

## Norbert Müller passed away

**\*9 December 1946 – †16 February 2022**

As an athlete, Norbert Müller specialized in the high jump and decathlon, and he was German Youth and Junior champion in 1964 and 1966. Studying History, French Language, Education Sciences, and Physical Education, he earned degrees from the University of Mainz (1971), the University of Munich (1972), and the University of Graz (1974). His PhD thesis was "The Olympic Idea of Pierre de Coubertin and Carl Diem in their reception of the International Olympic Academy forming an 'Olympic education.'" In 1972, he was chief of protocol of the Olympic Village of the Munich Olympics.

Between 1974 and 2012, he was an associate professor and then professor at the University of Mainz. He was also a visiting or guest professor at numerous universities in Europe, Canada, China, and Brazil. Over a period of more than 40 years, he served as a professor at the International Olympic Academy (IOA).

Norbert Müller was president of the German National Olympic Academy from 1982 to 1998. He was also vice-president of the International Fair Play Committee from 1998 to 2012, having been a member of the Commission since 1990. He was president of the International Pierre de Coubertin Committee from 2002 to 2017.



Norbert Müller, ISOH Lifetime Award winner of 2019, attended the ISOH General Assembly via video conference on 20 November 2021 and gave a presentation on Pierre de Coubertin.

Screenshot

He was a member of the IOC's Culture and Olympic Education Commission from 2000 to 2014 and was a member of its successor, the Culture and Olympic Heritage Commission, from 2015 to his death.

Among Müller's most valuable achievements was compiling and editing, with Otto Schantz, the complete works of Pierre de Coubertin, which was issued on DVD in numerous languages. Müller considered this his "life's work," having devoted 28 years to its completion, which was achieved in 2013. He also was the author, co-author, or editor of several books, most notably *One Hundred Years of Olympic Congresses, 1894–1994* and *Pierre de Coubertin, Olympism: selected writings*, published by the IOC in 2000.

For all of his achievements, perhaps his greatest legacy is that he has taught and inspired so many students, including supervising 250 masters theses and nine doctoral theses on Olympic-related subjects.

*David Wallechinsky*