



## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

(from David Curby, Director of the INWR, April 17, 2015)  
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The International Network of Wrestling Researchers (INWR, in conjunction with the Scientific Commission of United World Wrestling (UWW), is pleased to announce that the Raiko Petrov Honor Lecture for 2015 will be presented by:

### PROFESSOR BORIS PODLIVAEV

#### *Women's Wrestling-Some Observations from a Coach and Scientist*

This exceptional event will take place as part of the annual INWR Wrestling World Championships Scientific Symposium. The Scientific Symposium will be held at the Orleans Hotel on Saturday, September 5<sup>th</sup>. Registration information is available at the INWR website: [www.inwr-wrestling.com](http://www.inwr-wrestling.com)



Professor Podlivaev has spent a lifetime in wrestling. He is a member of the UWW Scientific Commission and a professor in the Department of theory and methodology of sports and martial arts at the Russian State University of Physical Culture,



**Professor Boris Podlivaev**

Sports and Tourism in Moscow. Boris was born in 1946 and is currently the Senior coach of the Russian team in freestyle women's wrestling. He is an Honored coach of Russia as well as an Honored worker of physical culture of the Russian Federation. He has published more than 200 works.

Following his lecture, Professor Podlivaev will be presented the beautifully sculpted Rayko Petrov Trophy.



**The Rayko Petrov Honorary Lecture is named in honor of-PROFESSOR RAYKO (1930 – 2011)** His legacy shall always be remembered as part of present-day wrestling. A coach, a scientist, a pedagogue and outstandingly erudite person, he dedicated all his life to the “romantic idea, love, and magic...” of wrestling.

In 1969, Rayko Petrov left the wrestling practice room to excel in his academic pursuits. That same year he was elected President of the Bulgarian Wrestling Federation, a position in which he remained for 21 years. At the National Sports Academy he worked alongside distinguished professionals who introduced great values and an outstanding level of intelligence to Bulgarian sports science. Rayko Petrov, in turn, had the unique ability to translate theory into practice and his scientific inquiry had always been characterized by universality, large scope and applicability. Thus the seamless functioning triad ‘Science – Practice – Management’ was established and it successfully governed the sport of wrestling in Bulgaria for decades. Prof. Rayko Petrov’s works are numerous; hundreds of titles in scientific publications, textbooks, manuals, programs, sports regulations and over 80 books. The corpus of his academic writing has tremendous applicable value and has been fully realized in practice. Petrov created a complete pedagogical theory for the



management of sports training in wrestling. He applied a contemporary view on management issues, modeling and training loads. The new methods and techniques whose applicability he tested through implementing them in practice were a lifelong example of thinking outside the traditional pedagogy box. Using a logical-algorithmic approach, technical and tactical fields and programmed situations control in a bout, he created one of the most powerful levers for effective and high-quality wrestling. Prof. Rayko Petrov developed an original theory and methodology for analysis of wrestling styles, a theory for the formation and management of motor habits, and a locomotor coding system, which enabled taking notes on a specific wrestling situation at a 30 times accelerated speed. Besides his strictly scientific work, Prof. Rayko Petrov also authored historical books about heroes’ pioneering journeys, exploring old traditions and forgotten times. He wrote short stories about giants in sports history whose ideas, experience and knowledge brighten the road to world wrestling glory. The message in all these works is unambiguous: wrestling existed in the past, exists today and shall exist in the future as it is a cultural factor in human society. It is an integral part of traditions, folklore, literature and art. It is an integral part of people's lives. Prof. Rayko Petrov’s world-acclaimed contribution to sports science and its application has been acknowledged by him being requested to develop a program for improvement of sports pedagogical skills for the Coaches Committee of FILA in 1975. As of 1973 he had actively participated in the work of FILA and its commissions. For many years he was editor in chief of the Theory and Practice of Wrestling Journal and Director of FILA’s High-level Coaching School. In 1997 he became member of the New York Academy of Sciences. R. Petrov is also Honorary Professor of the Russian Academy of Sports and other prestigious universities. Prof. Rayko Petrov was a scientist who truly believed in the limitless boundaries of science and man. For him a championship award is a spiritual achievement, overcoming oneself – the road to victory, while transferring knowledge and sharing experience between generations is a prerequisite for the sustainable and progressive development of wrestling. Prof. Rayko Petrov’s works reflect his personality – a brilliant scientist with outstanding intellectual capacity for whom coaching was not simply work, but rather a science and a way of forging human character.



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