, as I believe that the next big challenge for all the young people is their participation in the Information Society.

The Greek Ministry of Education pursues a policy of total presence of Informatics in schools and the ability of every single student to communicate with each other through new technologies.

In our times, knowledge and possession of "information" is power and I believe that this is a right to be shared by all the children in the world, along with our own children in Greece. I'd like to wish a great success to this one as well as all future IOIs, and to express that our will is supported by the overall success of the 2004 Olympic Games. The return of the Games to the land where they first took place, creates a new spirit that bridges the eternal values of Olympic freedom and creation with today's reality, Technology and Information Society.

I wish every success to all of you.

**A BIG "THANK YOU" TO ALL THE VOLUNTEERS  
(THOSE GIRLS AND GUYS IN BLUE IOI SHIRTS  
WHO RUN AT 100 KMS PER HOUR  
AND NEVER STOP SMILING!)**



### The venue, the city, the numbers...

The venue of the 16<sup>th</sup> International Olympiad in Informatics – appropriately called “IOI Village” during your stay here- is a brand new building, that was used for the first time only a month ago, as one of the Media Olympic Villages (there were more than 10.000 media people covering the Athens Olympics from all over the world). It is situated in Amaroussion, a historical *dimos* (city) of ancient Athens, and is just a few hundred meters away from the ultra modern Athens Olympic Complex (from the upper levels you can see the beautiful white arches of the Olympic Stadium transparent top, designed by the famous Spanish architect Santiago Calatrava), where the flame of the 28<sup>th</sup> Olympics burned for 15 days full of emotional and powerful moments.

The Athens Games were officially pronounced a success – the chairman of the International Olympic Committee, Jacques Rogg, called them “dream Olympics”- and we hope to receive recognition of the same kind at the conclusion of the 16<sup>th</sup> IOI.

We are on the way, with 80 countries and 304 contestants registered.

### An initiative of friendship

In ancient times, the period of the Olympic Games was one of peace and friendship – no wars were fought and people from many city-states gathered in Olympia to attend the Games. Today, while the echoes from the nearby Olympic Stadium of Athens still reverberate, we urge you to communicate with each other through e-mail, starting right now, from the Olympic city of Athens, during this Olympiad of knowledge.

So, pin your e-mail address on the board in the lobby and wait for the first response...

### PROFILES



**The Greek  
Computer  
Society**

**GCS** is a scientific non-profit association, founded in 1977 to represent Greek scientists and professionals from the fields of Information Technology. GCS has labored since 1998 in order to undertake the organization of IOI2004, making Greece the only country to hold the event twice. The organization was granted when GCS submitted their official bid with a letter of support from the Ministry of Education, which has since put IOI2004 under its auspices. GCS's organizational ability, along with scientific integrity guarantee a successful organization of IOI2004.

### IOI 2004 IS MADE POSSIBLE THROUGH THE SUPPORT AND SPONSORSHIP OF

#### Organizers



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