

žurnál

Magazine of Palacký University Olomouc, 2022/1

interview

Lucie Brulíková: Chemistry is pure beauty



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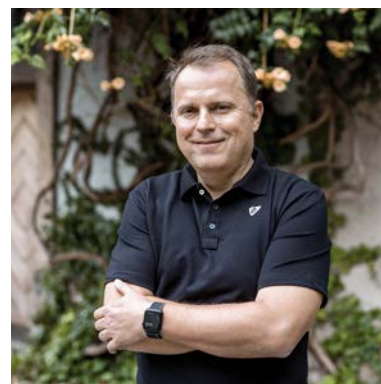
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cover – chemist Lucie Brulíková | photo: Jakub Čermák

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Dear students and colleagues,

You have in your hands the new issue of our university magazine, in which we always try to summarise not only the events of the previous months, but also offer new and we believe interesting views on the themes connected with our institution. At this time, the culmination of the academic year, it is always good to review how hard we worked and studied, and also good to thank those who have completed their theses and coursework, and wish all a wonderful summer. Consider it done!

I must, however, remind all that our summer semester got sidelined during what should have been the usual season. The war which Russia has unleashed on the territory of independent Ukraine has provoked many challenges, even across our university. I am proud that we immediately sought ways and methods to help the people of Ukraine, the refugees, and our Ukrainian colleagues and students whose lives have been turned upside-down by this barbaric act of aggression. In this issue of UP *Žurnál*, you can read about some of our activities and life stories. And they are ongoing. Palacký University continues to help, and will do so in the future. In addition to education and research, this is actually our role: to be prepared and willing to do more, whenever necessary.

And this is also the other, "non-Ukrainian" theme of our magazine. It portrays various personalities of our academic community who do more. Through their efforts, they increase their talents. They work hard, and try to distinguish themselves in their fields – be they science, art, or sport. I am truly glad that I can promise them and all the others who come to our alma mater that Palacký University is and will always be supportive in their endeavours.

Martin Procházka, UP Rector

Talented Palacký:

University as an opportunity for those who want to do more

Do we all possess a certain talent? Are we all gifted or talented? Perhaps. But perhaps we are not aware of it, perhaps our talent has never been noticed by anyone, or perhaps we have never been channelled onto the right path. In today's turbulent times, when people may have to change professions several times in their lives, it is good to know one's own disposition, one's possibilities and also blind spots. To be gifted and properly develop that gift, to work on it and in doing so, better understand how to make it pay off in the labour market. This is the reason universities try to find "talents" among their students, to support them and nurture them. And if you are interested in the stuff "Talented Palacký" is made of, then you are holding the right issue of our university magazine in your hands.

"Talent or potential can be defined in many ways. At Palacký University, we have decided to look upon the theme of talent from the perspective of not only success in one's studies, but above all the initiative, vision, and motivation to do something

more," explains Dita Palaščíková, the coordinator of the UP Endowment Fund, founded a few years ago as the first of its kind at Czech universities. Its goal has remained unchanged: to give not only financial support to interesting scientific, academic, and artistic talents, but at the same time to develop the potential of young people and teach them new things, such as how to run their own projects, how to work with the media, and how to popularise science. Today its recipients number over fifty young people, many of whom are already graduates who have successfully launched their careers here or abroad.

"Among the students of our university are many active people who want to do more than just the minimum needed to graduate. Our vision is to provide them with the support and conditions they need in order for them to realise their potential. We'd like Palacký University to be the university of choice for students who 'want to do more'. This is why the Talented Palacký project was launched, which has as its goal

to map and secure support for active students at the university, from choosing secondary school prospects all the way up to those it supports by the Endowment Fund at the culmination of their studies," says Jan Strojil, head of UP Student Affairs, outlining UP's conception.

However to think that having talent in a specific field is enough is naïve. Much more is needed in life and in work. Especially diligence. This is the word that both Dita Palaščíková and Jan Strojil mention in the same breath with talent. And they are not alone. A few pages on, you can read an interview with a successful scientist from our Faculty of Science, Lucie Brulíková, who directs her own research, has her own research group, and who says that she actually has no talent, except for hard work. An understatement. But as someone who works up to fourteen hours a day in the lab and who talks about her chemistry with incredible passion, her work speaks for itself.

So Talented Palacký is good. But Talented, Diligent Palacký will be even better.



survey

Palacký University is made up of eight faculties and one institute of higher learning. It offers young people education in a huge spectrum of possibilities and combinations, from natural sciences to philosophy, medicine, sport, languages, theology, law, art, teacher training, and more. Thus there are plenty of opportunities for teachers to encounter talented students. So we asked division representatives the following question:

How do you recognise talent in your field?



Martin Dolejš
Head of the Department of Psychology, UP Faculty of Arts

The successful candidate in the study of psychology should want to be educated, to work on themselves, have inner motivation, and be able to listen. A good psychologist should above all be open to various perspectives on a subject, able to listen actively, know how to establish and keep boundaries in one's professional contacts, and know how to ask questions. Additionally, the ability to think in connections, to have clear verbal and written expression, and the ability to handle stress, including practicing the basics of mental hygiene – which could be said of most professions – would not hurt.



Lenka Mazalová
guarantor of the programme General Nursing, Faculty of Health Sciences

The answer is seemingly simple: it is a person with two basic and properly balanced qualities. They are prosocial – they like people, they enjoy talking to them and working for them. At the same time, however, they are able to think rationally and critically, thus they are able to sensitively perceive the situation in which they find their patient, and in that case can best help them. A good nurse does not promise the impossible; but rather does everything possible, to the best of their abilities, for the patient.



Ondřej Novák
Head of the Laboratory of Growth Regulators, a joint facility of the UP Faculty of Science and the Institute of Experimental Botany, Czech Academy of Sciences

Talents are rare, and their deliberate “pampering” does not always lead to the desired result. Talent on its own is not enough; it is necessary to have motivation, purposefulness, and diligence. Those three factors are easy to recognise and help in finding talents who are worth developing and supporting.



Pavel Banáš
Director of CATRIN – Czech Advanced Technology and Research Institute at UP

At CATRIN, students and young scientists are an integral part of top scientific teams and participate, alongside world-recognised experts, in shifting the boundaries of what is possible in the most modern areas of science and research. The first unmistakable mark of talent is to unerringly sense opportunity, and to very purposefully and actively throw oneself into research. Definitive confirmation of talent of course is proven by results. These are professional publications in high impact journals and their citations; patented, licensed, and utilised technologies in practice; or success in prestigious grant contests, including the European Research Council.



Petra Šobáňová
*Vice-Dean for External Relations
and Innovation, UP Faculty of
Education*

Some people seem to be born teachers – they are natural communicators, they have a knack – as small children they played school with their dolls, and their talent can be shown when explaining materials to friends or when working with young children at camps or in afterschool groups. In others, talent appears later. But one thing is for certain – talent alone is not enough. Talent itself only seldom determines what a person is able to do in another life – and that is the teaching life. It is important to work on oneself and to keep learning – to have enthusiasm for the profession, but mainly, to be able to transmit everything to students. More important to a teacher than talent itself is the conviction that a certain talent is hidden in every child and that it is possible to awaken that talent and develop it.



Ivana Vlková
*Head of the Department of Biblical
Studies, guarantor of the pro-
gramme Theology, UP Sts Cyril and
Methodius Faculty of Theology*

Talent in theology is difficult to recognise. I have to admit that I have often been wrong about who has or does not have good prospects. It is not enough to have the verbal capabilities for working with textual sources, critical thinking, a high enough IQ, or even hard work. In theological practice, the ideal case would be displaying an ability to empathise with the mentalities of different generations/groups who have passed down religious experience, while keeping a detached view and a humbleness, and openness for the transcendent. And only time will tell whether a seemingly promising student achieves this or not.



Milan Kolář
*Vice-Dean for Legislation, Interior
Organisation, and External
Relations, UP Faculty of Medicine
and Dentistry*

At the Faculty of Medicine and Dentistry, as usual, the answer is very specific, and it depends on what kind of talent we are talking about. Surgical talent, intern, pre-clinical, other? If we are talking about general medical talent, then that is something you recognise only during practice, in my opinion. It is conditioned primarily upon the proper diagnosis of a disease, finely tuned application of treatment, and above all, the successfully cured patient. In clinical medicine, everything is basically aimed at these goals, and the degree of their fulfilment is the mark of talent.



Maxim Tomoszek
*Vice-Dean for Bachelor's and
Master's study programmes, UP
Faculty of Law*

The talented lawyer is distinguished by three qualities: 1. They know how to think critically, weigh things logically, and overcome their own prejudices and deep-rooted conceptions. 2. They have a sense of justice, know how to measure the worth of opposing interests and arguments. 3. They know how to not only listen to other people, but also empathise with their situation, to look at things from various perspectives.



Zbyněk Svozil
*Vice-Dean for Studies, guarantor
of the programme Physical
Education for Schools, UP Faculty
of Physical Education*

The teaching profession is quite complex; the broad term includes a natural disposition, combined with what a teacher acquires in the course of their studies and training. A talent for teaching can be linked to a personality who is able to manage a given situation better, quicker, and more capably than the average individual. I consider the main mark of teaching talent as the art of empathy and recognition of the personalities of their students. I would also ascribe a high degree of creativity, the ability to motivate, effectively manage, and evaluate objectively to a talent for teaching.

8 faculties
1 university



Olomouc became the European centre for rare hematological diseases

A team of doctors and scientists from the Faculty of Medicine and Dentistry (UP FMD) and University Hospital Olomouc (UHO) obtained the status of a complex European centre for diagnosis, treatment, and research of rare hematological diseases within the EuroBloodNet network. The inclusion among the prestigious European medical centres stands as a proof of the long-time high quality of the facilities and work by Olomouc experts in the field.

The centre involves doctors and scientists from the departments of pediatrics, hemato-oncology, and biology, from the Institute of Biology at the UP FMD, and the Institute of Molecular and Translational Medicine. The leading physicians are Dag-

mar Pospíšilová, Head of the Departments of Pediatrics, and Tomáš Papajík, Head of the Department of Hemato-Oncology. “This is a great honour for us. For several years we’ve been the only Czech centre focused on rare anemias. In the EuroBloodNet network, our range expands to all rare hematological diseases, and in the case of very rare diseases we can now also examine foreign patients,” said Pospíšilová.

“We are the only ones in the country to focus on rare anemias caused by iron metabolism disorders and enzymopathies, a group of red blood cell diseases caused by a deficiency of erythrocyte enzymes. Their diagnostics is very specific. Our department also administers the Czech reg-

istry of Diamond-Blackfan anemia – we have 68 patients suffering from this anemia. We also deal with various erythrocytoses, which are characterised by an excessive amount of red blood cells as compared to anemias,” added Pospíšilová.

In order to obtain the status of a EuroBloodNet centre, UP FMD and UHO had to undergo a challenging audit. The evaluators assessed the qualifications and professional work of the doctors and scientists, diagnostic possibilities, and laboratory equipment, and were also interested in detailed information about the hospital and its patients, as well as formal matters such as certification of the equipment, facilities used, and protection of patients’ rights. (vim)

Extraordinary scholarship for gifted and active law students goes to Veronika Vysoudilová

Veronika Vysoudilová, a 5th-year student of the Law and Legal Studies programme, became the second winner of the Petr Zoubek Scholarship. It is awarded by the Faculty of Law (UP FL) together with the Petr Zoubek Foundation once a year to especially active and talented students. The laureate received financial support in the amount of €800.

The scholarship is named after an exceptional law student who passed away before graduating due to an aggressive cancer in 2019. Shortly thereafter, the family and friends of Petr Zoubek established the endowment fund and combined forces with the faculty. “Through the fund, we want to spread Petr’s legacy, his visions, his approach to life. We have two goals: to support the hemato-oncology department of University Hospital Ostrava – and excep-

tional law students in Olomouc. We appreciate the cooperation with the faculty very much,” said Kristýna Beníčková, Zoubek’s friend, founder of the fund, and UPFL graduate.

This year, Dean Václav Stehlík received three applications for this scholarship. They were assessed by a committee comprising representatives of the faculty and the fund. “We discussed our decision thoroughly. All three candidates were very deserving. In the end, we decided to award Veronika Vysoudilová,” said Maxim Tomoszek, Vice Dean for Bachelor’s and Master’s degree programmes, on behalf of the committee. The remaining two candidates, Andrea Petráková and Jan Šafář, received an exceptional faculty scholarship on the recommendation of the committee. Vysoudilová accepted the scholarship

with modesty and gratitude. “It is an immense honour for me to be chosen as one of those who cherish similar values as Petr Zoubek,” said the 5th-year student. (eha)



Veronika Vysoudilová is in her final year of Law and Legal Studies.

News coverage of both the pandemic and war elicits similar audience reactions, say UP FA researchers

The research team of the Department of Media and Cultural Studies and Journalism at the Faculty of Arts (UP FA) in cooperation with the STEM/MARK agency examined the attitude of the Czech population towards Covid-19 and vaccination against it, and how they perceive the war in Ukraine in the news.

The researchers divided the Czech news audience into four invented groups: the

Distrustful, the Uninterested, the Supportive, and the Fearful. Trust in official sources during the pandemic, as well as a positive response to the news coverage of the war in Ukraine, was shown by the largest group, the Supportive, consisting predominantly of childless people with higher education. In contrast, those with lower education indicated distrust of professional and official sources in relation to both the disease and the Russian invasion. It was the Distrustful group, comprising just over one-fifth of the surveyed population, who overwhelmingly described war coverage as biased and confusing, leading them to express their distrust of the mainstream media. Concerns about the potential consequences of the war were most pronounced among the Fearful, made up primarily of women with lower education. The Fearful comprise less than a third of the surveyed population. By far the smallest share in the population is held by the Unconcerned (11%), with an

undecided opinion on the media coverage of the war in Ukraine and very low concern about the impact of both the coronavirus and the Ukrainian crisis. This group tends to consist of younger men.

“There are certain connections to be found between the perception of the Covid-19 pandemic and its consequences and the war conflict in Ukraine. In both cases, there was an initial effect of what we call rallying around the flag; in moments of a shared sense of threat, we are able to come together in solidarity. At the beginning of the pandemic, this was manifested in the home production of face masks, or now in the huge solidarity with war refugees. Let me point out the strong role of the media image, which is crucial in shaping public opinion. Positive stories, however, could help those who are demotivated or alienated,” said Jan Burianec, a sociologist from STEM/MARK, commenting on the survey results. (map)



UP FS experts warn of dangerous Asian hornet decimating bee colonies

The dangerous Asian hornet has started to spread in some parts of Europe in recent years, decimating bee colonies and causing major losses to beekeepers due to its aggressiveness and predatory nature. Beekeepers in France, Portugal, and Spain, for example, are already fighting the aggressive Asian hornet. The presence of Asian hornets has not yet been recorded in the Czech Republic; their overwintering is complicated by the cold weather. However, a gradual change in temperatures may create more favourable conditions for this invasive insect in the country in the coming years, claim experts from the Department of Biochemistry and Geoinformatics at the Faculty of Science (UP FS).

The Asian hornet is native to Southeast Asia. It entered Europe in 2004, when it was first observed in France. Later it spread to other countries.

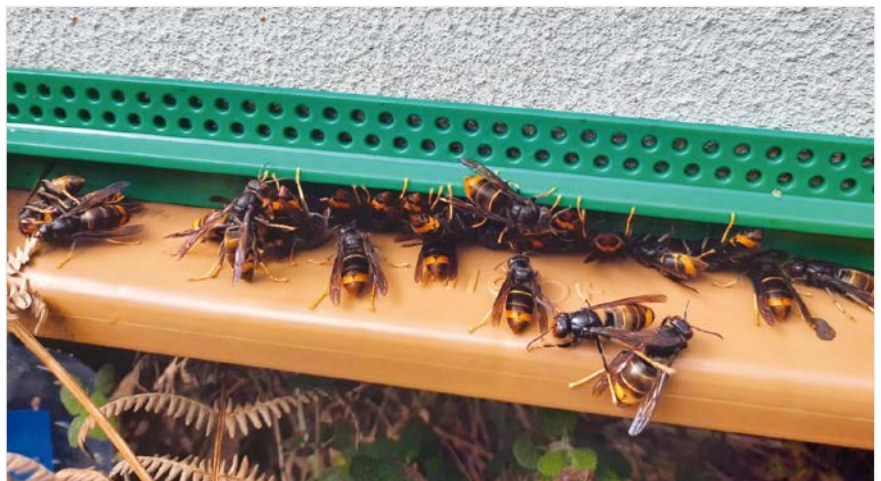
In Galicia, approximately 30,000 Asian hornet nests were discovered in 2020, and local beekeepers are continuously trying to eradicate them. The largest increase in Galicia was observed between 2015 and 2017, when the Asian hornet population went from 6000 nests to al-

most 26,000 nests. “However, this number may be underestimated, as not every nest is found,” says Jan Brus.

Beekeepers in Galicia and Portugal no longer attribute the loss of colonies to varroasis, viruses, and the weather, as the Asian hornet has become the most significant factor in colony deaths and lower honey production in the last few years. “Hornet attacks destroy entire apiaries, containing

several dozen hives. Honeybee colonies can withstand attacks to some extent, but at the cost of reduced honey yield and colony development,” explains Jiří Danihlík from the Department of Biochemistry.

The seminar was made possible thanks to the support of the project BeeClim: Successful Beekeeping in Times of Climate Change, which is supported by Norway Grants. (cho)



8 faculties
1 university



Conference commemorating the visit of Emperor Charles I of Austria to Olomouc

The difficult fate of the last Austrian Emperor and Bohemian King Charles I of Austria was presented in a conference organised by the Sts Cyril and Methodius Faculty of Theology (UP CMFT) together with the State Regional Archives in Prague on the occasion of the 100th anniversary of his death. The personality of the Emperor, who was beatified by Pope John Paul II for his role as a peacemaker during WW1, was introduced from different perspectives, with emphasis on his presence in the Czech Lands, especially his ties with the town of Brandýs nad Labem-Stará Boleslav.

His visit to Olomouc as an important military city of the monarchy was also

given attention. “On 16 December 1917, Charles I visited Olomouc. In the morning he arrived by train, and after being welcomed he attended the reconsecration ceremony of the Church of Our Lady of the Snows, which had undergone an artistic restoration. Afterwards he visited the Town Hall, the Archbishop’s Palace, the garrison cemetery in Černovír, then returned to the railway station,” said the organiser Jitka Jonová. Her colleague from the UP CMFT, Tomáš Parma, and Karel Podolský from the Regional Museum in Olomouc reported on the Emperor’s stay in Olomouc in detail. Conference speakers also discussed the Emperor’s aris-

ocratic policy, his relationship with the Holy See, and his exile on Madeira Island, where he died in 1922. The grandson of Charles I, Karl von Habsburg-Lorraine, spoke to the participants via a pre-recorded greeting and noted that his grandfather had always been guided by Christian principles and values. The final presentation on the faith and spirituality of Charles I was given by the Auxiliary Bishop of Brno, Pavel Konzbul. This was followed by a mass celebrated in St Wenceslas Cathedral by Archbishop Jan Graubner of Olomouc, who said that Charles I and his activities are inspirational even to contemporary politicians. (vim)

New project at UP FHS focuses on eating disorders and obesity

The Faculty of Health Sciences (UP FHS) is participating in the international Erasmus+ project Connected4Health with the focus on eating disorders and obesity in young people. One of its goals is to provide university teachers and lecturers with the knowledge, skills, methods, and tools for a multidisciplinary approach to teaching such topics.

Universities and other institutions from seven European countries are collaborat-

ing in the project. Its coordinator is the George Emil Palade University of Medicine, Pharmacy, Science and Technology of Târgu Mureș, Romania, a partner of the UP Faculty of Health Sciences during the recently completed HELP2 project which focused on improving the language competencies of health professionals. Thanks to this successful collaboration, the Olomouc faculty was invited to participate in the current project.

“The two-year project aims to interlink medical and humanities-based perspectives on the issues of nutritional counselling, obesity, and eating disorders. The first result will be a handbook that will summarise the cultural and historical development of the societal approach to these issues in each of the partner countries. Sec-

ond, a teaching syllabus will be produced, which will be useful for university curricula. The third result will be a set of methodological approaches to navigate effective care for young people with obesity or eating disorders,” said Lukáš Merz from the Department of Social Sciences and Humanities at the UP FHS.

In addition to the cultural and historical overview for the Czech Republic and testing of the upcoming methodologies, Olomouc researchers will contribute to joint work, especially in the field of psychology and nutritional therapy. One of the members of the team is Czech nutritionist Hana Střítecká from the Faculty of Military Health Sciences of the University of Defence, who also lectures at UP FHS and UP FMD. (vim)



UP FPC psychologists created a unique guide to the psyche of young athletes

Young athletes, their coaches, and parents have an unusual tool for insight into sport psychology in a monograph written by four psychologists and teachers from the Faculty of Physical Culture (UP FPC). The text combines expert knowledge and situations from real life in the style of a comic book. The importance of sport psychology in practice is discussed in interviews with athletes and coaches, such as swimmer Barbora Závadová and the coach of the women's national handball team, Jan Bašný.

“The main motive was to create a practical guide, comprehensible for the athletes themselves as well as for their parents and coaches. We know from practice that they're too busy to read the literature we recommend or find it difficult to extract what they need. Our publication relates to their reality, and all the information is presented in an engaging and understandable form,” said one of the authors, Hana Pernicová.

The topics covered are relevant for young athletes who have to cope with growing up and finding their place in society while preparing for a top career. They are also likely to encounter injuries, pre-performance nerves, fear of failure, doubts about their abilities, and questions about whether the effort they put in is worthwhile. The book also deals with eating disorders, sexuality, relationships with parents with regard to the training process, and the challenges brought by the Covid-19 epidemic.

The reader has an original guide – fictional sports psychologist Pepe, a genial and down-to-earth character. “The topics covered in the book are serious, but it is important to remember that even professionalism and seriousness cannot do without common sense, embodied by the protagonist Pepe,” said Dana Štěrbová about *Sports Psychology: A guide to theory and practice for young athletes, their parents, and coaches.* (vim)



Special education in the on-line world as the main theme of the conference at UP FE

The Institute of Special Education Studies at the Faculty of Education (UP FE) organised the 9th Olomouc Days of Special Education. Debating experts focused mainly

on the position and possibilities of special educators in the on-line world.

The conference programme of the two-day meeting consisted of more than fifty

lectures, oral communications and workshops, in which the participants focused on different forms of help and support in the online space and on reflections of lockdown in research. Distinguished experts included David Hampton, Bowling Green State University School of Counseling and Special Education; Klára Šedová, Department of Educational Sciences, Masaryk University Faculty of Arts; and Helena Kubátová and Miroslav Dopita from the UP FA Department of Sociology, Andragogy and Cultural Anthropology. On the second day doctoral students presented the results of their work to date, and selected undergraduate students of Special Education also presented their final theses.

The Olomouc Days of Special Education also included an international conference dedicated to people with special needs and the 9th Conference of Young Research Workers. The conference was attended by more than 160 participants from the academic and professional community and students of Special Education. (map)



Aristides Bakandritsos traded Greece for Olomouc: New challenges in science



Six years ago, Aristides Bakandritsos decided to move with his entire family from Greece to Olomouc. Today he is one of the pivotal science workers and a group leader of the Czech Advanced Technology and Research Institute (CATRIN) at Palacký University Olomouc, and does not regret this step. With every problem solved and goal achieved, he experiences new joys with his team and other colleagues.

His main task is to develop new materials or their derivatives with the aim of giving them the necessary properties for specific applications. At CATRIN, his main focus is on the 2D chemistry of graphene and other low-dimensional materials used for energy storage, as catalysts in the production of chemicals, etc.

“As far as my professional career is concerned, there have been several milestones, such as completing my PhD, setting up a laboratory at the University of Patras, and certainly becoming part of the research centre in Olomouc, which has marked a major improvement in my career,” he noted. He decided to step out of his “comfort zone” years ago with the prospect of being able to tackle new challenges by collaborating with top scientists from around the world in a workplace that provides access to state-of-the-art facilities.

Since then, he has achieved a number of remarkable successes, from the 2017 IAAM Scientist Medal while working for the Regional Centre of Advanced Technologies and Materials (RCPTM, now integrated into CATRIN) and numerous articles in top journals including *Nature Nanotechnology*, to successes in international projects. He greatly appreciates the joy and enthusiasm his work brings him.

“I still remember the excitement when I received a letter from a journal editor that my first article had been accepted for publication. This sparked a desire in me to pursue materials research professionally. I am glad I made this decision because that excitement is still there in every new scientific discovery. What I appreciate most is the process of self-improvement, the team spirit to work together for strategic goals, and the commitment of my colleagues to excellence in research. When all the efforts result in publications in prestigious journals, it is one of the greatest rewards accompanying this adventure,” he added.

In the future, Aristides plans to transform published results into practical technologies. “We are working on the development of advanced materials important for ensuring our energy self-sufficiency. Thanks to efficient energy storage technologies, we can make better use of sustainable but volatile resources such as the sun and wind. By means of catalysis, we plan to produce chemicals from waste, which is the way to a greener and safer future. Our materials and technologies will hopefully support the transition to a more sustainable civilisation.”

He enjoys great support from his family and can share his delight in science with his wife, Eirini Ioanna, who works in CATRIN’s electron microscopy laboratory. They have grown fond of the city, and their children, aged seven and nine, attend a Czech school. “This helped us to get to know the people and culture better. Olomouc is beautiful, there is a lot of greenery and beautiful places where the whole family can pursue leisure activities. I am glad that our children have adapted to their new environment and found new friends,” he said, with an ever-present smile on his face.

Urban space as a key into history: Exploring the history of the Jewish community in Olomouc through a map

The history of Olomouc would not be complete without the history of its Jewish community. And this is what Ivana Cahová, Head of the Kurt and Ursula Schubert Center for Jewish Studies at the Faculty of Arts, is professionally interested in. Together with students and colleagues from the Olomouc Museum of Art and the Department of Geoinformatics at the Faculty of Science, she has created two specialised maps which – thanks to the use of advanced technologies – are an effective tool for the public to get acquainted with the results of her research.

“In collaboration with the Production and Education Divisions of the Olomouc Museum of Art, we created an interactive map accessible via a smartphone app. It guides users through the history of the Jewish community in Olomouc, especially its intellectual and cultural heritage,” said Cahová on behalf of the research team.

Subsequently, she and her colleagues from the Department of Geoinformatics made a visualisation of the basic patterns of the Jewish community’s settlement in the various zones of Olomouc its surroundings, from the first localised evidence of the presence of Jews in the city to the present day. This specialised map is entitled “Development of the Jewish settlement in Olomouc: the geographical and socio-economic structure of the Jewish population in the years 1180–2021.”

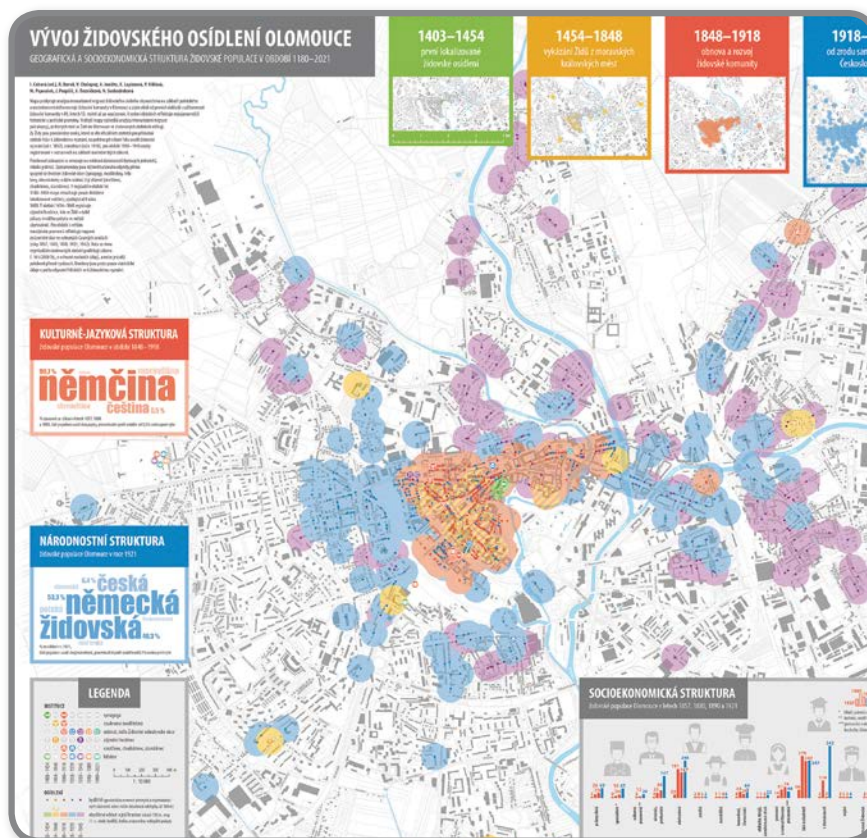
“The map has several parts. In addition to the settlement patterns, we also provide adjacent maps to show where Jews migrated to Olomouc from in the studied periods, how the socio-economic structure and the ethnic, or cultural and linguistic stratification of the Jewish population developed. The map reveals how the position of the Jewish community within the urban society transformed, the development of



the economically active and inactive Jewish population, and also what changes occurred in the representation of individual professional categories, particularly the increase in specialists at the turn of the 19th and 20th centuries, be they doctors, lawyers, industrialists, builders, architects, etc.,” added the researcher.

She added that the focus in creating the interactive map was to make accessible the rich cultural heritage left by the Jewish community in Olomouc. “Among other things, we wanted to literally put on the map the family villas that prominent Jewish industrialists in Olomouc had built in cooperation with the Jewish architect Jakob Gartner in today’s Videňská Street, an emerging high-income area in the proximity of the synagogue then.”

Both maps aim to present existing research and available information in a completely new, more comprehensible, illustrative, and user-friendly way. The information obtained can help users to interpret individual chapters of the history of the Jewish population in Olomouc and its immediate surroundings and place them in the overall context of the history of Jewish settlement in Moravia. The Kurt and Ursula Schubert Center for Jewish Studies, the Department of Geoinformatics at the UP Faculty of Science, and the Education Division of the Olomouc Museum of Art contributed to the creation of the maps. (map)



Nina Kadášová: When I get excited by something, I'm able to overcome self-doubt

She's able to talk about scientific work with enthusiasm, she provides interesting info to the greater public, and she tries to spark interest in the public for scientific fields. Nina Kadášová does all this in her free time, in addition to being a student of molecular biophysics at the UP Faculty of Science – and general medicine at the Faculty of Medicine and Dentistry.

“Originally I was thinking of studying medicine, but because I was afraid they wouldn't take me, I sought an alternative. I liked Olomouc, which I had visited on Open Door Days at the Faculty of Science. And because I liked biology, phys-

ics, and all the natural sciences in high school, I chose biophysics,” says the Slovak student. After being accepted to the Bachelor's programme at the Faculty of Science, she tried her luck in medicine – and got in.

Popularising science is not a random thing for Nina. In 2019, before the Covid-19 pandemic, she discovered the UP Crowd club. “On the surface I may seem like an introvert, but I think that everyone is half introvert, half extrovert – it depends on the situation. When I get excited about something, I am able to overcome my self-doubt. UP Crowd is a great popular science

club. Thanks to JaRon Tomáščík, I got to the international competition FameLab – Talking Science, and also working for the podcast Vědátor and writing articles for it,” says Nina.

Through the club, she popularises science at schools, various competitions, and when talking to people. “I think now that we have access to disparate social networks and media, people don't know what to believe. That's why we try to promote science in an easily accessible way, in order to shed light on hoaxes and fight against misleading information,” she adds.



Nina Kadášová was one of ten finalists in this year's Czech round of the international competition FameLab – Talking Science. The competition has the goal of popularising science to the public in an attractive way; finalists have three minutes to describe their research to the lay public. Nina Kadášová has also been the guest of the UP Faculty of Science podcast "Jak na Přírodu", which acquaints prospective candidates with its study programmes, individual fields, and other student activities at the faculty.

UP Crowd



Vědátor



text: Martin Višňa
photos: Jakub Čermák

portrait

A portrait of Tomáš Parma, a man with short brown hair and glasses, wearing a dark blue suit, a light blue shirt, and a blue tie with a red and white pattern. He is standing in a well-lit room with a blurred background featuring a large potted plant on the left and a doorway in the distance. The lighting is soft, highlighting his face and suit.

Tomáš Parma

Church historian,
Knight of the Holy Sepulchre



Tomáš Parma (b. 1971)

Church historian at the UP Sts Cyril and Methodius Faculty of Theology (UP CMFT); since 2015 Vice-Dean for Foreign Affairs, later also Vice-Dean for Strategy and Quality. He hails from Brno, where he studied History-Archival Science at the Masaryk University Faculty of Arts. Later he studied Theology, first during his stay in the Trappist Sept-Fons Abbey in France, then at UP CMFT, and Pontifical Lateran University in Rome. In 2021 he was named Associate Professor of Theology. He has been at UP CMFT since 2004, when he started as an assistant professor at the Department of Church History; at present he is a member of the Department of Communication. Professionally, he devotes himself to Church history of the 16th and 17th centuries; in particular, the figure of the Olomouc bishop Franz von Ditreichstein, and ecclesiastical law. He spends his free time with his family, enjoys taking walks, cycling, and taking care of his cottage.

A knight who does not wear armour, nor is threatened by the swords of his adversaries. You could find him in a nondescript suit, one which would not betray signs of affiliation to any group or organisation. Tomáš Parma, who inducts students at the Sts Cyril and Methodius Faculty of Theology into the mysteries of Church history, however, is a representative of the Knights of the Holy Sepulchre of Jerusalem, about whom he has also written an extensive monograph entitled *Rytíři, dámy a poutníci* [*Knights, Dames, and Pilgrims*].

Nobody else has yet described in such detail the history of the order in the Czech Lands, whose first member was the famous Kryštof Harant of Polžice and Bezručice. “The task fell on me,” smiles the Associate Professor of Theology, who, since 2019 as Lieutenant, runs, expands, and organises the activity of the Czech Knights of the Holy Sepulchre. The mission of the order, which has thirty thousand members world-wide, is to support the benevolent, cultural, and social activities and institutions of the Catholic Church in the Holy Land. The Czech lieutenancy was re-established in 2015.

“Membership was offered to me by Archbishop Jan Graubner. This was in the time when I had some pangs of conscience, in that I was a mere academic historian who sits in archives or in an office surrounded by books – that I did my job but was not helping anyone directly. The aims of the Order and the very idea of chivalry in protecting the needy very much appealed to me, just as did the fact that it is an organisation with a long history and tradition,” explains Parma. Like other candidates, he went through a trial period when he was acquainted with the members of the order and the values which they profess. He was

welcomed into the knights during a ceremonial investiture in St Wenceslas Cathedral in Olomouc.

The Order helps Tomáš Parma live his Christian faith, to which he clung when on the threshold of adulthood. “Against the official state ideology at the end of the 1980s, faith and religion had an impact on me and still has a very strong one to this day. It gives one orientation in life, it brings light, it is a fixed point to which a person can relate,” he reminisces on the time when he prepared for his christening, and also applied to study History-Archival Science at the Faculty of Arts in Brno. “My parents wanted me to study Pharmacy. It seemed like a more practical field to them than one controlled by the regime,” he adds, saying that he has been interested in history since his childhood, when he would take trips with his grandmother to castles.

The study of history coupled with an interest in religion nevertheless began to shape his focus on Church history. For theological experience, he set out for the Trappist Sept-Fons Abbey in France. “It was part of my searching, even on the intellectual side. One priest really guided and helped me there. In the Czech Lands, due to the interruption of development under communism, we were missing reflection over what the Church had gone through during the last forty years. And the fact that I am from the generation of people who wanted to travel but could not, certainly played a role. In the abbey the order is very strict, you alternate studies, liturgy, and prayer with manual work. I think that if a person decided to spend their entire life there, it would be a life lived meaningfully. That experience continues to inspire me,” described Parma.

After his stay in France, he studied theology at the Pontifical Lateran University. “Studies here and in Rome are comparable as to the level and methodology of interpretation. But in Rome you have the bonus that it is the centre of Church affairs, you have fellow students from all over the world, and it is a historic city full of monuments, which I tried to make the most of,” says the historian.

It was in Rome where Parma, who was focussing primarily on the history of the Church in the early Renaissance, found a lifelong friend. We are talking about Franz von Ditreichstein (1570–1636), the Olomouc bishop, about whom he has written several works. “The Czech Historical Institute in Rome is housed in the Nepomucenum dormitory for Czech students, so historians, archaeologists, literary scholars, and others go there to conduct research in the Vatican archives and libraries. We asked a colleague for a lecture on Cardinal Ditreichstein, which he gave us. Nevertheless, he did not comment on

the cardinal from the religious perspective. For me that was a shame, since he was an influential personality in his day; not only in the Czech Lands, he even played a role in papal Rome. I began to devote time to him in my doctoral studies and I still do – I’d like to write more about him,” he reveals.

He’s also thinking about a publication on the year 1777, when the Olomouc bishopric was promoted to archbishopric, or an English translation of his book on the Knights of the Holy Sepulchre. He is currently working with Tomáš Černušák of the Czech Academy of Sciences on an edition of correspondence of one of the nuncios of the Vienna Imperial Court, Carlo Carafa. Parma is perfectly at home in libraries and especially archives; with a smile he notes that he gets a perverse pleasure out of combing through ancient papers. “When conducting research abroad, one must know languages and be able to decipher old handwriting and know beforehand what you are looking for. The Vatican archives request researchers to have the prior ap-

proval of one of the professors who works for them or from historical institutes that you are qualified to work on the research in question,” adds Parma.

Since 2004, he has been a member of the academic community of the Sts Cyril and Methodius Faculty of Theology, and since 2015 he has been a vice-dean. “As leadership, in many respects we reap the fruits of the labour and decisions of our predecessors, whether it be the permanent emphasis on research or the focus on social work and cooperation with CARITAS – College of Social Work Olomouc. We have the responsibility to make similar decisions for those who come after us to live under. We continue to search for other ways, even though we keep theology as our family jewel, one which we will one day pass down in a lovely jewel box – and maybe it will be larger than the one we received. And what do I appreciate most about our faculty? The open, family environment, and that we feel a real responsibility toward what we have received and what we have to pass on.”

I’ve always considered myself a Brno native and I used to joke about Olomouc. I don’t do that anymore, since I’ve set my roots down here.



Tomáš Knoz

Professor of History,
Department of History,
Masaryk University Faculty of
Arts

Tomáš Parma is one of my most successful doctoral students. His dissertation on Cardinal Franz von Ditreichstein is an excellent interdisciplinary look at the historian and theologian and portrays the “Moravian Richelieu” from unusual angles. It is a ground-breaking work, into which the author incorporated much of his own life attitudes, as well as a detached view and circumspection. Tomáš Parma is also a friend whom I met in the Museum Club at our high school. That young, gifted history student functioned as a herald, bringing his colleagues knowledge about various backwater genealogies, general history, and Church history. I’m glad that much of his enthusiasm for history persists in him today, for in the meantime he has become an esteemed academic and university teacher.



Petr Pořízka

Department of Czech, UP
Faculty of Arts, Secretary of
the Czech Lieutenancy of the
Order of the Holy Sepulchre

I know Tomáš Parma not only as a colleague at the Faculty of Theology, but mostly as the person responsible for the Czech Lieutenancy of our order. He took over from my father, Jiří Pořízek, who together with Archbishop Graubner served in the re-establishment of the Knightly Order of the Holy Sepulchre in the Czech Republic. Tomáš takes a very active role, in which he combines his professional activity with personal spirituality. I must especially commend his extraordinary book *Knights, Dames, and Pilgrims*, about the old and new history of the Order of the Holy Sepulchre from the aspect of its operations in the Czech Lands, which has met with good response, here and abroad. His professional erudition and unflagging activity are an inspiration for me, but so is the guarantee that under his leadership the activity of our delegation is successful and meaningful.

success



Neurologist Prof Urbánek received the gold medal of the Czech Medical Association

Prof Karel Urbánek, head emeritus and still an active member of the Department of Neurology at the UP Faculty of Medicine and Dentistry and University Hospital Olomouc, who will celebrate his 85th birthday this year, received the gold medal from the Czech Medical Association of J.E. Purkyně for his lifetime work. The award was announced at the Czech and Slovak Neurological Congress in Olomouc.

Neurologist Karel Šonka, who presented the medal to Prof Urbánek on behalf of the association, called him the prince of Czech neurology. “Let me thank everyone who contributed to this award of mine. Howev-

er, I feel like a cook from the RAF officers’ mess who, 75 years after the end of the WW2, receives the Order of the White Lion for bravery while the braver ones have already died,” noted Urbánek. “I don’t think one of my life achievements was that I described a disease a boy had that is no longer unusual even in our country today. But I am truly proud of the fact that five of the staff I brought to my department have reached the rank of professor of neurology. I deliberately do not say I was their teacher because I did not teach them anything. I was merely a scout who noticed their abilities and diligence,” he added.

Karel Urbánek was born in 1937 in Trenčín, Slovakia, and graduated from the medical faculty in Brno. He started his professional career at the neurology department in Prostějov, and since 1966 he has been associated with the neurology department in Olomouc, which he headed from 1991 to 2004. He was renowned not only as a highly qualified physician and teacher but also as an excellent clinical researcher. He was also the capable chairman of the Czech Neurological Society for many years, and the editor-in-chief of the journal *Czech and Slovak Neurology and Neurosurgery*, which received an impact factor under his leadership. (vim)

A unique monograph examining the making of converts published at the Faculty of Arts

The Lidové noviny publishing house published the monograph *Making Converts: Linguistic and Visual Representation of Conversion in the Early Modern Period*.



The nearly 500-page work written by authors from the Department of History at the Faculty of Arts, its graduates, and other historians, is intended primarily for the professional public.

Either conversion from a different religion to the Christian faith, the return of heretics back to orthodoxy, or the internal conversion associated with entering a monastery and making a vow to God – this is how the significance of conversion in earlier times could be explained. Despite the largely secularised character of European society, the theme of conversion is still alive today. Especially in the sense of conversion from one faith or religion to another. “Maybe we are just not sensitive enough to detect it,” said Iveta Coufalová, doctoral graduate of the UP Department of History and editor-in-chief of the journal *History and the Present*, on behalf of the authors.

Conversions in the sense of a spiritual journey and perhaps even the transfor-

mation of related social ties is, however, an eternal topic, according to Radmila Prchal Pavličková, the main investigator of the research team from the Faculty of History. “When we were writing this book, we came across news in the media that a convert from northern Moravia had been granted a papal audience. It reminded me of the early modern period, where conversion to Catholicism was made more significant by bestowing this honour on a ruler or nobleman,” the historian added.

The aim of the voluminous work was to explore how the image of converts and conversion is shaped in various types of textual and visual sources, in various denominations, in various social groups and professions, and under specific social geographical and religious conditions. It is intended primarily for historians, experts in the history of literature, arts, and cultural history, Judaists, as well as historical anthropologists and theologians. (map)

Geographer Michal Lehnert wins prestigious Building and Environment award

Michal Lehnert from the Department of Geography, UP Faculty of Science, received the prestigious 2021 Best Paper Award for a Young Author from the journal *Building and Environment*. His article “Comparison between mental mapping and land surface temperature in two Czech cities: A new perspective on indication of locations prone to heat stress” won out against tough international competition.

“I much appreciate the award, although in the context of what’s happening nowadays, one cannot really be happy about such things. At the same time, I must emphasise that the article would not have been possible without the cooperation with Jiří Pánek from the Department of Development and Environmental Studies and without the help of colleagues from the Institute of Computer Science of the Czech Academy of Sciences and the University of West Bohemia,” said Lehnert.

Using the examples of Czech cities Olomouc and Pilsen, the authors of the study

utilised mental maps to find out which localities people consider unpleasant on the basis of their long-term experience during hot summer days. In addition, they described the differences between these mental hotspots for certain groups of respondents. The spatial pattern of the detected mental hotspots was then compared with the places that have the highest surface temperature in cities.

One of the main findings of the research was that sites with the highest surface temperatures do not always correspond to those identified by people. Depending on the chosen comparison criterion, the mental hotspots and the actual surface temperature hotspots overlap by less than 50% of their area; in some cases, the overlap was only in single digit percentages.

The obtained results contribute to the understanding of the mental component of thermal comfort but also have a practical significance. Many places where people often feel heat stress have so far escaped



the attention of local governments. For example, in Olomouc, in addition to expected localities such as the Upper and Lower Squares or the area in the front of the main railway station, people have associated heat stress with the localities of Hodolanská, Divišova, Litovelská, Palackého, Svornosti, and Schweitzerova streets, parts of the Povel neighbourhood, and the University Hospital complex. (cho)

Olomouc law graduates succeed in prestigious European competition

Czech justice celebrates international success. The team of the UP Faculty of Law graduates Petr Kyselák, Jakub Spáčil, and Adam Talanda won 4th place in the prestigious Themis competition. Eight European teams made it to the finals held in Lisbon.

The competition, organised by the European Judicial Training Network, is aimed at judicial candidates, assistants of judges, and future prosecutors. It is held in Eng-

lish. All three members of the successful Czech team know each other from their Master’s studies in Olomouc. Petr Kyselák, a judicial candidate at the District Court in Šumperk, and Jakub Spáčil, a judicial candidate at the District Court in Nový Jičín, now study in the postgraduate programme at the Faculty of Law. Adam Talanda, a judge of the District Court in Přerov and an assistant professor at the faculty,

has completed his doctorate. Another UP graduate, Martin Lýsek, the chair of the Olomouc branch of the Regional Court in Ostrava, has significantly contributed to the team’s success by accepting the post of team tutor.

The Czech team reached the finals after winning one of the four semi-final rounds. The theme for the finals was Access to Justice. The contestants first submitted a written paper, then took on their rivals in a moot court competition. “It was interesting to meet colleagues from other EU member states and compare things such as how difficult it is to prepare for a judicial career. By applying the principles of the right to a fair trial, we then verified that the enshrinement of fundamental rights at the level of international documents is not a mere academic conclusion but actually relates to the everyday functioning of the judiciary, as we all see the necessity of the right to a fair trial on a daily basis in our work,” said Kyselák on behalf of the team. (eha)

Martin Lýsek, Adam Talanda, Petr Kyselák, and Jakub Spáčil (left to right) during the finals in Lisbon. The medals are competition props.



success

The photo by Daniel Schulz shows Prof Jiří Fiala at the ceremony, with awards designed by sculptor and designer Christine Habermann von Hoch.



Olomouc Region Award for contribution to culture goes to UP

The laureate of the 2021 Olomouc Region Award for lifetime contribution to culture is Bohemist Jiří Fiala, Professor Emeritus of the Department of Czech Studies at the Faculty of Arts. The 2021 Award for outstanding achievement in literature was awarded to the Olomouc Photographers series produced by UP Press and the Olomouc Museum of Art.

Prof Fiala focuses, among other things, on the history of Olomouc and the Olomouc region, not only as a researcher but also as a scholar and populariser in the media. For his regional cultural activities, he was awarded the 2011 Olomouc City Prize in literature.

“I was extremely pleased to receive the Olomouc Region Award. Regional histo-

ry is becoming another domain of team research, as evidenced by the extensive collective monographs on the history of Olomouc, Uničov, Litovel, and Šternberk, which I contributed to and which contributed significantly to this award. Coincidentally, I’ve currently returned to one of my first publications, *The Criminal History of Olomouc*, whose second, extended edition is being published by the Memoria Porta association. The approaching 450th anniversary of the establishment of the Olomouc university is associated with the preparation of two collective monographs reflecting its history, in which I also hope to participate,” said the award-winning historian and university teacher.

The Olomouc Photographers series was

produced in collaboration with UP Press and the Olomouc Museum of Art. The English-Czech book series presents the worldwide significance of photographers associated with the Olomouc region.

“The series will be appreciated by art enthusiasts, collectors, and lovers of well-crafted and designed books; however thanks to its bilingual English-Czech format it is important for the entire Olomouc region. It helps to anchor the region on the world map of art, and thus promote its positive image and tourism potential. We are happy that the Olomouc Region perceives this potential, too; the award fills us with the desire to continue working on the edition in the years to come,” said UP Press Director Aleš Prstek. (map)

Faculty of Education launches collaboration with Taipei university



Czech students and teachers will be able to share courses with their colleagues from Taiwan as National Taipei University of Education (NTUE), which prepares future Taiwanese teachers for their profession, agreed to cooperate with Palacký University. Representatives of both schools have signed a Memorandum of Understanding.

The Memorandum is based on the existing cooperation between the Institute of Education and Social Studies at the UP Faculty of Education and NTUE. The cooperation between the two schools can now develop officially in many areas. “We are definitely interested in the exchange of teachers and researchers, as well as in stu-

dent mobility within Bachelor’s, Master’s, and doctoral programmes. We are also interested in the mobility of administrative and professional staff, as well as joint courses, study tours, conferences, and seminars. Among other things, we are also preparing cooperation on joint research projects, and we are interested in exchanging information and resources,” said Jana Kantorová from the Institute of Education and Social Studies. She added that the Memorandum has already been followed up by joint scientific and research activities which will further be intensified, and in the wider context will contribute to cooperation between democratic countries. (map)

Physical chemist Otyepka wins his third ERC grant

Physical chemist Michal Otyepka from the Czech Advanced Technology and Research Institute (CATRIN) at Palacký University in Olomouc has become a three-time winner of prestigious grants funded by the European Research Council (ERC).



His latest success is in the Proof of Concept (PoC) category; the grant will allow his research team to prepare a sufficient amount of fluorographene-based nanomaterial and verify its use in lithium-sulphur batteries, in cooperation with a commercial partner. ERC PoC grants were provided to 166 researchers, with one going to the Czech Republic.

The electrode material was designed when the team capitalised upon their rich experience with 2D chemistry, i.e. understanding the chemical rules of the two-dimensional world of ultra-thin carbon nanomaterials. This is the topic of Michal Otyepka's first ERC-funded research, started in 2016. Based on this knowledge, his team searched for new, super-functional materials derived from graphene for spe-

cific applications. In this case, they chose a simple method and prepared a new sulphur-modified graphene derivative on a laboratory scale, which they submitted to the European Patent Office.

"This simple method could be very effective for production of lithium-sulphur batteries with high performance, stability, and long shelf life. We have demonstrated these properties in the laboratory. I am very glad that thanks to the ERC PoC project we will be able to improve the production process and verify the material during industrial testing in real facilities," said Otyepka.

Otyepka won his first ERC PoC grant in 2020, the first ever for the Czech Republic. His goal was to prepare and test one of the graphene derivatives for energy storage in other devices – supercapacitors. (srd)

Molecular hydrogen can speed up recovery after Covid-19, says Faculty of Physical Culture study

Inhalation of molecular hydrogen positively affects the course of recovery in post-Covid patients. This was shown in a study conducted by scientists from the Department of Natural Sciences in Kinesiology at the UP Faculty of Physical Culture. Their research is the first in the world to present the possibility of using molecular hydrogen in post-Covid therapy based on objective data.

"The study results confirmed our hypothesis that molecular hydrogen may also help people suffering from acute respiratory disease – not only athletes, in whom the use of molecular hydrogen has been shown to have a positive effect on performance and fatigue reduction," said the main study author Michal Botek, who has been studying the effects of hydrogen with his colleagues for some time. Using the existing knowledge of hydrogen's antioxidant, anti-inflammatory, anti-apoptotic, and fatigue-reducing properties, they decided to focus on Covid-19 during the epidemic.

The research involved nearly eighty people who had experienced a SARS-CoV-2 coronavirus infection with a mild or moderate course. Participants underwent baseline examinations, such as spirometry and a six-minute walk test to assess their current functional capacity after the illness.

For the following two weeks, study participants inhaled hydrogen generated from purified water daily for the period of two times 60 minutes and recorded subjective feelings regarding fatigue, sleep quality, muscle pain, and perceived shortness of breath. This was followed by retesting at the faculty.

"Using randomisation, participants were divided into a hydrogen group and a placebo group, so that we could determine with great accuracy how effectively

hydrogen can revitalise a post-Covid patient. The group that inhaled hydrogen according to our methodology improved by an average of 64 metres in the repeated six-minute walk test, i.e. about 10% over the baseline test, while the placebo group improved only minimally, by an average of only 9 metres. These results make us optimistic that hydrogen can be used as an option for time-efficient therapy in the post-acute phase of a disease like Covid-19," said Botek. (vim)



UP for UA

We are not indifferent, nor self-absorbed. When necessary, we are there where we need to be. As a university, and as individuals. This is how it is with the war in Ukraine. We immediately began to help: we collected money, sleeping bags, powerbanks, medicine, toys. We prepared language classes, textbooks, and colouring books for the youngest refugees. We were on hand as interpreters in evacuation centres and on trains. We tried to be a support for those who work and study here and for those whose lives the war turned upside-down. We are the university: students, academics, employees. Sympathetic and helpful beings. The following enumeration is but a mere fraction of the activities which Palacký University has been doing to help Ukraine.

UP created **SPECIAL WEBPAGES** to keep everyone informed on what was going on. At the same time, they have served as a bulletin board for offering aid or asking for help. Trilingual: Czech, English, and Ukrainian.

In the Armoury, the **UP VOLUNTEERING CENTRE** established a contact point which coordinated offers of help. Seven hundred volunteers signed up to interpret, provide psychological help, babysit, and help with schooling. A special telephone hotline and e-mail address were also set up.

UP supports students and workers impacted in various ways by the war in Ukraine. Students were offered a **SPECIAL STIPEND** of 10,000 CZK (€400) which they could also reapply for, and employees were offered interest-free loans, among other things. During April, students impacted by the war were also given meals free at UP dining halls.

The Faculty of Education created a **SPECIAL TEACHING AID FOR CHILDREN** called *The Drawing Notebook*. It is available in Czech and Ukrainian versions in print and free online downloads. It is intended primarily for kindergarteners and young pupils who can write and draw their ideas into it, capturing their joys and fears in an artistic way.

VOLUNTEERS from UP, mainly students, actively engaged in work at the Regional Assistance Centre for Aid to Ukraine, where they have logged almost 10,000 hours.

In Olomouc students directly escaping the war in Ukraine found a temporary home. For example, seven students were given a three-month **ERASMUS+** work stay. They worked in the organisation team of Academia Film Olomouc, at the Faculty of Arts, the Archdiocesan Charity Olomouc, in the Toma Olomouc firm, etc.

Several dozen refugees – students, academics, and their families – found **ACCOMMODATION** at university dormitories.

UP opened **SEVERAL LANGUAGE COURSES**. At the Faculty of Arts in cooperation with the Labour Office, Czech was taught to Ukrainian refugees, and the Faculty of Medicine and Dentistry offered Czech for Foreigners courses with an emphasis on healthcare fields at University Hospital Olomouc. And the Faculty of Arts offered free courses in English to Ukrainian teenagers.

UP announced the public **FUND TO HELP UKRAINE** to help students and employees who study and work in Olomouc who have found themselves in difficult life situations due to the war. There are more than 160 Ukrainian students and employees at UP.

Movement and sport are important for children. This is why AC BALUO offered the Marmots in Motion **REGULAR SPORT PROGRAMME** for Ukrainian children aged 5 to 12.

The interactive university museum Fort Science is also helping. One example was an **ONLINE DATABASE** of organisations who offer leisure time activities for Ukrainian families.



Many debates and discussions took place at the university on **UKRAINIAN THEMES**, whose guests were journalists, political scientists, historians, lawyers, etc. Ukrainian students also took part, sharing their views on the situation.

A “**UKRAINIAN LIBRARY**” was established especially for children and adults fleeing the war. It is located in the Armoury Library at the main loans desk. So far it houses forty books in Ukrainian which UP has purchased.

SEVERAL COLLECTIONS were immediately taken up at the university. One of them at the Faculty of Arts was intended for the university in Chernivtsi, where a full truckload of boxes with medicines, sleeping bags, extension cords, torches, batteries, canned goods, and other necessities for people who found refuge from the war at the university was delivered. Another material collection was organised by the Sts Cyril and Methodius Faculty of Theology, which in addition to material aid also collected CZK 70,000 (€2850) during three days, from which were bought medicines, food, down blankets, sleeping bags, and other needed goods. And a car packed with donated necessities left from the Faculty of Science for Ukraine.

At the beginning of the war, the entire UP Student Club was filled with a **COLLECTION OF ART SUPPLIES, TOYS**, teddy bears, dolls, and pastels for children who went through the Regional Centre for Aid to Ukraine. Part of the collection went to Olomouc primary schools where adaptation groups for Ukrainian children were started. Stuffed animals cannot stop tanks, but at least they can help heal children’s wounded souls.

A number of **CULTURAL EVENTS AND CONCERTS TO HELP UKRAINE** have been held. For example, art students at the Faculty of Education held the event Art for UKR, where donated student artworks were sold to benefit refugees.

The Faculty of Law also offered **HELP TO UKRAINIAN REFUGEES**, opening an online legal advice centre for them. People can write questions to the special e-mail address legal.help@upol.cz. Advice is free and student volunteers are taking part.



Fort Science as training centre for science communication and popularisation

At Fort Science, they work as lecturers and edutainers; they entertain and educate visitors to the interactive exhibitions, as well as lead informal education programmes for school groups, science clubs and camps, and science shows. They devise and implement new exhibits and write articles and scientific papers on educational methods of the future, inspired by their work in this centre for science popularisation at the UP Faculty of Science.

Since its opening, hundreds of UP students have been involved in Fort Science's activities. They get part-time jobs and internships, but also opportunities for further education and self-realisation. The motivational and educational project Fort Science Academy (FSA) enables them to prepare the content of the educational centre; for instance, thanks to geology student Michaela Hašková, a unique model of a volcano was created in the Living Water exhibition, and Ondřej Biemann from the Department of Geography presented a research game called City of Knowledge. "I like the concept of city adventure games, so I made up my own version located in my beloved Olomouc. I was inspired by the Amazing Race game show and the phenomenon of geocaching. My goal was to create a science game in which our visitors can test their knowledge, skills, logical thinking, and spatial orientation," said Biemann.

While some students come up with exhibits or educational programmes, others focus on leisure activities. Chemistry teacher Zuzana Brabcová laid her bets on science clubs for children aged 6 to 9. "For me, the FSA programme is a great opportunity to contribute a part of myself to Fort Science. I could hardly refuse such an opportunity to apply knowledge from the chemistry which I study together with my

favourite creative activities," said the talented student. She feels greatly rewarded by the enthusiastic reactions of children who are awed by the conducted experiments and by the compliments of their happy parents. This commentary on social media says it all: "My wife and I are incredibly excited about the performance of Ms Brabcová; we're considering enrolling into her courses for non-traditional students. Her enthusiasm, humour, and commentary are what they call education through play. The kids must absolutely adore her!"

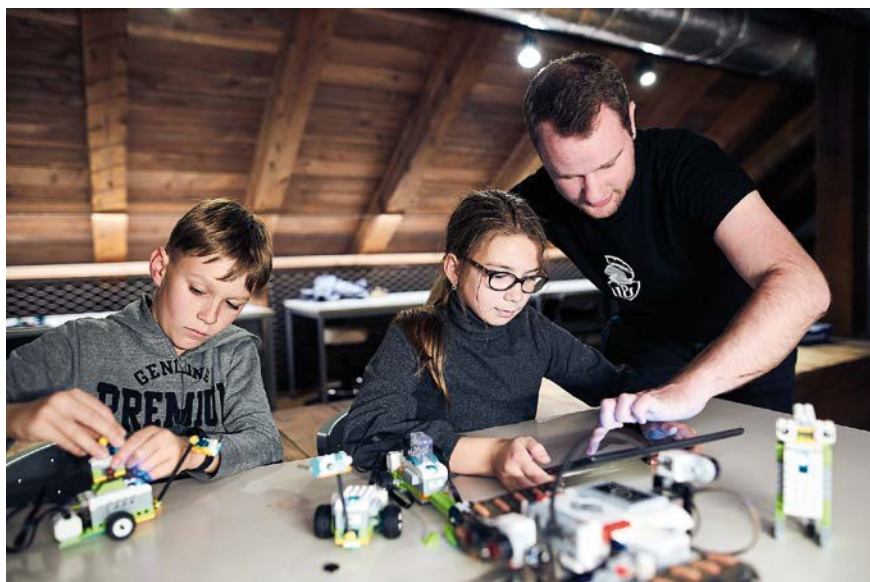
University students thus have turned out to be a needed skilled workforce for Fort Science; however, they are also a driving force for its future development. Today, the former munitions depot serves not only as a social centre fulfilling the university's third role of social outreach but also as a training centre for the communication and popularisation of science.

"We knew from the beginning that in order to breathe life into Fort Science, we had to build an organisation based on university culture. That we had to win people's hearts and build a community sharing the vision of a science popularisation centre. So we applied the principles of student organisations and built our own on the energy of the students and their passion for the cause. We've had the same experience at the Academia Film Olomouc (AFO) festival," said Matěj Dostálek, Fort Science Director.

Fort Science, a/k/a the Interactive Science Centre at the UP Faculty of Science, also publishes articles on science communication and non-formal education. In recent years, its staff also published two interactive textbooks for primary schools. "The unique format of a science learning centre, connected to the university, has a huge potential for synergy. In addition to popu-

larising academic research and university ideas in general, we work with students who learn how to communicate science in practice here and who seek new challenges in pedagogy and didactics. They are often students of educational programmes," explained Roman Chvátal, Fort Science Programme Director. "On the basis of their activities here, several Master's theses have been produced. They utilise the potential and capacities of the centre; thousands of pupils from kindergartens, primary and secondary schools visit us every year. This is an ideal target group for both qualitative and quantitative research," added Chvátal, who is also a PhD student at the Department of Experimental Physics, UP Faculty of Science.

A series of workshops on science communication and popularisation is also available for UP students and employees. One of the workshops was led by chemist Michael Londesborough. Director Dostálek envisions further integration with the university curriculum in the future of Fort Science. "Students involved in educational programmes already receive credits for teaching practice; we have also launched an Interactive Course in Fort Science, which focuses on the practical communication of science," he said, adding that they would like to deepen the integration of the natural sciences disciplines and develop interfaculty and interdisciplinary collaboration. Under the auspices of Fort Science, a study programme SCIENCE could be established one day, which would educate not only prospective teachers but also guides and other staff in non-formal education institutions. He believes that this is the future of the educational system as it will help introduce modern trends in teaching and increase the quality and employability of UP graduates.



What is Fort Science Academy?

FSA is a motivational and educational programme for UP students and staff. It provides methodological support and mentoring in non-formal education and science popularisation and communication.

The programme consists of courses, workshops, career counselling, and internships. It is organised by Fort Science, the science popularisation centre at the UP Faculty of Science in cooperation with the UP Career Centre and the UP Endowment Fund.

All activities employ the infrastructure and facilities of Fort Science. Apart from courses, lectures, and workshops, students also qualify in (non-) educational training linked directly to interactive exhibitions and non-formal education programmes for kindergartens and primary and secondary schools. The programme is part of the EU-funded project "Development of R&D capacities" at Palacký University Olomouc.



Doors to broader international collaboration opened thanks to Aurora

Palacký University Olomouc achieved significant success at the spring meeting of universities comprising Aurora. UP, formerly an associate member of the Aurora European Universities Alliance, has become a full member of the global university consortium Aurora Network at the meeting held in the first half of May in Innsbruck. This gives UP the opportunity to participate in decision-making and closer cooperation within this university network.

The Aurora Network focuses on fulfilling Aurora's global mission, which reaches beyond the borders of Europe and the initiatives of European universities. It is primarily concerned with international aid and collaboration with non-European partners, especially in education and research.

The fact that UP has become a full member is recognition of the transformative

journey the school has made since joining Aurora in 2020. "We are very pleased with the successful work of the entire team of Palacký University, thanks to which we have achieved full membership in the Aurora Network after a year and a half of intensive collaboration with the universities in the Aurora Alliance. It will enable us to fully utilise the potential of our university and become global leaders in innovative education, research, and sustainable growth," said Michal Malacka, Vice-Rector for Strategy and Regional Affairs.

At the meeting in Innsbruck, UP also agreed on creating an innovative European Master's programme, Digital Society & Global Citizenship, with the Aurora partner institutions. "The fact that we can be at the forefront of the creation of a new European study programme does not hap-

pen every day. Six universities are currently working together on it, and it is a great opportunity for us to prove what we can do," said Vit Zouhar, Vice-Rector for Education.

The representatives of the universities also devoted their attention to Ukraine. Tetyana Kaganovska, Rector of the V.N. Karazin Kharkiv National University, joined the meeting to personally inform them about the situation in her homeland.

Sustainable development is also at the heart of all the universities involved, and it was dealt with at the meeting in Austria. "We suggested that each university should calculate its CO₂ emissions, put the Aurora Travel Code into practice, and define and publish at least three goals from the eight areas listed in the Sustainable Campus Action Plan," said Zuzana Huřková, UP Sustainable Development Coordinator.



text: Ivana Pustějovská
photos: Jakub Čermák

interview

A portrait of a woman with reddish-brown hair and glasses, wearing a blue long-sleeved shirt with a white graphic of a dandelion seed head with musical notes. The background is a light blue wall with a repeating pattern of musical notes. A green plant is visible on the right side.

Lucie Brulíková: Chemistry is pure beauty

What is beautiful to you? A painting, a dress, a woman, a man... The possibilities are endless. But it would never occur to me that chemistry could be beautiful. Yet “beauty” is one of the words used most often by Lucie Brulíková when talking about her field. During her interview, the scientist from the Palacký University Faculty of Science was so compelling that in a just a few minutes even a person who could barely remember the chemical patterns of H₂O and CO₂ was enthralled. No wonder that she runs her own research group, is researching the possibilities of new drugs, and on top of all that she helps nurture young scientific talents.

— When did you discover the “beauty” of chemistry?

It was definitely in the second year of my Master’s studies, when I began to work on my thesis with Prof Jan Hlaváč at the Department of Organic Chemistry. From the very beginning I was awed by the beauty of organic reactions. Just think of it: you have some compounds, solids or liquids, you mix them, heat them, or cool them, a certain reaction takes place, and then you have to analyse what actually transpired. The beauty is in discovering the bases of these reactions. That’s what excited me about organic chemistry. And if the reaction does not turn out as planned, it’s still interesting, because then you have to figure out what happened, the reasons it didn’t turn out the way you planned.

— If you say so... But still, I would expect that you know when you mix A and B and add C, then you’ll get ABC. That’s a given.

Not at all – surprisingly, it’s not a given. It ought to be. According to the theoretical knowledge which we have, your A and B must do exactly what we expect of them. But things happen which we often do not understand, and so we must shed light on them. For example, we can discover an entirely new mechanism of organic reaction, or can prepare a completely new substance.

— So chemists are often surprised?

I’m often surprised. For example, I come up with some reaction of which I am certain will take place, 100%: it will be simple, clear. Then perhaps I realise that even though the reaction is taking place, we’re not getting a pure version of the substance desired from the reaction mixture, there is a problem isolating it. Or you get the substance, but you find it’s very unstable. Or the reaction takes place in a completely different way than we expected. You can be surprised every day.

— You began as an organic chemist, but later you began to dedicate

yourself to medicinal chemistry.

What does that involve?

Above all, it’s necessary to delve into more fields than one. In medicinal chemistry, we try to invent new drugs which would be more effective against a certain disease than the current ones. In general, in medicinal chemistry it is important to understand that during treatment of any kind of disease the human body is at work, that the processes are taking place on the cellular level, and the question is whether we are able to influence these processes. So you have to have a knowledge of not only organic chemistry, but also cellular biology, biochemistry, etc.

— You are currently focusing on anti-tuberculosis drugs – aren’t there enough of them already?

There are drugs for tuberculosis – the oldest have been approved for more than forty years, while the latest operate on an entirely new mechanism. Nevertheless, the problem is – and not only with tuberculosis – that bacteria are evolving which are resistant to the drugs currently in use. Another problem with tuberculosis is the treatment itself, which is usually quite demanding and lengthy. With resistant strains, it can easily last up to two years. With sensitive strains, treatment is shorter, but even that usually lasts at least six months. During the entire course of treatment, a whole slew of anti-tuberculosis drugs are applied, often in various combinations. For these reasons the problem was of interest to me, and I decided to focus my own research on it. Plus, I had a personal reason. My granny had tuberculosis and she underwent treatment sometime in the nineteen-fifties, when the options were limited, so they had to make a radical intervention: they operated on her and removed one lung. And this family experience with the limitations of medicine motivated me to find new options of how to reduce the treatment period – as well as the amount of chemicals a person needs to swallow.

— Is it likely that your research will lead to a new drug?

Good question. The development of a single medicine from the discovery of its effects to the moment when it is released on the market usually takes about fifteen years, they say. Right now, I am not able to imagine that I am present at the creation of a new drug. But I don’t know what the future will bring. We have some nice results, some of our substances display very decent activity, and are actually in the more advanced phases of biological testing. But this is still basic screening, which will only show whether it makes sense to continue working with these substances. We’ve made a good start; how it will turn out is something that I can’t tell you at present.

— Your doctoral advisor was probably the most famous Czech scientist, chemist Antonín Holý, who personally discovered a number of the antiviral compounds used in the treatment of HIV/AIDS, hepatitis B, and so on. So how is it that it’s not so possible?

Prof Holý during his life really did put several new drugs, including antivirals, on the market, and he is my model and inspiration. One day I would like to achieve what he did. It depends a lot however upon many factors. The first is the need for effective cooperation between chemists and biologists. In this respect I think that I have found a great workplace partner in Belgium, which is testing our anti-tuberculosis drugs. The Covid pandemic put the brakes on this cooperation somewhat; nevertheless, we’re now getting back on track. And the most fundamental thing is luck. You have to have a lot of luck to choose the right path out of so many.

— Who is needed more, the “scientific workers” who go to the lab every day, or strong personalities?

You need both. At the start of every project there is a person with a good idea, one who is capable of discovering something. Obviously, it’s not in the powers of one person to realise all those ideas. That is why you need lab workers, who will carry out the planned experiments in a practical way. You need a person who, while it wasn’t their original idea, knows exactly how to do what you need.

— Today you run your own research group and teach. How important is the role of a mentor, who gives you not only opportunity, but also shares their experience?

I have to mention Prof Hlaváč again, whom I still call “my boss”, even if he no longer is. He really helped me a lot, in various phases of my professional development: he led my Master’s thesis, he was a consultant on my dissertation. Before I was on maternity leave, I worked in his research group. During maternity leave, he gave me the possibility to spend time in the lab and to lecture. And the biggest step was that he made it possible for me to start my own research group. He believed in me, that I could run it, and he gave me confidence. That kind of support is incredibly important.

— When you decided to risk it all and go your own way, what was the first thing that got in your way?

At the beginning, I was very naïve. I thought that I would come up with some kind of revolutionary idea, that everyone would support me, and enthusiastically give me money. I was shocked when I found out how difficult it was – and is – to get a grant. Then,

Lucie Brulíková (b. 1980)

A graduate of the Master's programme at the UP Faculty of Science and the doctoral programme at the Charles University Faculty of Science in Prague, both in organic chemistry. During her doctoral studies, she had a research stay in Denmark within the Sixth Framework Program of the Marie Curie Host Fellowships. After her doctoral studies, she worked at the University of Notre Dame (USA). In 2019, she received a UP Junior Grant, which helped her launch her own research group at the Department of Organic Chemistry, UP Faculty of Science. She focuses on organic chemistry, specifically the development of new anti-tuberculosis drugs. She is a member of the Czech Chemical Society and the American Chemical Society.



I was convinced that all you need is determination, an idea, and diligence. Now I know not even that is enough.

— At university you received a Junior Grant, i.e. money for research, which is one way schools support gifted and talented scientists. Is it necessary in the sciences to be talented?

Not according to me, because I don't think I have talent.... Seriously. I'm not sure what to call it. A person has to have some natural ability in them or a talent for "grasping things". But in my opinion, it's mostly about diligence and patience, the willingness to learn new things and to work in a team. I don't consider myself a talented scientist, I've always been more the person with their nose to the grindstone. That's the way I was brought up, I grew up in a village, one of four siblings, and our parents always insisted on hard work and self-reliance. And when it's work you like... Before I went on maternal leave, I was able to work up to fourteen hours a day in the lab, and I was completely content.

— You lead young scientists. Do you ever get jealous that a student is possibly more gifted than you?

I'm definitely not jealous. I consider it a success when I have mentored a student who will be a better scientist than myself. And I'm incredibly proud to show someone a path where they will be able to work on themselves and arrive at a much better position than where I am. It's not jealousy,

it's pride. For the students and for myself – that I was there at their start.

— People talk a lot about the popularisation of science, how to speak about it, how to explain it. Is that an important theme for you?

Very. When I was in high school, I wasn't interested in chemistry, maths, or physics. I didn't have a teacher who could captivate my interest in these disciplines. That's often the case. But it is really important to show students the beauty of those generally less-liked subjects. To show them that it's not about rote memorisation, that in every scientific discipline there are laws, which once we understand them, everything turns out to be actually very simple.

— What qualities does it take to be a good scientist? Speak now to those students who are considering the scientific path.

In my personal opinion, it's necessary above all to have the courage to come up with your own idea and try to get it across. Of course, you need patience. Great patience. It can happen that even though you come up with an idea, you believe in it, it looks promising theoretically, you then find out that the reality is different. So you have to go back and try again and again and again.

— How do you deal with failure?

When I was a student and wanted to have a lot of results in my dissertation, coming to grips with reality was much worse. Now it

doesn't bother me. Failure is an integral part of my professional life, failure is a part of science. You have to learn to deal with it.

— I think I might get frustrated by it. What motivates you?

I love my work, I love the diversity: sometimes I teach, sometimes I'm in the lab, I write articles, I invent new projects. What's more I have a great team. And every day, there is something new. The diversity motivates me.

— You research, teach, run a team, you have a family. What is the most important thing a person, man or woman, can do to manage so many roles?

The most important thing is to first put your house in order. Figure out the priorities, what you want and are able and willing to sacrifice for them. You have to choose whether you want a career or a family more; or like me, choose a happy medium. But that only works if you have a strong family environment. In our case, we have awesome grannies who help out a lot and cared for our son when I, still on maternity leave, would go "play" in the lab or lecture. And mostly, I'm lucky to have the support of a great husband who is willing to adjust to all contingencies in order to keep our household running.

— Isn't your partner a chemist, too?

No, he's an IT specialist, and I'm glad we're in different fields. I couldn't have chosen better.

Academia Film Olomouc: Science on screen

Films, filmmakers, fans. . . finally! The 57th Academia Film Olomouc (AFO) festival of popular science run by Palacký University took place in person this year, with 6000 accredited visitors who could choose from among 250 events in a programme full of films, lectures, workshops, concerts, and exhibitions – including activities for schools and families.

Films and their creators competed in several categories at the festival. “The main prize in the International Competition went to the documentary *Fathom*. Director Drew Xanthopoulos followed two scientists involved in researching whale communication. The film gives equal weight to research in the field, the communication of new scientific knowledge, and the lives of the scientists themselves who have dedicated their professional careers

to this topic,” said the main festival programmer, Ondřej Kazík.

UP premiered its own film at the festival, *Black Czechs*, a unique documentary capturing the unknown fates of about five dozen Namibian children who were sent to Czechoslovakia in the 1980s to be educated. Martin Müller of UP filmed their difficult life stories; the film was scripted by cultural anthropologist Kateřina Mildnerová of the UP Faculty of Arts. *Black Czechs* was produced in cooperation with Czech Television.

AFO regularly awards its prestigious Prize for Significant Contribution to the Popularisation of Science. This year it went to Czech Television moderator David Stach. “Thank you very much, not only on behalf of myself, but also the whole team, without whom no broadcast would be pos-

sible, not to mention the science editors. Thanks also should go to AFO – not only for the award, but primarily because you help people to think, you give them the opportunity to dive deeper into the world of science, and allow them to see the world differently, through the eyes of science,” Stach said.

After two years of being online, the festival took place in person with the help of 230 people, most of whom were university students. “I admit that I had my reservations while preparing the festival as to whether AFO could return to its former glory after the two-year pause. But the screening rooms were full, the debates after the films were incredibly inspiring, and the guests from all over the world kept telling me how great it is here,” said Eva Navrátilová, AFO Director.



CENA ZA VÝZNAMNÝ
POPULARIZACI VĚDY –

OUTSTANDING CONTRIBUTION
COMMUNICATION OF SCIENCE



UP inaugurated elected deans of four faculties

The newly elected deans of four UP faculties were inaugurated. Jan Stejskal (Faculty of Arts), Martin Kubala (Faculty of Science), Vojtech Regec (Faculty of Education), and Michal Šafář (Faculty of Physical Culture) received their deans' insignia from the hands of Rector Martin Procházka at the Archbishop's Palace. The Sts Cyril and Methodius Faculty of Theology also elected a new dean; Vít Hušek is supposed to take up his office in September. (map)



Faculty of Science and Faculty of Health Sciences won the blood donation contest



Almost 105 litres of blood and 39 litres of blood plasma were donated by UP students and employees as part of the faculty contest in blood donation, which was organised by students of the Faculty of Health Sciences under the motto "Roll up your sleeves" for the second time. The Faculty of Science donated the highest volume of blood, while the organising FHS won in the percentage of donors among students. "My thanks go to the students who organised this competition. The winners are all of those who took part, and especially the patients whose lives can be saved by blood donation," said FHS Dean Jiří Vévoda when accepting the trophy. (vim)

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Nanomaterial saves money and electricity

The sun instead of electric furnaces; a cheap nanomaterial instead of gold. This is, in a nutshell, the principle behind a new process that can speed up and make cheaper the production of a wide range of pharmaceuticals, chemicals, plastics, or dyes. The technology is based on a nanomaterial developed by scientists from the Czech Advanced Technology and Research Institute (CATRIN) at Palacký University Olomouc and the Centre of Energy and Environmental Technologies (CEET) of VSB-TUO, in cooperation with colleagues in Greece and Germany. The composition of the nanomaterial resembles common, naturally occurring minerals, yet it can replace the noble metals used today. It exhibits a number of unique properties when interacting with sunlight. Potential investors have already expressed their interest in the material. The discovery was recently published in the journal *Nature Nanotechnology*. (srd)



Two new titles in the UP Memory series

The university's flagship book series presenting autobiographies of prominent academics associated with UP has two worthy additions. UP Press first published a book of memoirs by Zdeněk Kučera, a leading representative of Czech abstract art of the 1960s and a long-time teacher and head of the Department of Art Education at the UP Faculty of Arts. In April, UP Press presented joint memoirs by Kristina Fialová and Ingeborg Fialová-Fürstová, whose student and professional lives are connected with the UP Faculty of Arts. Both books are exceptional in their form. Kučera's *Past Life: Memoirs of an Outsider* consists of a collection of notes from the artist's estate, supplemented with reminiscences of his friends and colleagues and a comprehensive pictorial appendix recapitulating the artist's unique geometric and constructivist artwork. The memoirs of the mother and daughter Fialas, entitled *Semper sint in flore* ("fiala" means "violet" in Czech), offer interweaving memories of two women who contributed to the development of Polish and German studies in Olomouc. (tof)



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Faculty of Law hosted the largest international meeting of municipal police in Central Europe



For the fourth time, the UP Faculty of Law co-organised the International Conference of Municipal Police. Two hundred participants addressed traditional topics as well as current ones related to the refugee crisis. Representatives of municipal and city police forces, representatives of state administration and municipalities, the integrated rescue system, security forces, and academia met at the faculty for three days. Part of the accompanying programme was designed for students, and for the first time also the public. (eha)

Aneta Zavadilová received the Křesadlo Award

Aneta Zavadilová, student of the study programme “Teaching primary school classes 1 through 5 and special education” at the Faculty of Education, became one of the winners of the 2021 Křesadlo Award in the Olomouc Region. The award is an acknowledgement of those who selflessly give their time and skills to help others. Zavadilová has been active in Caritas Litovel; via the faculty she helps families with children who have serious diagnoses. (vim)



Sustainable Palacký group tidies Olomouc



The group regularly participates in the Clean Up Czechia challenge. During the main spring cleaning day, which took place this year on Saturday, 2 April, its members were able to collect 150 kg of rubbish along the railroad tracks in the Olomouc - Nový Svět quarter. (mz)

Students teach Czech to children in the USA

UP has extended its cooperation with the University of Minnesota, which was initiated by Vice-Rector Vít Procházka and Eva Janebová, who have been on study stays there. In the spring, the representatives of UP faculties met partners from Minnesota and discussed possible joint projects. One of the activities launched was an online Czech language course for children of Czechs living in the States. “The focus is mainly on conversation. All the children in the course are bilingual, speaking Czech with one parent. We dedicate the lessons to different topics, giving space for fluent expression. At the same time, we try to help them expand their vocabulary including useful phrases; a very ‘subtle’ grammar practice is included, especially endings of nouns and adjectives, which are a bit of a problem. Our goal is to create an open environment for children to communicate in Czech with someone outside the family, and thus maintain the teenagers’ interest in the Czech language,” said Lenka Nosková, a PhD student at the Faculty of Education. (vim)

UP teams did well in the University Basketball League

The first ever University Basketball League, organised by the Czech University Sports Association and the Czech Basketball Federation, went more than well for UP representatives. The men won their category, beating Masaryk University by more than 30 points in the final game, while the women finished second. The final tournament of the league took place in the UP Sports Hall. UP did not do badly in ice hockey either: the UP HC players fought bravely in the play-off of the university league, and even though they did not qualify for the final, they gave their Prague rivals a hard time. (vim)



photos: V. Duda, E. Hrudníková, cz.basketball, M. Višňa, M. Pykal, J. Čermák, Knights of Malta, Sustainable Palacký

No hesitation: UP students help Ukrainian refugees

The day war broke out in Ukraine was a day that changed a lot of things for students at university in Olomouc. Many put a hold on their studies in order to help. “When I got the info that they were looking for volunteers to babysit, I didn’t hesitate. The UP Volunteering Centre sent me to the Regional Assistance Centre for Aid to Ukraine (KACPU),” says Pavla Wagnerová.

For the first few days, the Centre was located in humble quarters in the building of the Regional Administration Office in Olomouc, in front of the train station. Although Pavla came to babysit, she found out that it wouldn’t be so easy. “There was nothing there to entertain the kids with,” adds the future art and maths teacher. Soon however, she was swept up in the wave of solidarity. “Among the first to help with goods were the regional office employees, who spontaneously brought toys.

Firefighters helped too, and I brought stuff from home. A great help was the toy drive which Palacký University organised,” the UP volunteer said, describing the situation of the centre’s first days of operation and its kids’ corner.

Babysitting soon changed into the position of coordinator, and instead of toys, she was in charge of meals for refugees, coordinating the canteen, and even interpreting services – which have been crucial for the centre’s operations. Every day has been unique for her, and depends on the possibilities of aid.

As the number of refugees increased, so did caring for them. The kids’ corner was relocated to the former Haná Barracks in the town centre, as was all of KACPU. Today Pavla works as a shift manager and has several colleagues, students, in the team who can take over from her. For example

Jane Kotrášů, a journalism student at the UP Faculty of Arts, or Pavla Macečková, a student of psychology at the same faculty, who also does crisis intervention at the psychosocial aid division of the centre.

“When refugees come to us, it’s their fourth station, after arranging a visa, health insurance, and everything required at the Labour Office. At KACPU they receive information on schools, on leisure time activities for children and adults, on language courses, legal and psychological aid. If they need it, they also get humanitarian aid, i.e. hygiene and food packages. We also react to their individual situation, what they’ve lived through, how they’ve handled it. When we see someone who is troubled, we try to provide psychological first aid. If interested, we can help them find proper care, we can connect them to other professionals,” Macečková explains.

Together with Jane Kotrášů, Pavla Wagnerová, and law student Samuel Šimek, who works in the centre as a worker coordinator, they concur: in its two months of operations, a firm order has been established at KACPU. And the volunteer positions have been better filled. In this setting, you can now devote time and attention to individual needs and specific cases and problems.

“I think that we are one of the centres that are special, in that we are able to take care of people’s most specific needs. For example, we had a cancer patient here for whom we found help. We help people whose bags got left in Poland, we’ve helped find professional help, we help wean people from their alcohol addiction, and once even helped a woman transport her cat from Ukraine,” the students enumerated. They’re ready to help as long as help is needed.



Text: Milada Křížková Hronová
photos: Betty Fahnerová

experience



On the railway line between war and life in peace

Almost sleepless and greatly exhausted, physically and mentally. This description has fit them all since the war in Ukraine started – the refugees in evacuation trains and to some extent the volunteers who are there to help. Michaela Magdalena Kočovská, a student of German and Russian philology at the UP Faculty of Arts, helped as an interpreter on the very first trains.

“On Friday around midnight, I boarded a RegioJet evacuation train in Olomouc. We arrived in Przemyśl, Poland about seven am. Then a bus came to take us closer to the Ukrainian border, to the centre of Kor-

czowa, where refugees from all parts of Ukraine were gathering. People were resting up in a huge station hall, they could eat, drink, and pick something out of donated clothing. The hall was also the place where the refugees would find out where they would be going. They were offered transport to various countries,” said Kočovská.

The students’ basic task was to inform people about the possibilities of where they could take refuge in Czechia, and to explain and interpret in every “free” moment.

“Those who decided to travel to the Czech Republic took their bags and sometimes even pets onto special busses to Prze-

myśl, where they could get on the evacuation trains,” recalled the volunteer about the beginnings of their mission. The train to the Czech Republic left on Saturday, after 10 pm, stopping in Ostrava, Olomouc, Pardubice, and Prague.

For Michaela and her colleague – there were just the two interpreters on a trainload of one hundred fifty refugees – the work did not let up. They even helped serve dinner. And again gave explanations and responded to questions. During the trip she had to persuade refugees to disembark elsewhere than Prague, as its housing capacity was already full. →



“And yet no one had any idea where exactly housing possibilities might be found. The situation was constantly in flux, so stressful. Constant telephoning to ask where there might be space for refugees. You’re transporting people but you don’t know where to. You have to find out everything on the way.”

They got off the train a little after 6 am in Olomouc on Sunday. After reaching their destination, she knew she would volunteer again. But the situation escalated: she experienced a cyber-attack on Poland, which disrupted part of the infrastructure there for a while.

“Crowds of totally exhausted people wanted to squeeze into our train. It didn’t matter to them where it was going or whether there were any seats. People were panicking so much that they were incapable of rational thought. They were crying, yelling, fighting each other. Survival of the fittest. Human dignity was being painfully trampled upon. It was a horrible demonstration of what fear and war can do to people,” reminisced the UP student about the months that changed her life.

She hasn’t been able to catch up with her study obligations. She keeps working as an interpreter for the Regional Assistance Centre to Aid Ukraine, mainly in social and psychological assistance.

“It’s as if all these destinies were passing through me. And some of them stick. Such as the granny who told me how she had to spend endless hours in the cellar where all she could hear was screaming, crying, and the rumble of explosions. How a small child died right next to her in her mother’s arms. I was deeply moved by the story of a woman whose 19-year-old son decided to stay in Ukraine to defend his country, even though, in his mother’s words, until now the only gun he has held was a water pistol. It’s difficult to imagine the reality of a mother of three children from Mariupol who lost everything during the bombing of her homeland and who today directs her prayers to God to never allow something so terrible to happen again.”



The images selected by the editors were taken as part of the Humanitarian Train for Ukraine initiative. Their author, UP Faculty of Arts student Betty Fahnerová, set out with a camera to record the story of one of the evacuation trains.

text: Eva Hrudníková
photos: Michala Plachká archives

graduate

A portrait of Michala Plachká, a woman with long, wavy brown hair, smiling gently. She is wearing a red dress with black shoulder accents. Her hands are clasped in front of her. The background is a lush, green wall of various plants and ferns.

Michala Plachká: A lawyer not afraid of challenges



Michala Plachká (b. 1986)

She received her Master's in Law from the UP Faculty of Law. She has an LL.M. degree with high honours and professional certification in corporate law from the University of California Berkeley School of Law, where she focused mainly on corporate law and international transactions. In 2015 she passed the Czech bar and became an independent lawyer. She provides legal services in English and German as well as in Czech. In 2019 she founded the PURE Legal law office. Last autumn she was elected Vice-President of the Czech Bar Association for a term of four years.

It is impolite to ask a woman her age. But in the case of Michala Plachká, a graduate of the Olomouc Faculty of Law, that is essential information. Now in her thirty-fifth year, she has already accomplished enough for several lives. This Opava native has managed to study abroad; she also founded a successful law office, and since last October she is a Vice-President of the Czech Bar Association board of directors, plus a mother of five-year-old twins.

Ten years after graduating, and despite a heavy workload, she says that law continues to fascinate her.

Her path in studying law was predetermined by family tradition. "For a while I rebelled. I saw at home how time-consuming it was, and how stressful. I originally wanted to go a different path. I was interested in journalism, in languages," she remembers. "But now it makes the most sense to me. I can help people, influence things around me, and take part in interesting challenges."

Before entering the faculty of law, she lived for a year in Texas, where she studied at LBJ Early College High School. "I stayed with a family with Czech roots. They were very religious and did not allow me the freedoms I had at home. On Sundays we went to church, every Friday we distributed food to the homeless. And though it took me a long time to get used to the different mentality and to the school, it was an incredibly interesting experience." The difficult year gave her more than one important life-long discovery. "In the end, I was able to manage even tasks which at first seemed so tough and horrendous. No need to panic! Divide your work into smaller tasks and try to simplify the individual steps."

She appreciates the demanding nature of her studies and the quality of the teachers at her alma mater. "There were many inspiring people at the faculty, for instance Filip Melzer and Renáta Šinová. I liked the way they were able to think in various contexts, how engagingly they could convey their knowledge. They motivated me to learn more and more." According to Plachká, student life is also good prep material for the work of a lawyer. With a smile she emphasises her ability to go day and night, manage a number of things simultaneously, work under pressure, and be prepared for almost anything.

Already as a first-year student at university, she was looking for part-time jobs and internships. She tried out work at a bailiff's office, a district court, a law firm. Her first employers were law firms in Vienna and Ostrava.

But not even a promising start to her career kept her from fulfilling her dreams – she returned to the USA to further her education. While working, she was able to

study at the University of California Berkeley School of Law, where she focused primarily on corporate law and international transactions. Her studies culminated in an LL.M. degree with professional certification in the field of corporate law.

Plachká speaks of her legal specialisation with enthusiasm. She has never looked back. "For example, as opposed to family law, corporate law is more divorced from personal emotions, and I like that. What is more, I enjoy operating in situations where you have to know how to persevere in what is still mostly a male arena," she explains. Similarly, advocacy was a clear choice for her.

Three years ago, together with some close lawyer friends, she founded the PURE Legal law office. And it is a success. Today they have branches in Ostrava and Opava, employ ten lawyers, and have won prestigious awards – they are among the recommended law offices in the competition 2021 Law Firm of the Year in three categories. "My colleagues and I see the awards mainly as an obligation to continue to provide the best work possible."

But that is by no means the sum total of Michala Plachká's accomplishments. Last year, the offer which elevated her to inner sanctum of the Czech Bar Association came as a complete surprise. "A group of young lawyers contacted me, they had decided to nominate a young candidate for the board, deciding the CBA should have younger representation and that instead of complaining, they wanted to do something about it for a change. I would never have thought of running for the board myself. Certainly not in this phase of my career. But their energy and their verve to make things better impressed me and I wanted to be part of it," she says. She won the election, and now she is one of four vice-presidents on the board. "It is a huge honour for me and a responsibility toward all those I wish to represent – the younger generation of lawyers, lawyers in outer regions, the Olomouc faculty, women, and lawyers who are working parents."

When Michala Plachká is asked to give students advice about how to get where she is in the field of law, it doesn't take her long to come up with an answer. "It's important in your studies to get hands-on experience, to try out various legal professions. To determine your strong points and weak points, to find out what interests you, and what you'd rather avoid. The employment possibilities are really huge. I think that everyone can find the right slot for themselves, even though it might not be the first one you take," adds the lawyer, who plays sports to clear her head of legal paragraphs, and most enjoys spending her free time with her children.

text: Martin Višňa
photo: Jakub Čermák

lifestyle



Tereza Nesvadbová (b. 2000)

A native of Olomouc, she is finishing her Bachelor's degree in radiological assistance at the UP Faculty of Health Sciences, and would like to continue in the Master's programme.

In radiology, she is most interested in nuclear medicine. She played basketball for OSK Olomouc, now she wears the uniform of UP SK Olomouc in the second league and in the regional division; she also represents UP in the Czech University Basketball League.

Basketball used to be my everything, but school is my priority now

Even bad things can be positive in a way. Tereza Nesvadbová from the UP Faculty of Health Sciences had to quit playing her favourite basketball for a while due to an injury, however the examinations she underwent helped her choose her field of study – radiological assistance. “I was regularly X-rayed and MRled. And I found those examinations intriguing. I realised I didn't really know anything about it, so I applied to this field of study,” she explains. During her studies she eventually returned to the basketball court. She plays for UP in the second league and was on the Palacký University team which won second place in the first year of the Czech University Basketball League.

“I started playing basketball in the first grade. And I gave it my all. I tried to attend every practice during the week as well as games on weekends; often even missing out on family celebrations. I let a lot of things slide in order to improve my basket-

ball and develop my talent. The greatest success was our second place at the Czech championship in 2014,” says the former OSK Olomouc girls' club player, whose role models were NBA stars like LeBron James and Kobe Bryant.

She was into basketball mainly because she loved playing it and had friends on the team. She did not have any ambitious goals such as becoming a member of the national team. However, she tried on the role of assistant coach. But then she had to take a break. “In 2017, I had my first injury, my first knee surgery, and during my senior year of secondary school I got injured again and had a second operation. That's when I decided I'd rather prioritize school. I graduated, enrolled at the Faculty of Health Sciences, and started playing again last autumn,” recalls Nesvadbová.

She became a member of the UP SK women's team in the second league as

well as of its B team in the regional division. At the same time, she put on the jersey of Palacký University in the first year of the Czech University Basketball League. “I fancy the idea of the university league very much, I'm glad they managed to put it together. Quite a few universities have joined the league, so it's nice to get to know girls from other schools; some of them also play in higher leagues. For example, Charles University, whom we lost to in the final, had players from the first league or the Czech Women's Basketball League, the highest league here. No wonder they are more experienced and more skilled,” adds the radiology assistance student, who has no difficulty combining sports with her demanding medical studies.

“It's important to know what comes first. I know I won't get any further in basketball, so I try to put school first. Luckily, I don't have to study too hard,” she smiles.

reflection

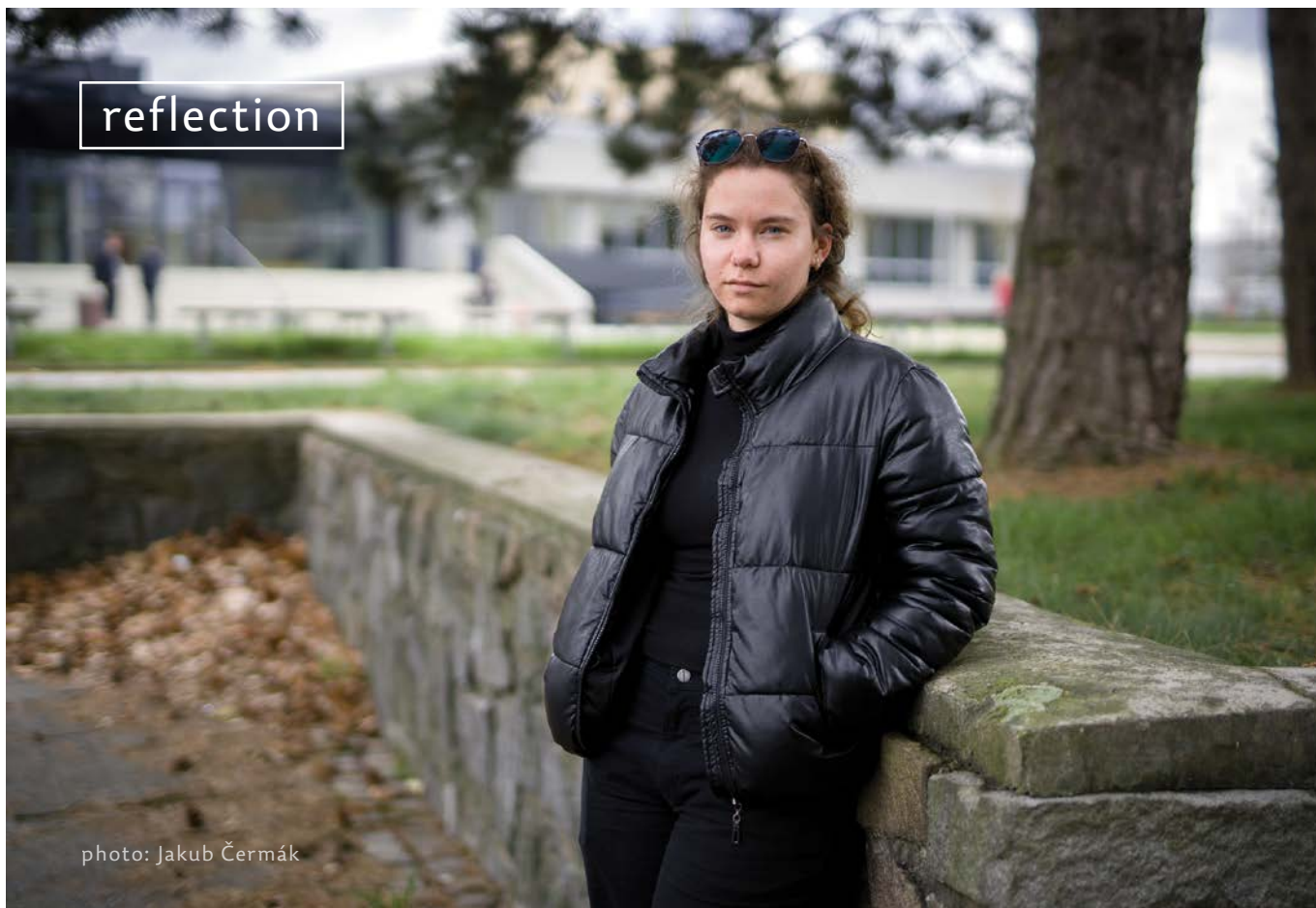


photo: Jakub Čermák

Anhelina Dirivko arrived in Olomouc at the beginning of March from Zaporizhzhia, Ukraine. She was driven from her hometown by Russian soldiers, fearing for her very life. The UP Faculty of Law was able to offer her a short-term study exchange that allows foreign students to study abroad under the Erasmus+ programme.

Доброго дня. Мене звати Ангеліна Дірявко. Я студентка Університету Палацького в Оломоуці, якій університет надав можливість продовжити навчання у скрутну для мого народу ситуацію.

Я вперше приїхала до Чеської Республіки місяць тому, і можу сказати, що перше враження було неоднозначне. Оскільки багато чого відрізняється від мого рідного міста та країни в цілому.

Тут я одразу побачила різницю менталітету у відношенні до людей, та простору навколо себе.

Це все мене дуже вразило та показало яким може стати наше суспільство.

Мені дуже сподобався громадський транспорт, який в порівнянні з моїм відрізняється тим, що має охайний вигляд, повну працездатність та ввічливих водіїв.

Навчання в Університеті Палацького в мене почалось із зустрічі з куратором на факультеті, який розповів мені про навчання, допоміг з вибором курсів та взагалі підтримав у даній ситуації.

Всі викладачі дуже ввічливі, доброзичливі та такі, що допоможуть у вирішенні будь-яких проблем у засвоєнні матеріалів курсів.

Мені дуже приємно те, що всі з ким я зустрічаюся намагаються мені допомогти та полегшити моє перебування тут.

Я дуже вдячна всім хто допомагає мені в цей час.

Hello. My name is Anhelina Dirivko. I'm a student at Palacký University Olomouc, which has enabled me to continue my studies in a situation that is very trying for my nation.

I came to the Czech Republic at the beginning of March. I admit that my first impression was somewhat ambiguous. So many things are different in Olomouc compared to my hometown and the country in general. Right away I was able to perceive a different mentality, a different approach to people, and a completely different environment than I was used to.

It impressed me a lot, and it made me realise what our society could be like one day.

A good example is the public transport here: your trams and buses, unlike ours, are always clean and arrive according to schedule, you can rely on them, and your drivers are very polite.

My studies at Palacký University started with a meeting with the officers at the International Relations Office at the Faculty of Law. They explained to me what the possibilities of study are here and helped me with my schedule and my choice of courses. Overall, they were very understanding and supportive.

I can say that all the teachers are extremely nice and kind. They are always there for me, helping me solve any problem I have in terms of mastering the curriculum.

I am so grateful to everyone who has made my stay here at the university easier and more enjoyable.

Let me say thank you all very much for helping me in this difficult situation.

Work on your weak points, advises sport psychologist Michal Vičar

Potential for future performance. That is the essence of talent in a nutshell. But as Michal Vičar from the Department of Recreation and Leisure Studies at the UP Faculty of Physical Education points out, when we are talking about talent in sport, it is not as simple a problem as it might initially seem.

— What is talent?

Talent has traditionally been seen as a collection of natural aptitudes which do not change over the course of one's life. But lately, there is a more dynamic concept of talent, according to which talent can evolve during the course of one's life, unexpectedly appear or disappear, and can be worked on. In this sense, talent includes not only aptitude – but also capability, proficiency, and other factors which determine our potential. In sport, these are physical requirements and psychological characteristics; in the wider context, the social background of the individual also plays a role. For example, if you come from a poor family, it's not easy to become a professional hockey player or golfer. The popularity of the sport in the given country is also important.

— Can't you beat the odds through hard work?

Hard work in sport definitely goes hand-in-hand with talent. Some writers even say that an athlete without drive is not a talent. The necessary amount of training however can differ – for example in gymnastics or figure skating, 14–16 years are required to arrive at the one's personal best, training on average of up to 18,000 hours. In some ball sports, 7000 hours are enough, and one arrives at one's peak later.

— How can one tell which children are most promising at which disciplines?

On the basis of measurements, we are able for example to predict what height a child will reach in adulthood, and then say certain sports depend on height at the professional level. But I would be very cautious about saying who is or is not talented at something. The likelihood of such predictions before puberty is low, plus there are a number of resulting consequences. One could be demotivated in the sense of “why work, when I have talent?”. It's better to evaluate by using “this worked, this didn't: let's try that again”.

— How can one work on talent, develop it?

In young children, all-round development of basic physical skills is important. The trend of recent years was early specialisation, when a child would work at a specific sport from an early age. That comes with the risk that the wrong sport was chosen; or the athlete over-trains, burns out, and ends their career prematurely. That's why I think that developing versatility comes first. In time, with age, the individual adds responsibility to their performance, and the role of parents and trainers should change rather into one of support. Without accepting responsibility for one's own development it is very difficult to reach the top. It's also good not to focus only on improving one's strong suits but also focus on one's weak points, otherwise they will always hinder performance and its development.

— What role do peers play?

If I have good friends on my team, I feel comfortable in that environment – I'm not just going there for the sport. It is motivational to share sport experience with someone or to continually one-up each other. I know athlete classmates who play together or against each other, and influence each other to such an extent that they create an entire, exceptional generation.



Michal Vičar (b. 1985)

Sport psychologist, teacher, musician, traveller. He graduated in psychology and sociology at the Masaryk University in Brno Faculty of Social Studies, and did his doctoral work at the UP Faculty of Physical Culture, where he works in the Department of Recreation and Leisure Studies. He is interested in identifying and developing sport talent and mental skills training, as well as themes connected to using movement in the great outdoors and adrenaline activities to further personal development and as therapy.

Maiales 1947

“One of the last remaining student May celebrations (Majáles) in the Czech Republic returns to Olomouc’s streets to celebrate its 10th anniversary,” say the UP Majáles webpages, post-Covid, adding “the 10th year of the UP Olomouc Majáles will take place from 24–25 May in the courtyard of the Olomouc Armoury, in the UP Arts Centre, and in Jazz Tibet Club.” Actually, the student celebrations called Majáles or Majálesy (originally a plural Latin adjective) started taking place in Olomouc much earlier; despite that according to the organisers of this year’s Majáles, “Olomouc’s UP Majáles in its current form has been taking place since 2010, when UP returned to the format of a student non-commercial and low-profile event”. However, two rare film documentaries which have been preserved prove otherwise.

This documentary film from 1947 with a running time of 5 minutes, 29 seconds is without credits, we do not know who made it; the title of the film favours the strict Latin form of the student May Day celebrations: *Maiales 1947*. The Majáles parade marched from the Town Hall through Ostružnická Street, headed by a large group of young women in folk costumes (parades of the time could not do without folk-costumed figureheads). The banners carried at the front of other groups in the parade inform the crowds of what those taking part are caricaturing: Professors led by a white-bearded senior in a wheelchair and the rector with an equally long beard; followed by fairly incompatible Lovers; followed by an allegory of human reproduction. Students of medicine predominate

in the parade, and parody individual clinics: patients in the psychological clinic are dressed in German uniforms and are led by Adolf Hitler holding a copy of *Mein Kampf*. One allegorical float shows a film being shot; another carries the banner UNITED SČM HAILS MAJÁLES (SČM = Czechoslovak Youth Union).

An event at the Sokol stadium (demolished in 1976) consisting of a relay race, a folk dancing demonstration, and a drama of hanging executions of collaborators with the Nazi Occupation which corresponded with reality – the Special People’s Court in Olomouc executed seven Czechs and thirty-seven Germans in the three years after the war. We have yet to identify the four men and one woman on the tribune (one of them is likely famed ophthalmologist Václav Vejvodský); newspaper reports of the 1947 Majáles do not list any names.

May Encyclopaedia

The Majáles in Olomouc on 11 May 1968 took place in the spirit of Prague Spring, as can be seen in the documentary film *Májová encyklopedie*, directed by Zdeněk Havlíček of the Ostrava studio of Czech Television, with a running time of 15 minutes, 37 seconds. After the opening shots, which document that during Majáles “everything is permitted”, we find ourselves in the swimming stadium, where the national Miss Academia ’68 contest is taking place. (Where are they now, those Misses of ’68? They were twenty-two at the time, they would be seventy-five today...) The crown was won by Vladimíra Václavíková, a student of the Building Faculty of Czech Technical University in Prague, who became Queen of Majáles. The jury foreman and King of May was writer Josef Škvorecký, who had recently been made president of the Society for the Rehabilitation

of the Life and Works of Jára (da) Cimrman (google it!), deciding “in my person to combine the functions hitherto considered incompatible, i.e. the function of king and the function of president”. In the shots of the jury we can spy writer Milan Kundera. Among the crowds we can also make out actress Iva Janžurová (whose twenty-seventh birthday fell on 19 May 1968) riding in a carriage, as well as then-current UP Rector mathematician Josef Metelka (who was forced to resign on 1 October 1969, replaced by a “Normalisation” rector, gynaecologist František Gazárek). One of the banners makes a reference to the newspaper *People’s Guard*, published by the district committee of the Czechoslovak Communist Party: “How can we make deadline, when there is no Red line? – *Guard* editors.” The Majáles Club of Engaged Red Riding Hoods was an easily-understood allusion to the political movement Club of Engaged Independents.

A carriage of young women in hussar uniforms arrives to take King of May Josef Škvorecký from the Palác Hotel, where he was staying, and accompanies him together with the Queen of May to the Olomouc Town Hall, where from the balcony the king spoke to a crowd numbering 25,000. The king’s speech has been preserved (QR code), and it concludes with the Majáles Monarchy promise: “... after the noted example of my hallowed line of Predecessors on their various and sundry Thrones, I remain verily convinced of Any Principles Whatsoever which have helped me Seize this Throne and permit me to forbear relinquishing the same for ever long as I may.” The other Majáles programme, including a race between angels on velocipedes (which resulted in heaps of fallen angels), took place at the Olomouc Spartakiad Stadium, which no longer exists.



The Professors – from the documentary *Maiales 1947*. State District Archives, Olomouc





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6 UP Anatomy Museum

12 UP Botanical Gardens

13 UP Education and Science Centre Park

14 UP EcoZoo

Indoors

- 1 Corpus Christi Chapel
- 2 University Arts Centre
- 3 Fort Science
- 4 UPoint
- 5 Foucault pendulum

Outdoors

- 7 City ramparts gardens
- 8 Geopark and flower meadow
- 9 Lookout terraces
- 10 Havel's Place
- 11 Murals on dorm buildings

Food and accommodation

- K Generála Svobody Dormitory
- F FreshUP bistros





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