

Zpravodaj

Přírodovědecké fakulty Univerzity Palackého
Newsletter of the Faculty of Science PU

1

14th February 2014



Introductory word



Dear colleagues, dear students,

as the newly appointed Dean of the Faculty of Science, Palacký University in Olomouc, I would like to thank all of those who motivated me, supported my candidacy, and convinced me that it is possible to handle even more work and responsibilities than I have had so far. At the same time I would like to accentuate that this is a great challenge and a great commitment for me, which I absolutely do not underestimate. Therefore, as I have stated in my election program, I will do my best in order for the faculty to comply with the international level of quality and to move yet a little bit closer to international recognition. During the past few years, thanks to all acquired grants, the Faculty was able to reinforce the research and educational infrastructure, and the staff of individual departments in an immense way. For the following term it is necessary to complement this growth with efficient organizational support and use it to improve and streamline all of our activities, from the building maintenance, organization of educational activities up to the production of high quality publications, and patenting of the research results.

Along with the dynamic development of our research infrastructure and with the growing prestige of our research groups, we do not want to neglect our students many of whom are involved in those activities. The Faculty provides a highly modern environment and laboratory equipment for the students to study and do their training. Therefore, I would like to ask our students, who form a substantial part of the academic community, to approach their education with responsibility, and to take advantage of all the opportunities offered by guaranteeing departments. I wish them a lot of success and achievements in the upcoming summer semester. You have certainly noticed that I have chosen only three of my colleagues for the Vice-Dean positions. I know them very well and I also know that I can absolutely rely on them. I have appointed a young and energetic biologist Prof. Zdeněk Dvořák as the Vice-Dean for Science and Research. I have entrusted a physicist, an experienced teacher, and a former long-time Faculty and University Senator Dr. Roman Kubínek with the administration of studies, education, and social matters. And the field of external cooperation has been attributed to a mathematician and a respected teacher Prof. Josef Molnár, who has a Vice-Dean experience from the two previous terms already. It is my intention to eventually complete this team with highly qualified professionals on the managerial posts at the Dean's office in order to allow the academic management of the Faculty to focus on long-term development and directing of the Faculty rather than on exhausting day-to-day administrative routine.

Today, just before the beginning of the summer semester, I would like to introduce a new source of information of the Faculty of Science which strives to unite the advantages of its predecessors „The Friday Letter“ (Pátečník) and „The Monday Letter“ (Pondělník). It does not carry an original title such as „The Wednesday Letter“ (Středečník), although it has been proposed, but it is simply called the Newsletter of the Faculty of Science, Palacký University. Besides the usual information sections and the bilingual design which is, thanks to a number of international faculty staff, absolutely necessary these days, we would like to give space to individual departments for their short presentations and original introductory entries.

I would be pleased if you read the Newsletter (with delight) occasionally.

Ivo Frébort

Science and Research

❑ The IGA UP Grant Competition 2014 – 2015

The evaluation of project applications for projects starting from 1st March 2015 is presently under way. The estimated total amount of funding allocated at the Faculty of Science is about CZK 37,150,000. The budget of individual IGA projects will be decided on the basis of the number of so called RIV points (points allocated to research publications, patents, etc.) obtained by the particular department in five year period. Ministry of Education, Youth and Sports has not provided data for the year 2012 yet. Due to the technical reasons it is therefore not possible to allocate IGA UP grants based on points obtained in the period of 2008 – 2012, but the rating of the period 2007 – 2011, the same as last year, will be used. Individual project managers can get more exact idea about particular allocations from the last year's RIV point distribution and the total amount assigned to the Faculty. The Grant Council, which will finally approve the allocations, will be held on 24th February 2014. The Science and Research Department will subsequently inform the project managers about exact amounts and changes in the budget for individual project chapters (increases/cuts) will be settled also.

❑ Institutional Funding for Research (RVO)

We expect to receive the RIV points 2012 data from the Ministry of Education, Youth and Sports in the second half of February. We expect the total amount of RVO funding to reach CZK 215,868,000 for the Faculty of Science. The Science and Research Department will ask the heads of the individual departments to check the RIV points and possibly their allocation afterwards. Further information will be available in the following Newsletters.

❑ FRUP Projects (Development fund)

According to the guidelines of the Bursar from the 4th February 2014, it is possible to draw the allocated financial resources of the already approved FRUP Projects.

❑ The Office of the Government of the Czech Republic is submitting a draft of the Act No. 130/2002 Coll. on the support of research for comments to be made. Complete information is available [here](#). In case you would like to make comments to the proposal, please send them to prof. Tomáš Opatrný, email: tomas.opatrný@upol.cz, till 28th February 2014 for them to be submitted to Council of Higher Education Institutions of the Czech Republic.

❑ All members of the academic community can submit proposals for possible laureates of the **František Palacký Prize**. The deadline is 28th February 2014 at the Dean's office. More information is available [here](#).

❑ Ignaz L. Lieben Award 2014

The Austrian Academy of Science is announcing the annual competition for scientists in the fields of molecular biology, chemistry, and physics. Eligible candidates should be under the age of 40 and permanently working in one of the former Austria-Hungarian countries, having completed doctorate and outstanding achievements in scientific research. The Ignaz L. Lieben Award amounts to USD 36,000 and the deadline for submitting applications is 15th March 2014. Complete information is available [here](#).

❑ Neuron - Benevolent Fund for Support of Science is announcing the 4th annual grant contest intended for young scientists under the age of forty, among others in the fields of physics and chemistry. The Fund will support one project from each field with the amount up to CZK 1 million. The projects may run from two to three years. The deadline for submitting applications and their uploading on the website is 31st March 2014. For further information click [here](#).

In case of any inquiries please use the following contact: linda.majerova@nfneuron.cz, tel: 226 209 046

❑ Visegrad Fund

It is possible to submit international grant applications in the frame work of The Visegrad Fund, namely „small grants“, „standard grants“ and „strategic grants“ categories. More information is available [here](#).

❑ The EU Framework Programme Horizon 2020

The Project Service UP provides information about the European Commission Program Horizon 2020 through workshops focused on particular calls. More information is available [here](#).

❑ New TAČR call

The Technology Agency of the Czech Republic (TAČR) has announced the call for the program of applied research, experimental development, and innovation GAMA on 30th January 2014.. More details are available [here](#).

❑ **The scholarship program to support research of the Alzheimer's disease**

The Alzheimer Foundation is announcing the scholarship program AVASTscholarship for a Human Brain for students, graduates and scientists under the age of 40. This year the budget of an individual project amounts to CZK 400,000. The deadline for submitting applications is 30th April 2014. More information is available [here](#).

- ❑ Students and academic employees are invited to participate in the international science and educational competition to support biodiversity of mining sites **The Quarry Life Award**. The second edition of the Quarry Life Award is open for project proposals until 1th March 2014. The award amounts to EUR 30,000. More details are available [here](#).



❑ **Postdoctoral and postgradual scholarships in Japan**

The Matsumae International Foundation (MIF), within the framework of new program for the year 2015 offers postdoctoral and postgradual scholarships for approx. 20 researchers. The successful candidates shall undertake a residence in Japan lasting from three to six months within the period of April 2015 and March 2016. Applications must be submitted by MIF by 31st August 2014. More information (Announcement of Fellowship Program) and an application form are available [here](#).

❑ **The International Open Science Conference**

The International Open Science Conference will be held on 27th – 28th February 2014 in the National Library of Technology, Prague. The conference program focuses on the issues and initiatives in the field of education and research and science popularization. The conference is targeted on people with a particular interest in this field: scientific researchers, school and university teachers and staff, corporate professionals, HR and PR specialists working in the field of basic or applied research, as well as students, school groups, and the general public. Invitation was accepted by science education and popularization experts from Germany, Netherlands, Austria, Portugal, Spain and UK. Science popularization projects and activities of the Czech Republic are a part of the programme as well. More information is available [here](#).

❑ **Lithuanian State Scholarships**

Education Exchange Support Foundation offers Lithuanian state scholarships for students, lecturers and researchers of higher education and research institutions of the Czech Republic. The scholarships support research internships and summer courses of Lithuanian language and culture at research institutions of the Republic of Lithuania. This scholarship program is open to applicants from all fields of studies and research in years 2014 and 2015. The scholarships are not intended for a full degree studies. Detailed information and an application form are available [here](#).

For Students

❑ **Registration on courses for the summer semester of academic year 2013/2014**

Registration of courses for Bachelor (Bc.) and follow-up Master (NMgr) study programs for the summer semester of academic year 2013/2014 ends on 24th February 2014.

❑ **Dates of the final state examinations (SZZ) and the obligation to conclude the studies**

Dates of the final state examinations, the defence of the final thesis including, are available at STAG and students can sign up like for regular exams. **Students are obliged to formally conclude their studies at least 3 weeks before the final exams!!** at the relevant study official at the Department of Studies. It is necessary to bring evidence of all exams in student's credit book. **Without the conclusion of the studies at the Department of Studies one cannot be admitted to the final exams.** The mentioned terms are essential in order to verify fulfilled study obligations and to prepare the protocols for final exams.

- ❑ **The defence of Bachelors or Master thesis** takes place as a part of the final state examinations. The dates of the final thesis defence are listed by departments in the STAG system and students can sign up like for regular exams. The dates for submission of the final thesis are set by the respective department; however students are obliged to upload

the thesis into STAG at least 3 weeks before defending., otherwise it is not possible to defend the final thesis. The period is essential for the plagiarism check of the essays in the system. We recommend to get informed beforehand about the deadlines of submitting the final thesis in the summer semester at the particular departments.

❑ **Pedagogical internship: Notice for the first-year students of the follow-up study of teaching.**

The meeting relating to continuous pedagogic practice will be held on **Wednesday 19th February 2014 at 13:15 in the auditorium of the Faculty of Science UP**. More information is available [here](#). In case of any inquiries use the following contact: oldrich.lepil@upol.cz

❑ **Master Study Programme in Abú Dhabi**

Masdar Institute of Science and Technology in Abú Dhabi is offering internship positions for Master study programme for eight candidates from the Czech Republic for academic year 2014/2015 namely in the fields of new technologies regarding to renewable resources. Eligible candidates are students of the final grade of Bachelor study courses who will finish their studies in academic year 2014/2014 and Bachelor study programme graduates. The scholarship covers all necessary expanses involved in studies. Candidates can apply for the Master study programme till **30th March 2014** at the head of Department of Studies, Faculty of Science UP.

I nternational Matters

❑ **Information about internships:**

The current offer of internships is available on the website of the Faculty of Science UP, click [here](#).

❑ **The process of selection candidates to fill in the positions of student mobility in the framework of the LLP / ERASMUS program for the academic year 2014/2015 at the Faculty of Science UP**

Candidates can register and submit the preliminary application to the head of Study and Foreign Department of the Faculty of Science, Mrs. Dana Gronychová until 18th February 2014. The application form must be typed and printed. Hand written applications will not be accepted. For more information contact the coordinators of the individual internships [here](#).

❑ **Important information for students traveling abroad:**

The Dean's guideline regarding acknowledgement of credits within the student foreign internships program is available [here](#).

❑ **Work at language school in England and get your English language course free:**

Language School in Margate, UK is offering 2 to 3 months of unpaid working experience at the language school include the supervision and service at the school club, where course participants come in the afternoon and in the evening after classes. Instead of the salary, the language school offers a course of general English (20 hours per week in the morning hours). Please apply with a CV, a cover letter and a photograph. (Applicants must be of the minimum age of 21.) More information is available [here](#).

Faculty Operation

Investment project of the Faculty of Science 2014-2015

Completed projects and projects before completion

Centre of the Region Haná for Biotechnological and Agricultural Research



The investment part of the project OP RD&I priority axis 2 - Centre of the Region Haná for Biotechnological and Agricultural Research was completed on 31st December 2013. The main project manager is prof. Ivo Frébort. The construction of the buildings, the laboratory equipment and the Centre's operation on the premises of the Faculty of Science in Holice campus was supported by the European Union funds and the state budget in the amount of CZK 808 million. Obligatory monitoring indicators were fulfilled and they will be included in the final monitoring report together with other specifications regarding the management and operation of the Centre before 28th February 2014. Operation sustainability of the Centre is supported by a new NPU I grant for the following 5 years, total funding amounts to CZK 393 million.

Regional Centre of Advanced Technologies and Materials



The Regional Centre of Advanced Technologies and Materials is another of OP RD&I priority axis 2 projects headed by the main project manager prof. Radek Zbořil. This project is going to be completed on 30th September 2014; however obligatory monitoring indicators have been fulfilled already. An application for the NPU I grant has been submitted to maintain sustainability of the Centre.

Project in realization

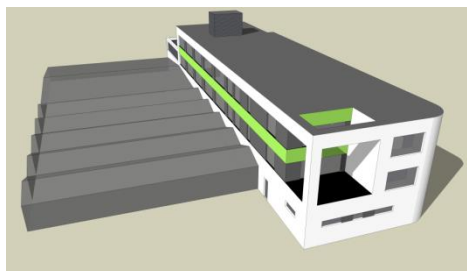
The Stronghold of Knowledge



The Stronghold of Knowledge Project is another OP RD&I project, priority axis 3 with the main project manager prof. Lubomír Dvořák. The project has received financial support in the amount of 142 million CZK and is running up to 30th November 2014. However, the construction has been suspended, and Palacký University withdrew from the agreement with the construction company, which is currently in insolvency. Meanwhile 75 million CZK from the grant have been spent. The modified time schedule, which is being worked on intensely now, relies on the extension of project realization until 28th February 2015, finalization of the construction in October and opening to public in December of this year.

The Centre of Biological Fields

The last one from the infrastructure projects OP RD&I of the Faculty of Science is the project The Centre of Biological Fields (CENBIOL) subordinated priority axis 4. Its main project manager is Dr. Vladan Ondřej and total subsidy reaches CZK 95 million and additional participation share of the Faculty of Science UP



in the amount of CZK 20 million. The project CENBIOL incorporates the reconstruction of so called „GŠK“ building in Holice campus, the greenhouse RD1, and the car parking. The tender for a constructor is in progress at the moment. Realization runs according to the schedule, the finalization of the project is planned on 30th June 2015.



Park in Holice campus



A new park on the premises of the Faculty of Science in Holice will be created in the time period from April to September 2014. Dr. David Cigánek from the Botanical Garden has become the project manager of the OP Environment with a grant in amount of CZK 7.5 million, including the contribution from the Faculty that should not exceed CZK 2.5 million. The tender for a constructor is in progress now in accordance with the schedule.

Submitted project applications

Environmental Centre

Reconstruction of the building situated in our Botanical Garden is planned from September 2014 to May 2015. The main author of the grant application from OP Environment in amount of CZK 13 million (contribution from the Faculty CZK 1.6 million) is again Dr. David Cigánek.



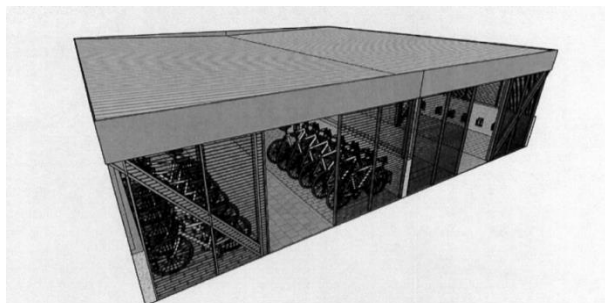
Approved projects and project initiated in the year 2013

Relocation of garage and technic shed



In terms of budget planning in 2013 CZK 0.5 million was allocated towards the relocation and renovation of garages and construction of a technical shed. Estimated total cost is CZK 2.2 million. This action is necessary for realization of the CENBIOL Project.

Bicycle shed



The amount of CZK 0.5 million was approved within the 2013 budget for the construction of a bicycle shed in Holice as well.

Projects stopped before the application submission

Kindergarten on the premises of the Faculty of Science in Holice



The project preparation of the kindergarten construction in Holice from the Regional operational program with the budget of CZK 14 million (participation share of the Faculty of Science 3 million CZK) in collaboration with the statutory town of Olomouc was suspended in December 2013 due to the lot agreement expiration and extremely tight schedule. The project included construction of one-class kindergarten building and its consequent rent and operation by the Faculty of Science UP. The project can be revised and submitted again in the next programming period.

Academic Senate

- ❑ **The elections to the Academic Senate of the Faculty of Science of Palacký University and to the Academic Senate of the Palacký University** will be held on **Wednesday and Thursday, 9th and 10th April 2014**. Proposals for possible candidates can be submitted by 7th March 2014, 12:00 a.m. for election to the Faculty Academic Senate and by 14th March 2014, 12:00 a.m. for the election to the University Academic Senate. Proposals shall be submitted only in writing, through the Registry of the Faculty of Science and addressed to the Academic Senate of the Faculty of Science. More details can be found [here](#).
- ❑ The forthcoming council of AS UP will be held on 19th February 2014 at 1 p.m. in U1 meeting room (entrance next to the university canteen at the Rector's office, on the first floor, next to the AS UP office).

Miscellaneous

- ❑ **The Faculty of Science Ball**
We are pleased to invite you to **the Ball of the Faculty of Science**. This traditional social event will be held on **Saturday 8th March 2014 at 7:00 p.m. in Clarion Congress Hotel, Olomouc**. Tickets are available from 3th February 2014, 6 floor of the Faculty of Science, 17. Listopadu 12, Olomouc, the office number 6.012; tel: 85634011; e-mail: plesprf@upol.cz
- ❑ **Cherish our Alma Mater**
Dean of the Faculty of Science annually announces projects called **"Cherish our Alma Mater"** with the objective to promote the Faculty of Science and to improve the Faculty environment. If you have any ideas regarding

popularization of your science field, increase of public awareness of our Faculty, improvement of the Faculty environment, creation of a new educational tool, arranging a photographic exhibition, particular cooperation with high-school students etc. then go ahead and ask for Faculty assistance. Your idea might be reasonably crazy. All further information as well as an application form and previously realized projects can be found [here](#).

- ❑ We once again invite all future Mathematics, Physics, Chemistry, Biology and Ecology graduates and other persons concerned to the 7th annual **“Okno do praxe” (“Window to Practice”)**. The main objective of this event is to enhance student information about their work opportunities during their studies or after their graduation. The meeting will be held on 18th and 19th February 2014 from 1:00 till 4:00 p.m. on the second floor of the Faculty of Science. The first day will be focused on Mathematics, Physics and Optics; the second one on Biology, Chemistry and Ecology. Student panel discussion with employer representative will be a part of the meeting. More information can be found [here](#), where questions and suggestions can also be submitted. Discussion prizes will be awarded at the end of each discussion.
- ❑ We would like to remind our students, scientist and academic staff (older than 21) about the possibility to participate in the competition **FameLab 2014** again. Each participant has three minutes to present and popularize his/ her own research. More information is available [here](#). The electronic application must be sent by 1th March 2014.
- ❑ **The Faculty of Science has organized summer science camps for children** from the year 2012. There is a several attractive science adventures prepared **for children from 6 to 15 years** this summer. For further information click [here](#) or phone Eva Jašková on 585634011. Interesting science program which is organized and ensured by Faculty of Science scientific researchers also includes different free time activities for children to relax from school and enjoy wonderful summer holidays.
- ❑ **Malé centrum Bookstore** is currently coming with **the offer of up to 75 percent discount for selected Oxford University Press books**. Please click [here](#) to get the complete list of the books offered. University Library will be happy to facilitate the purchase of books for you. In case of interest please contact the head of University Library Mr. Mazal, email: jiri.mazal@upol.cz
- ❑ **"Interkulturelle Begegnungen" photographic competition**
The Austrian Federal Ministry for European and International Issues has announced the photographic competition with the objective to capture impressions and experience of young people, as well as different opinions, and different ways of comprehension. The competition is open to young people from 18 to 35 years of age. Participants have to name the picture, enter when and where it was taken, and includes its brief description. The applications must be submitted by 28th February 2014 via email: dialog@bmeia.gv.at
- ♥ We live not just to study and work hard, so we wish all of you Happy Valentine's Day.
- ❑ The date of the next release of Newsletter of Faculty of Science is 28th February 2014

Newsletter of Faculty of Science, Palacký University

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Vice-Dean in charge: Dr. Roman Kubínek

Editor: Mgr. Alena Jarošová

Translation into English: Alena Jarošová, Karolina Chvátalová

Graphics: Dr. Milan Vůjtek

E-mail: alena.jarosova@upol.cz, phone: 585634022

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