

# Newsletter

of the Faculty of Science PU

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January 15, 2016



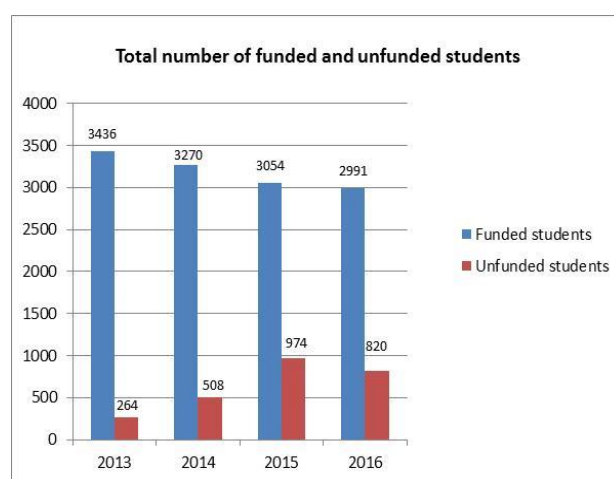
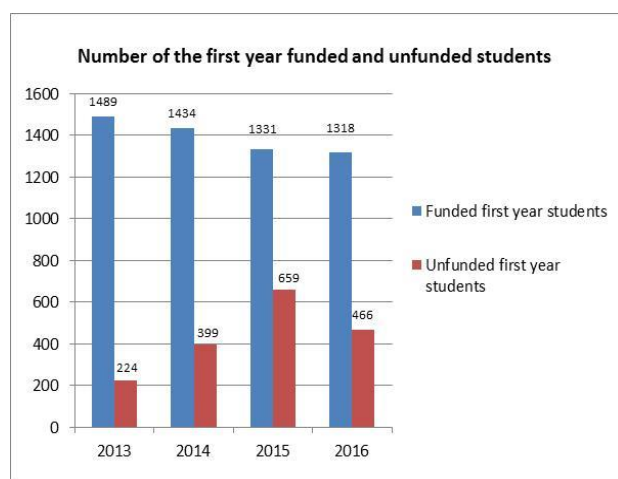
## Introductory word

Dear colleagues, dear students,

at the beginning of the new year, I would like to wish you to be happy, healthy, and reach many achievements in personal as well as in professional life. I believe that your hard work and efforts will bring about many achievements for the Faculty as well. To mention one of the newest success stories, Michal Otyepka of RCPTM acquired the very first project grant of the European Research Council at Palacký University. It is an enormous achievement and I am glad that he was the one to break a certain barrier we were facing regarding ERC project grants.

Another very pleasing piece of information, which I would like to share with you, is that we managed to stop the increasing number of unfunded students. This academic year the number of such students in the first year of study dropped to 466 students. Last year the number was 659 which means a year-on-year decrease by 2,7 per cent. This drop was achieved due to new measures introduced to the admissions procedure in 2015. Even though the number of unfunded students at our Faculty exceeds numbers from other faculties of UP.

Keeping such high numbers of unfunded students is in my opinion irrational and inefficient, especially when the Ministry of Education lowers the number of funded students. Moreover, it creates a burden for teachers, administrators, and we overcharge Faculty's capacity.



We should focus on quality not quantity of enrolled students. One way to achieve this goal is introducing entrance examinations where they have not been used so far. Some fields of study have already agreed to this solution. It is crucial to realize that in many study fields with no entrance examinations there are many students unable to cope with the studies, or some who are not interested in studying the field at all and who are just abusing the system. For instance last year we recorded 200 students who have not acquired a single credit during the whole academic year, e.g. Mathematics and its applications admitted 52 students, 36 out of which with zero acquired credits.

An unfunded student of course does not equal a bad student. However, the number of unsuccessful first year students or first year students who do not study at all gives a clear signal that we should improve the selection process and focus on attracting the cream of the crop. This will lead to lower number of enrolled students and therefore unfunded students. Approximately up to 10 per cent of unfunded students may be considered as optimal. This should be supported by another planned measure – limiting the second round of entrance examinations which will only take part in cases where the number of applicants in the first round is lower than the Faculty median of the number of students attributable to one study field.

Once again I wish you all the best in the new year.

Ivo Frébort, Dean

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## Science and Research

- ❑ **FRUP 2015 project defenses** will be held in **Dean's office board room no. 6.014** on **January 19 from 9:00 a.m.**
- ❑ The deadline for **IGA 2015 final reports submitting** and entering them into the OBD database is **March 15.**
- ❑ **IGA 2015 project defenses** will be held in **Dean's office board room no. 6.014** on **March 22 from 8:30 a.m.** Project managers will receive the schedule in advance.
- ❑ **Josef Hlávka Award 2015 for scientific literature**  
Czech Literary Funds Foundation will award authors of original scientific literary work in the fields of Social, Physical, Life and Medical Science published in the Czech Republic during last year. The award ceremony will be traditionally held at Lužany Chateau near Plzeň in June. Award proposals including one copy of the publication may be submitted by any legal or natural person till February 5, 2016 to the following address: Nadace Český literární fond, Pod Nuselskými schody 3, 120 00 Praha 2, e-mail: [hajkova@nclf.cz](mailto:hajkova@nclf.cz).

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## For Students

- ❑ **The state final examination**  
Department of Study reminds students, who will take their state final examination in January and February, the obligation to conclude their studies at least three weeks before the date of their state final examination. In order to conclude their studies, students must submit their student credit book with all their study results written and confirmed by the teachers at the Department of Study. The study results must also be recorded in STAG system.
- ❑ **Subject registration for summer semester**  
We would like to inform students that **the pre-registration of subjects will be held from January 21 to January 22.** Students may **adjust their timetable at the Department of Study till March 18.** Modifying the timetable after this deadline is possible only upon request, confirmed by the head of the respective department or a teacher.

## ☐ **Recognition of subjects**

We kindly request students who have applied for subject recognition from previous studies to comply with the obligation to collect the decision on the recognition of study requirements at the Department of Study and apply for recording the results in students' credit books as well.

## ☐ We inform students who have signed up for **the additional study of teaching** (Pedagogical minimum) and **Supplementary pedagogical study of teaching** that the agenda has been newly entrusted to Mrs. Martina Karásková from the Department of Study.

## ☐ **Scholarship payments**

Please be aware that based on Dean's regulation A-15/7/SD from December 17, 2015 implementing certain provisions of the UP Scholarship Rules, all scholarships including scholarships of doctoral study programs will be paid out **by the 15<sup>th</sup> day of the following month**. The deadline for submitting documents for payment of scholarships remains the same; they shall be submitted by the 20<sup>th</sup> day in the applicable month.

## ☐ **Evaluation of teaching**

A new system of teaching evaluation has been available since last week. The evaluation module is now accessible using direct link [s.upol.cz/eval](http://s.upol.cz/eval) or logging into the EDIS system: [edis.upol.cz](http://edis.upol.cz) clicking the "Evaluace výuky" tab. To log in use the UP Portal login details.

Evaluation of teaching as well as leaving comments and suggestions is possible using mobile application too, which is available on Google Play (Android) and AppStore (iOS). Evaluation is anonymous.

## ☐ **Practical English for students planning a study stay abroad**

The Department of Foreign Languages at the Faculty of Science, Palacký University organizes a course for Bachelor's and Master's students, who are planning a study stay abroad. The course will take place from February 1- 5, 2016. For more information, click [here](#).

## **I**nternational Matters

### ☐ **Scholarship stays in Poland**

**Students of Bachelor's, Master's and Doctoral study programs** may apply for study and research stays in duration from two to ten months. The deadline for submitting applications is **January 21**.

**Academic employees** can apply for educational and research stays in duration from one to five months. Applications may be submitted during the whole year till meeting the scholarship quota.

For more information on both types of scholarships please contact Mrs. Karla Benešová, email: [aia@dzs.cz](mailto:aia@dzs.cz).

## **F**aculty Operation

### ☐ **Evaluation of faculty employees**

Evaluation of all university employees is carried out in compliance with UP Rector's methodological guideline B3-13/2-MPR. An evaluation of the faculty academic staff as well as newly implemented evaluation of non-academic staff has been prepared and recorded in [Hap Information System](#). All leading staff is obliged to provide annual evaluation of their employees. **Evaluation for the year 2015 has to be accomplished by January 31**. We kindly request our leading staff to ensure the evaluation at their departments. Academic employees are kindly requested to complete self-evaluation form. Regarding problems with the form please contact Pavel Holeček, email: [pavel.holecek@upol.cz](mailto:pavel.holecek@upol.cz).

The faculty evaluation is based on Dean's methodical guideline for working efficiency and working achievements evaluation of staff [A-14/15/MPD](#).

- ❑ The Faculty management cordially invites faculty leading staff for the first “**Afternoon tea at three o’clock**” in 2016 which will be held **in Dean’s office board room no. 6.014 on February 22 at 3:00 p.m.**
- ❑ Department of Foreign Languages at the Faculty of Science offers **English courses for employees and PhD students** of the Faculty **in the summer semester 2015/16**. The complete list of courses is available in [Attachment No. 1](#).

## **M**iscellaneous

- ❑ **Landscape and mining (not only) in Central Moravia**  
Department of Development Studies cordially invites students and academic staff to the expert lecture focused on various aspects of surface mining impact on landscape and its restoration, an assessment of current access to landscape restoration after stone, gravel and sand mining, and indication of possible further development. The lecture will be held in **the University Movie Hall, Univerzitní 3, Olomouc on February 11 from 8:30 a.m.** It is free of charge, however, due to limited capacity of the hall, please, **confirm your participation** to: [kamila.botkova@cmsterk.cz](mailto:kamila.botkova@cmsterk.cz) till **January 31**. The lecture will be in Czech.
- ❑ **Registration for summer term of Children's University has started**  
Science Museum Stronghold of Knowledge has opened registration for the summer term education project that offers children from 8 to 12 years of age a unique opportunity to experience what it is like to study at university.  
Thanks to ten interactive lectures prepared by experts from Palacký University children will get an extraordinary perspective on the diversity of several disciplines. In addition, the reward won't be only newly acquired knowledge but also experiencing traditional ceremonies such as matriculation or graduation. Everyone can look forward to a diploma in completion of the entire university adventure. Summer term of Children's University will be held every Wednesday starting February 24 from 3:00 p.m. to 4:30 p.m. The last lecture will take place in May 18. Participation is free of charge; however, each child can participate only once. Parents can apply by filling a [simple form](#).
- ❑ **Blue World Institute is looking for volunteers for scientific research of dolphins in Croatia**  
The Blue World Institute scientists have been exploring biology and ecology of bottlenose dolphins for a number of years. For detailed information about the involvement of volunteers in research, education, awareness and protection of cetaceans and other organisms of Adriatic Sea around Veli Lošinj Island is available in [Attachment No. 2](#).
- ❑ **The next Newsletter** will be released **on January 29, 2016**
- ❑ **As of January 1, 2016 the following provisions of PU came into effect:**  
[B3-15/3-HN](#) - Regulation of UP Accommodation and Canteen Management  
[B3-15/7-MPK](#) - Amendment No. 4 to Guideline of the UP Bursar No. B3-12/1-MPK - Travel Expenses

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