

Zpravodaj

Přírodovědecké fakulty Univerzity Palackého
Newsletter of the Faculty of Science PU

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14th March 2014



Introductory word



Dear colleagues, dear students,

upon the wish of the Dean of the Faculty of Science, prof. Frébort, I would like to introduce the activities of the Department of Study, Social, and Educational Matters. I was carefully considering the offer to coordinate the work associated with the study matters of our Faculty. I was aware that I'm getting on "a speeding train" with no or limited chance to pull the handbrake. My predecessor, Irena Smolová, handled this area with grace and carefulness, and definitely left some big shoes to fill. I will try my best to continue her work in a similar manner. I hope the Vice-dean for Science and Research will forgive me if I perceive Palacký University primarily as an educational institution, despite the fact that even the Academy of Sciences can be envious of our scientific results. I have learned to respect teaching and students, and so I have decided to accept this challenge.

The hectic everyday agenda connected to education is accompanied by the budget preparation, the UP Annual report, fighting for the meticulous educational system of teachers with the Accreditation Commission, adhering to the deadlines of the fierce agenda of the academic year etc. As a part of my duties I unfortunately also have to make some not very pleasant decisions such as terminating studies of students failing to comply with their duties, having to stop the payments of an extraordinary scholarship for doctoral students above the age of 26. This scholarship started being awarded at times when students only received the regular doctoral scholarship. Nowadays, there is an additional substantial scholarship they receive from the Internal Grant Agency (IGA), plus sometimes even part-time employment at grant projects. Most students, however, failed to inform the Department of Study about these matters, which was one of the crucial conditions for awarding the extraordinary scholarship. The Dean's Commission has decided to end payment of this type of scholarship.

The employees of the Department of Study are fortunately very skilful, and everybody is aware of what exactly their role is, and how to fulfil it. However, I am being careful with the feeling of satisfaction, for life has taught me that it can be a volatile thing.

I would like to put together a Directive of the Dean of the Faculty of Science which would alter the Study and Examination Rules UP, and in cooperation with the heads of departments and the chairmen of the doctoral study boards I would like to ponder upon the possibility of implementing the credit system into doctoral study programs. We are the only faculty at Palacký University without the credit system, which is also common at other universities.

I feel honoured to be able to represent our Faculty in the institutions of the Ministry of Education, Youth and Sports; the academic self-government of UP, and to be a part of the Faculty of Science UP management, and I shall benefit from and put to use all the experience gained mainly during my ten-year work as the Head of the Department of Experimental Physics.

Roman Kubínek, Vice-dean for Study, Social and Educational Matters

Science and Research

- ❑ **The defense of IGA UP grant projects completed in February 2014 will be held on 20th – 21st March 2014.** We kindly remind project managers that it is necessary to submit one result of the project considered excellent during the defense.

Information about the Development Research Organization grants of the Faculty of Science in 2014

The Faculty of Science, in relation to the budget of individual departments, continues to allocate the Development Research Organization grant funds using the (N-1) model, i.e. the points obtained in a five-year period 2008-2012 are used as the basis for allocating the funds. Points obtained in the 2008-2011 term were allocated to individual departments last year, and thus remain as the basis for allocating the grants this year as well. We received the chart with awarded points in 2012 from the Rector's Office last week and sent it to the heads of departments and to the directors of research centres to identify their scientific works belonging to their departments.

- ❑ **Information about the Development Project for the purchase of equipment in 2014**
The SPP identification number 210014051/16 has been assigned to the Development Project for the purchase of equipment. The total of planned investments amounts to 7,419,000, - CZK. The Rector's Office has allocated 7,300,000, - CZK to the Faculty of Science, which means that the grant was constrained of 119,000, - CZK. The Dean's Committee has resolved the proportional reduction of all budget items. It is now possible to draw funds of the Development Project for planned investments. Each department is kindly requested to adjust the planned amount according to 0.9839 coefficient.
- ❑ **The Ministry of Education, Youth and Sports is announcing a call for proposals for joint Czech-Argentinian research projects for 2015-2016.** This initiative to support the research staff mobility is based on the Basic Agreement on Scientific and Technological Cooperation between the Czechoslovak Socialist Republic and the Republic of Argentina, signed in Prague on 12th May 1974. Detailed information can be found [here](#).
- ❑ **The Symposium on Development of Human Resources in Science and Research, Sychrov**
Innovation and Technology Centre of VÚTS would like to invite you to **the seventh annual Symposium on Development of Human Resources in Science and Research, which will be held on 6th – 7th May 2014, on the premises of the Sychrov state castle.** The program of the Symposium will be focused on topics related to human resources in the context of the Horizon2020 this year. The participants can present their expert contributions. There is a new section included in the program this year focused on Horizon2020 opportunities. More information can be found [here](#).
A free transport between Liberec and Sychrov will be provided during the Symposium. If you have any questions, please contact the organizers via email: itc@vuts.cz

For Students

- ❑ **Please note that any changes to the subject registration can be made only by submitting an application at the Department of Study until 31st March 2014.**
- ❑ **We kindly remind students of the final year of the Bachelor's and Master's study programmes to pay attention to registering the final state examination subjects.**
- ❑ The number of applicants interested in studying at our faculty reached a record number this year. It turns out that the promotion of our study departments at events such as the Open House, Science and Research Fair, Gaudeamus, Researchers' Night, excursions at our departments and professional workplaces, lectures of our academic employees at local secondary schools as well as schools in nearby regions. The personal relations with graduates are significant as well, and we shall continue flourishing those activities. We thank all involved members of the academic community.

For Teachers:

- ❑ There has been an increasing number of inquiries from the applicants for our study programmes about the accuracy of information on individual department websites. Therefore, we ask **the heads of departments of the Faculty to align the admission conditions, especially the part about the Exemption of Entrance Exams, with the official faculty material.** The document is called "Conditions for the Admission Procedure for the Academic Year 2015/2016 – the possibility of remission of entrance exams for Bachelors' study Programme", and it has been sent to them for comments. It will be subsequently submitted to the Dean's Committee and to the Academic Senate for an approval.
- ❑ **We would like to remind you of the necessity to comply with the "Academic Year Schedule",** which has been approved by the Academic Senate of the Faculty. **The terms of Final State Examinations and Admission Procedures for the study programmes of individual departments are particularly important to abide. The terms of Final State Examinations and confirmation of valid terms of Entrance Examination in the schedule has to be reported to the head of the Department of Study, Mrs. Dana Gronychová.**
- ❑ **Scholarship Payments Application Form**
An explanation, where to look for and how to fill in the **form for the scholarship payments** was presented in the second release of the Newsletter. Please note that **the form has been changed recently.** Study Department officers do not know the signatures of all teachers therefore, it is now requested to print the full name of the responsible teacher in section "Žadatel". To facilitate the process, it is possible to print the name directly into the form. At the same time it is necessary to put the department stamp on the form. Only applications completed in this manner will be accepted, otherwise they will be returned to the respective department and payment of the scholarship can be delayed. Application form for the scholarships mentioned above can be found [here](#).
- ❑ **Vacations**
We kindly ask all the heads of departments and principal investigators of projects to keep track of their employees' regular vacation time, especially the leftover vacation from the previous year. **We would like to remind you that by the terminating projects and terminating employee contracts at UP it is necessary to completely use up vacation time. It is not possible to pay the unused vacation time from the project funds.** As stated by law, unused vacation cannot be given up by the employee. The unused vacation time can be paid to employees only in special cases, however, not from project funds, but the respective department funds.

International Matters

- ❑ **Crytur Price – a competition for the best thesis**
CRYTUR, Ltd. in cooperation with CareerMarket.cz are announcing a competition for the best thesis in Material Science. The deadline for submitting applications is **15th May 2014.** Authors and supervisors of the best thesis will be rewarded financially. More information can be found [here](#).
- ❑ **The Department of Experimental Physics is offering students of the Faculty of Science to participate in the summer schools of the Mathscience Project listed below.**
Mathematica Summer School on Theoretical Physics in 2014 is organized in combination with the **Summer School on String Theory and Holography** this year. The Summer School will take place on **14th - 26th July 2014 in Lisbon and Porto, Portugal.** The deadline for submitting applications is **31st March 2014,** more information [here](#).
Wolfram Science Summer School 2014 will take place on **29th - 18th July 2014 in Boston, Massachusetts, USA.** The deadline for submitting applications is **15th May 2014,** detailed information can be found [here](#).
Candidates may submit their applications directly through the website of particular summer school. All costs associated with attending the summer school (such as travel expenses, accommodation, meals and any other related fees) will be covered by the Mathscience Project fund. For more information please contact Jan Řiha, Ph.D., Department of Experimental Physics, e-mail: jan.riha@upol.cz, tel 585634104, 733690694.
- ❑ **Scholarships for Summer School in Latvia**
We would like to inform you about **the extension of the application deadline for two scholarship positions for Summer School in Latvia,** based on the international bilateral agreements. Latvian side offers a choice of six summer schools focused on different topics and study areas, among others ecology and landscape architecture. The communication language is English. Further details about the summer schools are available [here](#).

Applicants must deliver their covering letter typed in Czech language stating the preferred course and completed [application form](#) confirmed by the University to [the Academic Information Agency](#). The deadline for submitting applications is **4th April 2014, 3:00 p.m.**

- ❑ **Fulbright's Scholarship for post-graduate study program in the USA**
The Fulbright's Scholarship was listed for **post-graduate students in the USA in the academic year 2015/2016**. The deadline for submitting applications is **1st September 2014**. More information is available [here](#).
- ❑ **Taipei Economic and Cultural Office in Prague would like to inform you about two types of scholarships in Taiwan – Taiwan Scholarship Program and Huayu Enrichment Scholarship Program for the academic year 2014-2015**, as well as 6-month and 12-month courses of the Chinese language. **The scholarships are available to students in Bachelor, Master and Doctoral study programs**. The deadline for submitting applications is **31st March 2014**. Further information available [here](#).
- ❑ **Scholarships in Korea**
The embassy of the Republic of Korea in the Czech Republic is offering 2 scholarship positions for Czech students of the Master's or Ph.D. study programme at a University in Korea. Eligible candidates shall be under the age of 40, and hold a Bachelor's degree as of 1st September, 2014 at a minimum. More information and all required forms are available [here](#) (link: 2014 Korean Government Scholarship Program Guideline for Czech Students Enrolled in Graduate Programs). The deadline for submitting applications and other requirements is **18th March 2014, 4.00 p.m. at the Ministry of Education, Sports and Youth**.

Academic Senate

- ❑ The list of the Academic Senate of the Faculty of Science election candidates has been published on [the Academic Senate website](#). The list of the Academic Senate candidates for the elections at the Faculty of Science will be published during next week.

Miscellaneous

- ❑ **Majáles UP in Olomouc**
The organizing committee of Majáles UP in Olomouc is inviting students of the Faculty of Science to take part in the preparation and organization of the event. Majáles is going to take place in **the first week of May 2014**. The main theme this year are *comics*. The idea of the organizers is to create a "superhero" station (eg: Thor's hammer), where students from the faculty would oversee and help visitors to accomplish the heroic task (driving nails into a wood block, etc.). It is only a suggestion; unleash your fantasy and creativity. For any questions, suggestions, and new ideas please contact Jana Hübschmanova at 725617862, e-mail: [hubschmanova.janca @ seznam.cz](mailto:hubschmanova.janca@seznam.cz) by **Monday 24th March 2014**.
- ❑ **Evaluation of the event Window to Practice**
For the seventh time students and representatives of employers from scientific fields met at the event Window to Practice, which took place at the Faculty of Science on 18th - 19th February 2014. The main target of the event was to connect students and graduates with professional firms and institutions in which they may find future employment, professional experience or internship during their studies. This traditional event is valued by participating students and employers who gain new experiences and valuable contacts. Twenty four companies introduced their professional activities and they had a lot to offer to our students even in times of crisis on the labour market. The main organizer of the event Dagmar Zlámalová would like to thank everyone for their participation and also she would like to invite you to read the feedback of participating students and employers' representatives of the event at the following links: [fields of M & F](#), [Fields of Ch & B & Eco](#).
- ❑ **The library of the Faculty of Science has managed to extend a trial access to the IET.tv database**. This database of The Institution of Engineering and Technology (IET) is one of the largest sources of information in the field of engineering and technology including a variety of lectures and shows of the world's leading experts. The multimedia database can be found on the following website: <http://tv.theiet.org/>

☐ **Nomination Call – AFO 2014**

We would like to ask you to nominate one student of the Faculty of Science to the jury of 49th annual International Festival of Science Films - AFO. This year the jury will select a winner from a collection of foreign films entered into the international competition, therefore, the basic knowledge of the English language is required. Even though the jury position is not financially rewarded, their members receive full status of official festival guests, and thus access to all events for VIP guests. They will also have the opportunity to interact with leading filmmakers, producers, scientists and journalists from the Czech Republic and abroad. **AFO will be held on 15th- 20th April 2014.** Please send your nominations to the following email address: alena.jarosova@upol.cz till **30th March 2014.**

☐ **The next Newsletter will be released on 28th March, 2014**

☐ **As of 7th March 2014 the following provisions of PU has come into effect:**

[B3-14/5-RR](#) - Annulment of the decision of the Rector UP No B3-10/10-RR Rehabilitation of students at Palacký University in Olomouc

[B3-14/6-RR](#) - Cancellation of the Rector's Order UP No B3-11/3-PR The Cooperation in the processing of Organizational Rules of Palacký University in Olomouc

[B3-14/7-RR](#) - Council for the Commercialization of the UP

[B3-14/4-RR](#) - Credentials: The range of competences of the Vice –Rectors, the Bursar and the Chancellor when representing the Rector of UP and acting on behalf of UP

☐ **As of 13th March 2014 the following provisions of PU has come into effect:**

[B3-14/3-SR](#) – The Amendment no. 1 to the Rector's Directive no. B3-13/7-SR –The Regulations for the student grant competition at UP (full text), the list of approved grant projects in 2014

[B1-14/14-HN](#) – Novel no. 2 to the main regulation of UP no. [B1-12/4-HN](#) – The rules of the Palacký University Library

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Vice-Dean in charge: Dr. Roman Kubínek

Editor: Mgr. Alena Jarošová

Translation into English: Karolina Chvátalová., Alena Jarošová

Graphics: Dr. Milan Vůjtek

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

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