

Newsletter

of the Faculty of Science PU

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May 27, 2016



Introductory word

Palacký University in Olomouc and its Faculty of Science in particular has scored in the current Nature Index ranking, which monitors an amount of high quality scientific outputs published in selected journals. Meteoric rise by 61,4% year on year was achieved by Olomouc chemistry, which in domestic comparisons reached to the third position behind Czech Academy of Sciences and Charles University. The field of Life Sciences has also experienced a significant advancement.

"It is great, however not unexpected. We have built an excellent scientific research centers that contribute significantly to the overall evaluation of the university. The success is a fruit of our scientists' hard work. Chemistry skyrockets due to the Regional Center of Advanced Technologies and Materials (RCPTM). Life Sciences have increased performance due to work of the Centre of the Region Haná for Biotechnological and Agricultural Research (CRH) and Institute of Molecular and Translational Medicine. The rising trend is expected to proceed," stated Ivo Frébort, the Dean of the Faculty of Science

The Nature Index evaluates scientific results by articles published in selected top journals during last year. It devotes most attention to four areas – Chemistry, Physics, Earth and Life Sciences. It outlines the absolute number of studies, consequently adjusted according to the authorship and affiliation of scientists. The final WFC index eliminates distortion in certain fields.

Palacký University scored especially in the field of chemistry. It participated in the 2015 ranking with 13 studies which increased its WFC index from 5.43 to 8.76 year on year. The most frequent authors of the articles were RCPTM Director Radek Zbořil, one of the world's most quoted chemists Pavel Hobza, physical chemist and holder of the prestigious grant from the European Research Council Michal Otyepka or inorganic chemist Zdeněk Trávníček.

"The ranking position demonstrates the quality of research at Palacký University, especially when size of institutions is taken into account. Indeed, there operate many times more chemists at the Academy of Sciences compare to Olomouc University. Thus, the Academy is supposed to show greater output. I believe our success in this prestigious scale is fruit of set processes and work style of the Regional Centre of Advanced Technologies and Materials," said Michal Otyepka, the Deputy Director of RCPTM.

Palacký University has finished on the fifth place within the other areas in the nationwide comparison. Significant WFC index increase – for 72,3 % - was experienced by Life Science category too, which includes articles of researchers from the Faculty of Science and the Faculty of Medicine and Dentistry.

According to experts the Nature Index is one of the tools referring to the excellent science. Nevertheless, it does not include citation rate of articles and some experts also have reservations concerning selection of journals taken into account. In addition, the ranking does not take into consideration a range of institutions sizes. Further information is available [here](#).

Science and Research

Information for the IGA project managers

Student of Doctoral or Master study program must be an author or co-author of publication dedicated to IGA grant. If Doctoral or Master thesis is the outcome of the project, dedication to IGA grant has to be stated in the scientific work.

Information for research project applicants

Pay attention to information about participation of the project manager in further research projects (GA ČR section "E" applications). Omission may result in disqualification of proposals from the competition. Research project proposals and applications shall always leave the faculty only via Department of Science and Research.

Information for publication authors

If any student, who is not employed at UP, is an author or co-author of a scientific paper, his or her scientific results are not recognized in OBD and a respective department will not therefore acquire the share of student participation in the scientific work. To remedy the situation it is possible to fill in the name of department on student card at Department of Study or (in exceptional cases only) it is also possible to make a note for database administrator while entering data to OBD.

Werner von Siemens Award 2016

Czech Siemens will again award successful students and academics - researchers and teachers. Participants can compete in five categories; moreover two special prizes will be awarded this year too: the best Doctoral thesis written by a women and a special award for overcoming obstacles of study. The authors of the best theses will share a total financial reward amounting CZK 1 million. A reward of CZK 5 000 is determined for those who nominate a future winner. The deadline for submitting applications is **November 25**.

IKERBASQUE - a tender for positions in science and research

The Basque Science Foundation has announced a tender for positions in science and research. The deadline for submitting application is **September 12**. Detailed information is available [here](#).

For Students

Graduation Ceremony

We kindly ask students who will complete their studies by taking a state final exam in May or June and wish to participate in graduation ceremonies to come to the Department of Study and confirm their presence at the graduation ceremony. Graduation ceremony will be held from **June 27 to July 1**. Graduation schedule will be posted on the website of the Faculty. Graduation fee is CZK 500 and can be paid using a money order or a bank transfer. The account number is 19-1096330227 / 0100, payment reference number is 99310031. Write a word "Graduation" in message for recipient, please. In both means of payment please send a scanned copy of the proof of payment to the relevant employee at Department of study.

Students, who completed their studies by taking a state final exam in January and February, can collect their diplomas at the Department of Study. We kindly request faculty alumni, who will take part in the graduation ceremony (June 27 – July 1) to deliver their diplomas back to the Department of Study before the graduation in order to obtain them during the ceremony.

Graduation ceremony of Doctoral graduates will be held at the Faculty of Law, Palacký University, Olomouc on **June 2 at 11:45 a.m.**. Graduation fee is CZK 500 and shall be paid to the account number: 19-1096330227/0100, payment reference number is 99310031. Write a word "Ph.D. Graduation" in

message for recipient, please and send a scanned copy of the proof of payment to Mrs. Faltýnková and Vykydalová at Department of study.

☐ **Doctoral study program student evaluation**

We kindly request students of Doctoral Study Programs to deliver their student evaluation for past academic year to the Study Department of the Faculty of Science **by June 30**. It must include the signature of the student and statement of his/her supervisor that recommends/doesn't recommend proceeding to the next year.

☐ **Information about the registration into higher grades of study programs**

Students must complete their study obligations **by September 5** in order to register into higher grades of study programs or to apply for study extension. However, they shall not submit their credit list and registration list A this time. All study results must be written and confirmed in their credit book and also recorded in Stag system by the same date. It is no longer possible to take any exams or make any records to Stag after the deadline.

Department of Study will consequently revise fulfillment of study obligations. Students who will not meet the obligation for advancement into higher grades must submit an application to dropout otherwise proceedings on expulsion will be initiated. Students who meet the obligation for **study extension** shall submit their application at Department of Study by **September 5**.

International and outer University Information

☐ **Scholarship programs of German Federal Environmental Foundation**

Qualified graduates whose previous studies were focused on environmental development and protection can apply for six to twelve month long scholarship programs in professional German workplaces. The eligible candidate shall have at least a basic knowledge of the German language and the ability to present the project in German or English. Scholarship starts with a four-week intensive German language course, which is provided by the foundation. Further information is available [here](#).

☐ **Announcement of one-stage AZV 2017 public call for targeted support of the Ministry of Health**

A public call to support applied research and development projects is focused on solving problems related to diagnosis, treatment and prevention of human diseases. Detailed information on conditions of the call is available in project specifications. An electronic application form is available [here](#). Completed applications shall be sent to Mrs. Michaela Kratochvílová at: michaela.kratochvilova@upol.cz **by June 24**, in order to ensure timely submission of your proposals using databox.

☐ **Czech-German tandem language course 2016**

Students with an intermediate knowledge of German can sign up for an intensive German language course, which will take place **in Pernik, Krušné hory from August 12 to 26**. Tandem course is financially supported by Czech-German Fund for the Future. The fee for the Czech participants amounts to CZK 4 200. Applications shall be sent by May 31. For further information please contact Karla Benešová, tel.: 221 850 504

Faculty Operation

- ☐ We kindly request our employees to store their bicycles in a lockable bicycle shed in the basement of the main faculty building, when they come to work. Theft of a bicycle, which was not locked in a reserved spot, is an illiquid incident and the employee is not entitled for an insurance benefit.

❑ **Building Maintenance action plan for the summer months**

Replacing vent hood flue pipes

Iventa PRO Ltd. has won the public tender for the replacement of corroded vent hood pipelines. Construction works will be conducted in block C1 and C2 on the longer side of the main faculty building. Replacing the pipes in block A is scheduled for the next year.

After more than six years of operation, the existing flue pipes system made of galvanized material is corroded, which causes a leakage of chemical vapors into the shafts and their subsequent release into offices, classrooms and corridors.

❑ **Reconstruction and repair of sanitary installations**

Existing hot and cold water supplies and a pipe circulation will be replaced in the basement of the building no. 50 on 17. listopadu street. A heat exchanger will be displaced as well. Construction works will be conducted from June 27 to August 12 including the reconstruction of side staircase and access stairs in the atrium of the building.

❑ **Realization of access systems**

Faculty employees will be able to use a court yard of the Joint Laboratory of Optics to park their vehicles. The construction works for making the court yard accessible will take place in August. Students will be able to use racks for locking their bicycles in the yard as well.

A new entrance to the main faculty building will be made on the first floor right above the current access to the underground garage. We hope it will reduce a burden on garage doors, which are overused and repairs of permanent defects put a strain on the faculty budget.

❑ **Air conditioning adjustment in classrooms on the first floor of the main faculty building**

Only one switch in each classroom will be installed to control air conditioning units. Its activation will ensure hundred percent air exchanges. If it is turned off, only automatic forced ventilation will be in progress corresponding with a hygienic minimum, for 24 hours a day.

❑ **Repair of the elevator in the building of Joint Laboratory of Optics**

Vymyslický – Výtahy company will perform an overhaul of the elevator in July.

❑ **Window systems revisions**

An external company will perform a complete revision of window systems from the second to the fifth floor of the faculty building on 17. listopadu street using a platform in July and August. The company will also repair defects causing leaks.

Miscellaneous

❑ **PosPos gathering**

PosPos gathering, which will socially finish the summer term, will be held **in the Fortress of Knowledge on Thursday, June 23 from 1:00 p.m.** Further information will be published in the next issue of our Newsletter. Don't forget to make a note in your diaries!

❑ **Children's Day with Natural Science**

We are happy to invite children of faculty employees to a fun afternoon event which will be held on the outside premises of the Faculty of Science on June 1 from 3.30 p.m. to 5:30 p.m. Playing games and doing little sport and art activities we will celebrate the upcoming International Children's Day. Children can also look forward a bouncing castle. To be able to properly reward athletic and artistic achievements of our small participants, please RSVP by May 26 by sending an email to: romana.cuprova@upol.cz.

❑ **The best faculty birthday card design competition**

The Dean of the Faculty of Science announces a competition for the best faculty birthday card design for the academic year 2016/2017. Students, staff, seniors and alumni may send their original art works to:

dagmar.petrzelova@upol.cz by **June 17**. Author of the winning design will receive a financial reward amounting up to CZK 5000 and a voucher for a three-day stay for two people in the faculty cabin in Karlov. For further information please contact Dagmar Petrželová.

☐ **A priority booking of vacation in Karlov for students, faculty staff and seniors**

Employees, students and seniors of our faculty may preferentially book an accommodation in a faculty recreational and educational center situated in Karlov pod Pradědem. The property offers an accommodation for 20 people in four quadruple and two double rooms. The house is equipped with shared kitchen and a living room with satellite TV and board games. For further information and booking please contact Mrs. Dagmar Petrželová, e-mail: dagmar.petrzelova@upol.cz, tel: 58564003.

☐ **The next Newsletter will be released on June 10, 2016**

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Vice-Dean in charge: Dr. Roman Kubínek

Introductory word: Mgr. Martina Šaradinová

Editor: Mgr. Alena Jarošová

Translation into English: Alena Jarošová

E-mail: alena.jarosova@upol.cz, phone: 585634011

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