

Annual Report - Czech Republic

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National Institute of Public Health

The Czech (formerly Czechoslovak) Section of Health Psychology was founded in 1988, originally as the Psychology of Healthy Life Section, and since 1990 as the Czech Health Psychology Section and as one of sections of the Czech-Moravian Psychological Association.

Elections

As the period of the current Committee of the Czech Section of Health Psychology (2004 – 2012) finished in 2012, the elections of the new Committee was initiated by the former Committee, and organized and implemented using an electronic vote by the Czech-Moravian Psychological Association.

Based on the results of the elections, the structure of the new Committee of the Czech Section of Health Psychology for the 2013 – 2020 period consists of the following Committee representatives and members:

Vladimír Kebza, Chair, EHPS National delegate (Charles University, Dept. of Psychology, and Czech University of Life Sciences);

Bohumil Koukola, Deputy Chair (Ostrava University, Faculty of Education, Dept. of Educational and School Psychology, Ostrava);

Iva Štetovská, Secretary (Dept. of Psychology, Charles University, Prague);

Members:

Radim Badošek (Ostrava University, Faculty of Education, Dept. of Educational and School

Psychology, Ostrava);

Renata Hacklová (National Institute of Public Health, Prague);

Tereza Kimplová (Ostrava University, Faculty of Education, Dept. of Educational and School Psychology, Ostrava);

Jirí Mareš (Charles University, Faculty of Medicine, Hradec Králové);

Following the elections, the new Committee accepted the proposal of Vladimír Kebza that Renata Hacklová should be the new Czech national delegate. The committee thanked Vladimír Kebza for his ten years of work in the position of Czech national delegate.

Main activities of the Section

All member of the Committee of the Czech Section of Health Psychology in cooperation with members of the Section, and the Czech-Moravian Psychological Association and also with Charles University in Prague were honoured by the EHPS to organize the 26th 2012 EHPS Annual Conference for the first time in the Czech Republic. After this Conference, we, the Czech health psychologists were very pleased that the 26th EHPS Conference was evaluated as very successful.

As regards to other activities, the web page of the Czech Health Psychology Section within the web page of the Czech-Moravian Psychological Society (<http://cmeps.ecn.cz/?page=ps-zdravi>), and the web page of the 26th 2012 EHPS Conference (<http://www.ehps.net/node/37>) were the main IT sources both for our members, and for other psychologists, physicians, teachers, and other

professionals working in this field.

Czech health psychologists took part in the mentioned period also in some important international psychological events: one of them was the 13th European Congress of Psychology, Stockholm, Sweden, July 9 – 12, 2013, the second was also the 27th Conference of the European Health Psychology Society, Bordeaux, France, July 16 – 20, 2013.

The Czech Health Psychology Section members and supporters meet regularly at the Annual National Section Conferences held in Vernírovice (see below) in the 3rd weekend in May 2013. The Committee members are also organizers as well as participants of the mentioned Annual National Section Conference in Vernírovice. A lot of Czech health psychologists participate also in educational and training activities as university teachers, supervisors, tutors etc. Some new, but experienced and encouraging colleagues as R. Hacklová from Prague Charles university and the National Institute of Public Health, and R. Badošek and T. Kimplová from Ostrava University who completed their Ph.D. study were involved into activities of our Section.

Conferences and special events

The Annual National Conference of the Section held in Vernírovice was organized by the Committee of the Section (Bohumil Koukola from the Ostrava University, member of the Committee, is a local organizer), in the third week-end of May. This year the Conference of our Section in Vernírovice was associated with the two important anniversaries: the 25th anniversary of the Czech Section of Health Psychology, and the 20th anniversary of Vernírovice conferences.

The programme consisted of regular lectures, evening round table discussions, and workshops, implemented in a week-end period (Friday evening –

Sunday afternoon), using plenary, and two parallel sessions. About 60 participants from Bohemia, Moravia, Silesia, and Slovakia presented at this conference. The Book of Abstracts of the Conference presentations was prepared and distributed at the Conference via CD-ROM with an ISBN.

Education

Some regular, and some new training courses in health psychology are offered at Czech and Moravian universities. As a part of the Master's Curriculum, a two-term course is offered at the Faculty of Philosophy, Charles University, Dept. of Psychology (within the Master's Programme of Psychology). Several health psychology courses and lectures are offered also at the Masaryk University in Brno, Ostrava University in Ostrava, Palacký University in Olomouc, West-Bohemian University in Plzen, University Hradec Králové, and at other Czech and Moravian universities. The majority of Czech and Moravian Faculties of Education offers a course called Education for Health

The postgraduate course for psychologists working in the health care system Psychologists in the Health Service, was accredited by the Czech Ministry of Health and is offered at universities in Prague, Olomouc and Brno. One new PhD programme in health psychology, the first in the Czech Republic, is still underway at the Faculty of Philosophy, Dept. of Psychology, Charles University in Prague. Its implementation depends on the appointment of an Associate Professor or Professor position that is needed for the accreditation procedure of the Czech Ministry of Education.

Research

Some important research projects were

implemented in 2013 by members of the Section. One of them is the further period of research within the grant project Longitudinal Study of Optimal Development, developed and completed by M. Blatný from the Institute of Psychology, Czech Academy of Science, and Vladimír Kebza from the Czech University of Life Sciences. In 2013 M. Blatný et al. in Brno conducted research concerning the quality of life. Research focused on the relations between burnout syndrome, engagement and social events was conducted by V. Kebza and I. Šolcová in Prague. V. Kebza with I. Šolcová, R. Ptáček and I. Paclt completed and published their monograph Load and Stress in Medical Professions.

E. Rehulka and his team from Masaryk University in Brno finished and successfully defended the results and outcomes of his long-term research related to the study of complex problems entitled School and Health for the 21st Century. J. Mareš completed and published his monograph Posttraumatic Growth of Man and with his colleagues from the Faculty of Medicine, Charles University Hradec Králové published results of their research on patient perceptions of disease. B. Koukola from Ostrava University finished his project concerning the results of the SOC questionnaire in a sample of school-aged children. In Krnov B. Hátlová and her colleagues from the Dept. of Psychology, Faculty of Education of the J. E. Purkyně University in Ústí nad Labem implemented a research project on the therapeutic use of movement activities in psychiatric treatment. K. Paulík and his colleagues from Ostrava University completed and published in a monograph results of their research project concerning psychological aspects of coping with stress in a sample of Czech men and women.



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