

# RESEARCH FIELDS



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## INTRODUCTION

Our department has a long tradition of quality research and has obtained a strong position in the field. The quality of our scientific research, aimed at enriching the psychological sciences, is also clearly stated in the public mission of the department. Research is conducted on many levels at our department. It starts at the basic level, with Bachelor's and Master's projects run by students in collaboration with teachers, as is usual at university departments. The next level involves studies of regional significance, supported by grants for both students and academics. The following stage is represented by research projects aimed at achieving an internationally recognized Ph.D. in clinical psychology and educational psychology. Our department also boasts a number of research projects that are connected to international cooperation and have a broad impact.

Our department focuses on numerous areas of research, such as general cognitive psychology, psychological exploration of the human personality and psychopathology, examining factors of treatment of mental disorders and psychotherapy, family research and partnerships, academic research environments, research about working environments, individual and group experience in work environments, and research about the role of the human factor in traffic.

## I. COGNITIVE AND GENERAL PSYCHOLOGY

### SLEEP AND DREAMING

Guarantor: prof. PhDr. Alena Plháková, CSc.

Co-organisers: PhDr. Daniel Dostál, Ph.D., PhDr. Denisa Janečková, Ph.D., PhDr. Lucie Klůzová Kráčmarová (DSP student)

The research in the field of sleep and dreaming will build on existing studies. The most important areas are related to circadian preference in relation to sleep disturbance, harmful or beneficial health habits (smoking, drinking alcohol, coffee, regular exercise, time spent at the computer, etc.), school benefits, life satisfaction, and creativity. The research about dreaming will focus on the frequency of dream remembrance in relation to specific, but in the Czech Republic not widely known, dimensions of the personality, such as permissive internal borders or absorption capacity. In the future, we will focus on research of repetitive nightmares and dreams that are part of post-traumatic stress disorder.

### INTELLIGENCE AND CREATIVITY

Guarantor: prof. PhDr. Alena Plháková, CSc.

Co-organisers: PhDr. Daniel Dostál, Ph.D., Mgr. Tereza Zášková (DSP student)

Abstract: The research in the field of intelligence and creativity will focus on new types of intelligence, especially emotional and social, in relation to the traditional dimensions of personalities. We will investigate the determinants of domain-specific creativity, in the sphere of motivation, ability (IQ, social and emotional intelligence) and personality traits. Experiments focused on comparing individual and group creativity in different areas (writing, drawing or solving cognitive problems) will be carried out.

Grant support: SGS-IGA – FF\_2013\_022, ESF-POST UP

### SPIRITUALITY AND ATTITUDES TO DEATH

Guarantor: PhDr. Olga Pechová, Ph.D.

Co-organisers: PhDr. Daniel Dostál, Ph.D., Mgr. Klára Machů (DSP student), Mgr. et Bc. Barbora Pospíšilová (Masters student)

Abstract: This project uses multidimensional methods to measure spirituality (Expression of Spirituality Inventory and research attitudes to death via the Death Attitude Profile - Revised). Religious beliefs and spirituality are the strongest factors influencing attitudes to death. The research is conducted among the Czech and Slovak populations, and besides exploring the relationship between spirituality and attitudes to death also seeks possible correlations between these attitudes and the five factor model of personality.

Grant support: SGS IGA – FF\_2013\_034 (Spiritualita a postoje ke smrti)

## AUTOBIOGRAPHICAL MEMORY

Guarantor: Mgr. Aleš Neusar, Ph.D.

Co-organisers: Dr. Wander van der Vaart (University of Humanistic Studies); Prof. Jaap Murre (University of Amsterdam)

Description: The memories of personal events appear to be incomplete without at least a partial idea of when the events actually occurred. In some cases, the time aspect and its accuracy is crucial - such as when a doctor asks us when we last took our antibiotics, or how long a specific problem has been going on. Autobiographical memory is, however, susceptible to many distortions, as well as the time aspect. The research focuses on predictors of accuracy of dating: the part of the respondent (what factors influence who remembers better); side events (which types of events we remember precisely), and appropriate ways to query temporal aspects of autobiographical events.

Grant support: (April-July 2013: Research mobility FF UP)

## II. PSYCHOLOGICAL EXPLORATION OF THE HUMAN PERSONALITY AND PSYCHOPATHOLOGY

### 1) APPLIED DIAGNOSTICS OF PERSONALITY, THE RELATION BETWEEN PERSONALITY AND PSYCHOPATHOLOGY, THE TRANSFER AND DEVELOPMENT OF NEW METHODS

#### ALTERNATIVES TO THE FIVE FACTOR MODEL OF PERSONALITY

Guarantor: prof. PhDr. Alena Plháková, CSc.

Co-organisers: PhDr. Olga Pechová, Ph.D., PhDr. Daniel Dostál, Ph.D., Mgr. Tereza Zášková (DSP student), Mgr. Klára Machů (DSP student)

Abstract: The problems with the five factor model of personality when measuring and predicting certain aspects of personality associated with ethically tinged behavior led to the creation of two parallel concepts to fill this gap. These are the six factor model (HEXACO), which describes a sixth factor, which is honesty-humility (honor-humility), and the earlier concept of the dark triad, which describes the influence of three subclinical personality traits, which are narcissism, machiavellism, and psychopathy. The analysis of both concepts is a major issue in contemporary psychology. Grant support: FPVČ (Narcissism as a personality trait, SPP: 452100351)

#### EXPLORING INTERPERSONAL FACTORS OF PERSONALITY AND PSYCHOPATHOLOGY THROUGH PROJECTIVE METHODS

Guarantor: PhDr. Martin Seidl, Ph.D.

Co-organisers: PhDr. Martin Lečbych, Ph.D.

Abstract: The aim of this research is to explore the relationship between projective techniques (Rorschach, Hand test) and interpersonal personality factors, which are identified on the basis of self-report questionnaires on personality traits. The research contributes to the knowledge base of the combination of personality and self-evaluation projective approach. It focuses on pro-social aspects of personality (empathy).

Grant support: FPVČ, MŠMT

#### SOCIAL MATURITY AND PERSONALITY

Guarantor: PhDr. Radko Obereignerů, Ph.D.

Co-organisers: Mgr. Irena Cakirpaloglu, Ph.D., PhDr. Daniel Dostál, Ph.D.

Abstract: This project focuses on the development and standardization of projective assessment methods focused on the social maturation of the personality. This means creating entirely new projective test material. The analysed features are the individual's relationship to authority, relations with other people, emotional experience, and focus on the behavior of the individual.

Grant support: IGA FF UP, MŠMT

## THE PERSONALITY OF DEPRESSED INDIVIDUALS IN REMISSION

Guarantor: Mgr. Zuzana Sedláčková (DSP student)

Co-organisers: prof. MUDr. Ján Pavlov Praško, Csc.

Abstract: Our goal is to identify specific personality characteristics that occur in depressed individuals in remission, and to investigate the possible presence of comorbid personality disorders. We are interested specifically in the link between personality traits and comorbid personality disorders with sociodemographic characteristics, and with the development of depressive disorder and its course of treatment (based on the following criteria: duration of depressive disorders, length and number of previous depressive phases and remissions, etc.). The necessary data is collected through, for example, the Cloninger Temperament and Character inventory (TCI) and structured interviews according to the IPDE-ICD-10 (International Personality Disorder Examination). We expect to find specific personality traits in depressed subjects in remission and a high incidence of comorbid personality disorders. Furthermore, we expect a significant association of specific personality traits and personality disorders with the development of depressive disorders and with treatment.

Grant support: IGA FF UP, MŠMT

## PERSONALITY STRUCTURE AND RELATIONAL BONDS IN PATHOLOGICAL GAMBLERS

Guarantor: PhDr. Eva Maierová, Ph.D.

Co-organisers: Mgr. Miroslav Charvát, PhD.

Abstract: The aim of this research is to describe the relation between personality disorders, relational bonds and pathological gambling, to identify possible subtypes of players according to the reported psychopathology, and to determine whether the monitored psychopathological comorbidity in pathological gamblers is related to the success of their treatment. The target groups are recovering clients in residential treatment at specialized departments. The research is also expected to extend to the hidden population of players who are not in contact with medical institutions, including those who play online. Targeted extensions are, for example, the behavioral patterns of players, cognitive errors and so on. The results will, among other things, be used to develop short intervention programs for outpatient addiction treatment or prevention of gambling.

## 2) NEUROPSYCHOLOGICAL DIAGNOSIS, COGNITION, COGNITIVE FUNCTION, AND PERFORMANCE ASPECTS OF PERSONALITY

### DEVELOPING A CZECH VERSION OF THE TOWER OF HANOI STANDARD TEST

Guarantor: PhDr. Radko Obereignerů, Ph.D.

Co-organisers: PhDr. Klára Seitlová, Ph.D., PhDr. Martin Seidl, Ph.D.

Abstract: The Tower of Hanoi test focuses on learning executive abilities. The aim of the research is to develop standards for the Tower of Hanoi test, refine the methodology for application, and develop diagnostic test options for selecting staff. The project will also verify different application possibilities of the test and assess its psychometric properties.

Grant support: Project PAPSAV

#### DEVELOPMENT OF THE OLOMOUC FIGURAL FLUENCY TEST

Guarantor: PhDr. Martin Lečbych, Ph.D.

Co-organisers: PhDr. Pavel Kolda, Mgr. Martin Vaverka (PL Šternberk)

Abstract: The figural fluency test allows the explanation of executive functions. It extends the existing repertoire of specific fluency tests (verbal, categorical). The essence of the research is to create suitable stimulus material, norms for the figural fluency test, refine the methodology for the application of the test, and create a test manual.

Grant support: Project PAPSAV

#### THE OLOMOUC CLASSIFICATION OF APHASIA

Guarantor: PhDr. Radko Obereignerů, Ph.D

Abstract: The project is aimed at refining the classification of aphasia research by Čecháčková (formerly known as The Olomouc classification of aphasia), in line with contemporary scientific knowledge. The aim is to verify the classification of diagnostic possibilities and the development of a diagnostic algorithm.

Grant support: the project is under development.

#### GOOD DESIGN GUIDELINES FOR TESTS IN GENERAL STUDY SKILLS AND KNOWLEDGE OF PSYCHO-TOOL TESTS

Guarantor: Mgr. Miroslav Charvát, Ph.D.

Co-organisers: Mgr. Lucie Viktorová, Mgr. Aleš Neusar, Ph.D.

Abstract: The aim of the project is to find out what makes good guidelines when creating tests for study skills, knowledge tests and other psycho-diagnostic tools, i.e. which sections of tests and items exhibit a good ability to differentiate and which are ineffective or less appropriate. The project focuses on the psychometric properties of tests and questionnaires using CTT and IRT, especially for reliability (parallel version, and internal consistency) and validity (content and criterion). Further, the project tests the possibility of using computer adaptive testing in the field of study skills and consequently also in other areas such as the prevention of risky behavior, or generally in psychodiagnostics.

Grant support: SGS IGA FF\_2013\_011

### III. EXPLORING FACTORS IN TREATMENT OF MENTAL DISORDERS AND PSYCHOTHERAPY

#### 1) EXPERIMENTAL THERAPEUTIC PROCEDURES, INTRODUCTION OF NEW THERAPEUTIC PROGRAMS

##### METHODS FOR LIMITING EXTERNAL STIMULATION

Guarantor: Mgr. Martin Kupka, Ph.D.

Co-organisers: Mgr. Marek Malůš, Ph.D.

**Abstract:** Research methods for limited external stimulation (Restricted environmental stimulation technique - REST). Implementation of this method of work to care for people who are recovering from addiction to psychoactive substances at the psychiatric asylum PL Bílá Voda. At present we are mainly interested in the identification of potential therapeutic agents with regard to awareness, experiencing life as meaningful, and changes in self-concepts. The research has a mixed design, and we focus on measuring quantitative and qualitative changes. The following questionnaire methods are used: five aspects of mindfulness, Existential range, and Rosenberg self-esteem scale. The qualitative data is evaluated through an interpretative phenomenological analysis. We try to analyze the motivation of the volunteers, and to map out the potential benefits of the procedure. This part is based on a description of participants which was gained through an interview in an environment limited by external stimulation. This interview was carried out before entering this environment, in the course of its preparation and immediately afterwards. Currently, we are mapping the permanence of change by monitoring probands 6 months after completion of the experience.

#### 2) VARIABLES INFLUENCING THE PROCESS AND EFFECTS OF PSYCHOTHERAPY

##### TEMPERAMENT AND THE STRESS POTENTIAL OF COGNITIVE CONFLICT TASKS IN THE RESPONSES OF THE AUTONOMIC NERVOUS SYSTEM (ANS)

Guarantor: PhDr. Mgr. Roman Procházka, Ph.D

**Abstract:** As a topical issue in state-of-the art psychophysiology and psychosomatic medicine, the relationship between temperament and the actual responses to stress as measured at the level of biological signals attracts much debate and research interest. This topic is often considered in terms of the so-called ANS-specific psychosomatic variability. The effects of stress cues and innate structural dispositions, in which temperament is strongly reflected, play an important role in this respect. Based on the general physiological principles of the action of the sympathetic and parasympathetic nervous systems during stress cues, our research seeks to identify the basic relationships between the study parameters in a healthy control sample and thus create a much-needed theoretical basis for comparing them with those measured among clinical samples. This research could be beneficial in contributing to the current knowledge in the field, which is still lacking a robust evidence base.

Grant support: Research Support Fund

#### EGO ANALYSIS AND MALADAPTIVE SCHEMAS IN PEOPLE ADDICTED TO PSYCHOACTIVE SUBSTANCES

Guarantor: PhDr. Mgr. Roman Procházka, Ph.D.

Co-organisers: Mgr. Gabriela Mahrová, Bc. Marek Laštovica (Psychiatric ward Marianna Oranžská)

Abstract: The research focuses on the content analysis of people addicted to psychoactive substances. We want to follow the content categories and their emotional valence. The research group will be divided according to time of abstinence. The objective is to form a simple tool for rapid analysis of a situation where a subject is engaged both in terms of frequency and in terms of emotional evaluation. The resulting tool for analyzing content data will be able to simply illustrate the biographical axle including specific detection of possible psychological defenses of the self. Because of this we will also focus on the detection of potential maladaptive schemas within the Ego-analysis. In our research, we see benefits in creating a content analysis tool that is portable for therapeutic practice when working with clients addicted to psychoactive substances.

Grant support: Project PAPSAV

#### VIRTUAL REALITY IN THE TREATMENT OF DISORDERS IN THE ANXIETY SPECTRUM

Guarantor: PhDr. Mgr. Roman Procházka, Ph.D.

Co-organisers: PhDr. Jan Šmahaj, Ph.D.

Abstract: Research on the influence of virtual reality and exposure to anxiety disorders in virtual reality in the context of cognitive behavioral therapy. The research is focused on the evaluation of the differences between the effectiveness of cognitive-behavioral strategies in the treatment of anxiety disorders.

#### SEXUAL ATTRACTION IN PSYCHOTHERAPY

Guarantor: PhDr. Marek Kolařík, Ph.D.

Co-organisers: PhDr. Martin Lečbych, Ph.D.

Abstract: Sexual attraction in psychotherapy tends to be taboo in current research into the field. It is only recently that some publications have attempted to provide a comprehensive account of the phenomenon, going beyond the traditional transference/countertransference paradigm in psychotherapy. Our research addresses multiple questions pertaining to this phenomenon and its impact on the process and outcome of psychotherapy. We are currently investigating how this issue is supervised and what experienced therapists think of the role of the phenomenon of sexual attraction in psychotherapy.

Grant support: Excellence Project, Philosophical Faculty, Palacky University

## IV. FAMILY RESEARCH AND PARTNERSHIPS

In the long term we focus on research relating to various aspects of partnerships and family life: problems of relationships, processes, roles, personal experiences and meanings, life satisfaction, marital stress and management, and family resilience.

### RESEARCH INTO PSYCHOLOGICAL ASPECTS OF FOSTER CARE

Guarantor: doc. PhDr. Irena Sobotková, CSc.

Co-organisers: PhDr. Veronika Očenášková, Ph.D., Mgr. Bohuslava Janků, Mgr. Anna Lasovská, Mgr. Martina Salamonová, Bc. Kateřina Indráková, Jakub Truneček

These studies build on the extensive research on foster care carried out to date (e.g. Sobotková & Očenášková, 2013). Although it is a narrow field of social and professional experience, foster care deserves more attention because it fundamentally affects the lives of many people. Our studies are

focused on the psychological aspects of various forms of foster care (short-term foster care, early foster care, long-term foster care) and topics that have been little explored thus far (such as biological children in foster care). The aim of the research is to describe and evaluate the current foster care system, especially with regard to the satisfaction of the psychological needs of children. Publication output: an edited monograph is planned.

Grant support: previously IGA FF\_2012\_003 and IRP\_FF\_2013, planned again as part of the Institutional Development Programme for the support of publication activities at the Philosophical Faculty (IRP FF).

#### RESEARCH INTO THE RELATIONSHIP AND COMMUNICATION BETWEEN MOTHERS AND DAUGHTERS

Guarantor: doc. PhDr. Irena Sobotková, CSc.

Co-organisers: PhDr. Veronika Očenášková, Ph.D., PhDr. Jan Šmahaj, Ph.D., Bc. Barbora Burešová, Bc. Zuzana Purová, Bc. Vladěna Spáčalová, Bc. Klára Večerková

This research topic is on the borderline between developmental and family psychology. The mother is one of the most important figures in a person's life and the relationship between a mother and her child is one of the crucial family system factors which interact in the formation of the personality. The professional literature has so far been focused mainly on various forms of pathology in this relationship. Our research deals with the description and analysis of regular, ordinary relationships between mothers and daughters at different ages. We are interested in the specifics of communication between mother and daughter, and the factors that strengthen the relationship or, vice versa, burden and complicate it. The experiencing of this relationship is mapped from the perspective of two generations of daughters (in young and middle adulthood) and mothers (in middle adulthood and old age). The research findings will be useful, among other things, in psychological counselling practice.

Grant support: planned project – Czech Science Foundation (GACR)

#### RESEARCH INTO WOMANHOOD AND MARRIAGE

Guarantor: PhDr. Veronika Očenášková, Ph.D.

Co-organisers: doc. PhDr. Irena Sobotková, CSc., Bc. Kateřina Doležalová, Eliška Kufková, Hana Pavlíčková, Milena Petrášová, Dominika Tvrdá, Melánie Zaliberová

The aim of this research project is to survey the experience of womanhood and to describe the coping strategies of the female role both in personal life (partnership, parenthood) and in working life. A qualitative research design is applied to a basic population of university students. We are expecting the most important impact of the current social changes in the female role there. Besides that, we concentrate on the transformation of marriage and its importance, value, and function in time, on extramarital relationships, and on divorce from the perspective of adult children. Our further research interest is related to aspects which affect long-term marital satisfaction.

#### FAMILY FUNCTIONING, FAMILY RESILIENCE, AND COPING WITH THE DEMANDS OF WORK AND FAMILY LIFE

Guarantor: doc. PhDr. Irena Sobotková, CSc.

Co-organisers: PhDr. Veronika Očenášková, Ph.D., PhDr. Soňa Sládečková, Mgr. Marcela Novozámská, Mgr. Marie Linhartová

Our research in this area is aimed at family processes (such as family functionality, family resilience, and coping with family stress), various aspects of life satisfaction (in particular satisfaction in marriage and in the partner and parental roles), and demands arising from work. The research is carried out in various forms and types of families (including families of working parents with young children, families with more than four children, families with autistic children, religious families, and families of women with academic professions). We are working on two monographs in the 2014/2015 academic year: one reports on our research into family resilience in families with autistic children (Sládečková & Sobotková) and the other on our research into women with academic professions (Očenášková).

Grant support: previously IGA FF\_2010\_029 and IGA FF\_2013\_021; the Institutional Development Programme for the support of publication activities at the Philosophical Faculty – IRP\_FF\_2014, IRP\_FF\_2015

#### FAMILY MEMORY AND THE TRANSFORMATION OF IDENTITIES ACROSS GENERATIONS

Guarantor: doc. Mgr. Radmila Švaříčková Slabáková, Ph.D. (Department of History, Philosophical Faculty, Palacky University)

Co-organisers: doc. PhDr. Irena Sobotková, CSc., doc. Mgr. Marek Petrů, Ph.D., Mgr. Jitka Kohoutová, doc. PaedDr. Alena Zachová, CSc., dr. hab. Marcin Lukasz Filipowicz, Dr.

The project is focused on research into family memory as a specific kind of collective memory. The main aim is to describe the ways in which family memory is communicated between generations. The researchers use interviews with three generations, ego-documents, and written memoirs, as well as literary works. The ways in which family identities are transmitted to the next generations together with the transmission of gender roles are explored. The traditional interpretation of oral historical narration is revised, too. The project is innovative not only in its topic, but also in its interdisciplinarity (involving history, family psychology, literary theory, and cognitive philosophy). Grant support: GAČR 2015/2017 (Czech Science Foundation)

#### GRANDPARENTS AS CAREGIVERS IN THE CONTEXT OF FOSTER CARE

Guarantor: Mgr. Šárka Moštková (DSP student)

Research co-investigator: doc. PhDr. Irena Sobotková, CSc.

The main aim of this research project is to understand the experience of grandparents who take care of their grandchildren in the place of their parents. Partial goals will concern the study of the subjective perceptions of the causes of foster care, their family circumstances, the conflict of their dual role, their relationships with their grandchildren and difficulties with their upbringing, grandparents' life satisfaction, important values and goals in their lives, and the ways in which they cope with stress and resilience. The research group will include at least 25 grandmothers and grandfathers who have cared for one or more grandchildren for at least one year. Methods: Semi-structured interview, SEIQoL, F-COPES. The results will be applicable to psychological counselling related to foster care.

Grant support: planned IGA, Philosophical Faculty, Palacky University, Ministry of Education, 2015

## EXPERIENCING INVOLUNTARY CHILDLESSNESS AND ITS CONNECTION WITH THE RESULTS OF TREATMENT

Guarantor: Mgr. et Mgr. Gabriela Ďurašková (PhD student)  
Co-organisers: doc. PhDr. Irena Sobotková, CSc.

Infertility is a life-changing experience for most couples and often carries unexpected stressors. Experiencing involuntary childlessness in our country is explored primarily by using a qualitative methodology. Therefore, we find it beneficial to employ studies using appropriate quantitative tools (for example, the Fertility Problem Inventory) which are often used worldwide. Our research project combines both quantitative and qualitative methods. It focuses on stress, coping, the meaning of life, and life changes in the context of a challenging situation (infertility). The results will be useful for psychologists, gynaecologists, fertility centre staff, etc.

## RESEARCH ON FAMILY RELATIONSHIPS AND SEXUAL EXPERIENCES

Guarantor: Mgr. Martina Fülepová (DSP student – study was interrupted)  
Co-organisers: doc. PhDr. Irena Sobotková, CSc., PhDr. Marek Kolařík, Ph.D.

The aim of this prospective project is to monitor the possible links between sexual dysfunctions in women, memories of growing up in the family of origin, and the current partner relationship. The research design will be mixed, with an emphasis on individual in-depth interviews with women.

## V. RESEARCH WITHIN THE SCHOOL ENVIRONMENT

### 1) PROTECTIVE AND RISK FACTORS IN THE SCHOOL ENVIRONMENT

#### DIAGNOSIS OF RISKS AND PROTECTIVE FACTORS AND PREVENTION OF RISK BEHAVIOR IN ADOLESCENTS

Guarantor: PhDr. Martin Dolejš, Ph.D., Mgr. Miroslav Charvát, Ph.D.  
Co-organisers: Mgr. Ondřej Skopal, Mgr. Lucie Vavrysová, PhDr. Eva Maierová, Ph.D.

Abstract: The project is focused on the possibility of early diagnosis of risk factors for various addictions and a tendency to risky behavior. The main objective is to analyze the existing psycho-screening tools aimed at adolescent risk behavior and related variables. On the basis of this analysis, the research will focus on creating new diagnostic methods, which will cover most features and variables that influence the emergence of risk behavior. Further, we will focus on the

development of new methodologies for selective and indicated prevention (primarily for education and residential care), implementation, and possibly subsequent quasi-experimental verification of the efficiency.

Grant support: FF UP within SGS/IGA (FF\_2013\_012)

#### PERSONALITY CHARACTERISTICS OF CHILDREN IN SCHOOL AGE, SELF-EVALUATION OF SCHOOL ACHIEVEMENT AND OTHER PARAMETERS OF ELEMENTARY AND SECONDARY SCHOOL STUDENTS AGED 9-18

Guarantor: PhDr. et MUDr. Miroslav Orel , PhDr. Radko Obereignerů, Ph.D.

Co-organisers: RNDr. Eva Reiterová, Ph.D.

Abstract: The project aims to introduce, standardise, and adapt new diagnostic tools in the schools of the Czech Republic. It is a Czech version of the five-factor personality questionnaire for children (FFI - C) and methods of self-evaluation of school success (PHSCS -2). The outcomes will be compared and evaluated with the results of the d2 test of attention, other psychodiagnostic methods, and outcomes of the assessment of the current level of knowledge and relative increase in skills in students over two years. The aim is to give a comprehensive picture of the selected psychological characteristics and knowledge level of pupils in primary and secondary schools and formulate measures to optimize the educational process in schools. Part of the project is to strengthen and develop cooperation with the Department of Psychology and KPPP ZDVPP Zlin, Ostrava University and other entities to obtain the largest possible research sample. The project counts on the psychodiagnostic examination and evaluation of at least 10,000 pupils. Grant support: ESF Development and support of education quality

#### THE SECOND STEP METHOD – RESEARCH ABOUT EFFECTIVE METHODS IN CZECH CONDITIONS

Guarantor: PhDr. Eleonora Smékalová, Ph.D.

Co-organisers: PhDr. Eva Maierová, Ph.D., Mgr. Miroslav Charvát, Ph.D.

Abstract : The Second Step method comes from America, more precisely the Committee for Children, Seattle, USA. It aims to promote the social and emotional development of children. In 2009 Slovakia obtained a license to use this method – and thanks to our colleagues, especially prof.Gajdošové, we had the opportunity to become acquainted with this method at our department. Several colleagues went through basic training for the use of this method, and we also purchased a set of cards for use with the method in the 1st - 3rd year of primary school. Since many schools show a clear interest in the field, it seems only logical to translate and adapt a method that has showed its usefulness in many other countries. The task of the research team will be to create contacts with the above mentioned organization in order to obtain authorization for the development of a Czech version, followed by research to verify our conditions. We assume that our research will continue in the field of risk behaviour prevention. The results can be put into practical

use, and we count on the participation of school psychologists working with our department and students of higher grades.

#### THE PHENOMENON OF POSTPONED SCHOOL ENROLMENT FOR IMMATURE CHILDREN

Guarantor: PhDr. Martin Dolejš, Ph.D.

Co-organisers: PhDr. Marek Kolařík, Ph.D.

Abstract: The practice of postponing school enrolment for some children has long traditions. The number of children entering school a year later is increasing. The aim of the research project is to investigate the phenomenon of postponing the school attendance of children that are recommended for examination in school counseling centers and assessed to be as yet unprepared to start school. It is a topic arises from practices conceptually developed in cooperation with counsellors working with our department in connection with the PAPSAV project. During this research, data about the school readiness will be compared. These data will be obtained from the children recommended for an examination of school readiness and from the group made of the remaining children who should start school in the following year. We expect that the results of the survey will form the basis of an evaluation of the current practices and enable recommendations for further steps.

Grant support: ESF Partner network

#### THE COOPERATION OF TEACHING ASSISTANTS FOR CHILDREN WITH BEHAVIORAL DISORDER

Guarantor: PhDr. Marek Kolařík, Ph.D.

Co-organisers: PhDr. Martin Dolejš, Ph.D.

Abstract: The project deals with the allocation of teacher assistants in integrated classes with children with behavioral disabilities. The aim is to obtain information about the occurrence of the phenomenon in primary school, acquire an overview of the current work of teaching assistants for children with behavioral disorders, describe the process of the work of these assistants and the attitudes of the actors involved in the integration process (parents and teachers), and finally to try to assess the impact of the co-operation of assistant teachers and child on the school performance and social relationships of the child.

Grant support: ESF partner network

## 2) PEOPLE IN EDUCATION - THEIR PERSONAL CHARACTERISTICS, ATTITUDES AND RELATIONSHIPS

#### PERSONAL CHARACTERISTICS OF SCHOOL PSYCHOLOGISTS AND THEIR POSITION IN THE SCHOOL

Guarantor: PhDr. Eleonora Smékalová, Ph.D.

Co-organisers: PhDr. Jan Šmahaj, Ph.D., PhDr. Veronika Kavenská, Ph.D.

Abstract: The present situation in school psychology in the Czech Republic is a challenge for researchers and professionals in education. It is desirable to map out the situation in the field of school psychology - the work conditions for school psychologists, their personal characteristics, how these characteristics correlate with their success and learning needs. Further, it is also necessary to examine the expectations of teachers and school boards have in regards to school psychology. The importance of studying and training in this topic is linked with an emphasis on preventing failure and risk behavior in schools, and with the schools' societal importance for the development of children and youth, which are topics closely related to the work of school psychologists.

Grant support: IGA

#### TEACHERS - THEIR PERSONAL CHARACTERISTICS AND ATTITUDES TOWARDS OTHERS

Guaranor: PhDr.Eleonora Smékalová, Ph.D.

Co-organisers: PhDr. Soňa Lemrová, Ph.D.

Abstract: Teachers are undoubtedly the main actors involved in education, not only because of their expertise, but also due to their personality traits, beliefs and attitudes. Among the factors that have seldom been studied previously are certain social phenomena and their impact on student performance. The aim of the project is to update the current knowledge about the personalities of teachers in primary schools, secondary schools, and universities in the Czech Republic, their attitudes towards children and parents, and to put this into the context of their working conditions and other variables (age, levels of approval, length of experience, type of school, etc.). The knowledge gained by the research will be able to serve those working with teachers and teachers themselves.

Grant support: IGA

## VI. WORK ENVIRONMENT AND INDIVIDUAL AND GROUP EXPERIENCE IN THE WORK ENVIRONMENT

### MOBBING IN THE CZECH REPUBLIC

Guarantor: doc. PhDr. Panajotis Cakirpaloglu, DrSc.

Co-organisers: PhDr. Jan Šmahaj, Ph.D., PhDr. Soňa Lemrová, Ph.D.

Abstract: This project, which has financial support from GAČR, aims to identify and verify the occurrence, modes of expression, and the most common psychological consequences of mobbing at workplaces in the Czech Republic. The research builds on a pilot survey about mobbing in the Czech Republic (Cakirpaloglu et al., 2010) and an ongoing investigation (Cakirpaloglu et al., 2011), which have illustrated the dimensions and contexts of this individually and socially serious phenomenon. The planned research will explain and verify the situation.

### INDIVIDUAL AND GROUP EXPERIENCE IN WORK ENVIRONMENTS

Guarantor: PhDr. Martin Seitl, PhD.

Co-organisers: PhDr. Klára Seitlová, Ph.D., Mgr. Iva Maroušková, Mgr. Stanislava Gauchet Kobzová, Martin Nevřela, Ondřej Zíma, Lukáš Kubičný, Pavla Fabiánová

Abstract: Individuals experience relationships to themselves, work, organisations, and other people both in an individual sense and in a group sense. They create their own experiences as well as share experiences with the group. The experience of the individual and the group are considered crucial aspects of a dynamic work environment, and do not only affect other employees, but also issues of competitiveness of the organization. The project does not only focus on exploring the specific experiences of employees, but also on factors influencing experience and the abilities of managers to influence and control these. The basic issues related to individual and collective experience we include are: a) work -life balance, including functions of the family and coping with the demands of family and work life b) organizational culture and ethics, c) the structure and dynamics of teams in relation to their performance, d) stress and workload in relation to personality and cognitive assumptions. The outcome of the research will be further knowledge of the current state of the above-mentioned topics, and the publication of the research findings through a series of scientific articles that build on previously published work.

### APPLICATION OF ATTACHMENT THEORY IN WORK ENVIRONMENTS

Guarantor: PhDr. Martin Seitl, PhD.

Co-organisers: PhDr. Klára Seitlová, Ph.D., Kristýna Vacková, Simona Bojková, Bc. Tereza Adámková, Petra Dvořáčková, Barbora Kasalová, Lucie Šimková

Abstract: Following the development of attachment theory and its gradual influence on other psychological disciplines, we will pay attention to the possibilities of applying this theory to the psychology of work and organization. The potential of the theory and the consequent selection of tools for choosing employees for managerial positions or teams will be discussed against the background of the current international research. The research will firstly focus on verifying the theory in the Czech environment. Based on proven indicators of individual strategies of emotional attachment, a new diagnostic tool adapted to Central European conditions will be constructed.

After psychometric validation of the new diagnostic tool, it will be available for application in the selection and development of employees, as well as diagnosing and developing teams.

#### EFFICIENCY AND PREDICTIVE VALIDITY OF ASSESSMENT METHODS IN STAFF SELECTION

Guarantor: PhDr. Klára Seitlová, PhD.

Co-organisers: Ing. Denisa Schiedková, Ing. Josef Rambousek, Leopold Benda, PhDr. Martin Seitl, Ph.D.

**Abstract:** When using different methods of choosing staff, the most important feature is predictive validity. Despite clearly defined selection criteria, as a result of the analysis of the work activities of the specific position, and the subsequent definition of the psychological characteristics, the predictive validity of the assessment methods are often unclear, too general, or unknown. In addition to predictive validity, a second key question is the effectiveness of the methods used. Other factors include the time requirements, and the range of results. The output of the research will be publications of the validity of different assessment methods for different specific positions.

## VII. RESEARCH ON HUMAN FACTORS IN TRANSPORTATION

### RESEARCH METHODS (INTERVIEWS, OBSERVATION, HISTORY) FOR ASSESSING MENTAL FITNESS FOR DRIVERS

Guarantor: PhDr. Matúš Šucha, PhD.

Co-organisers: PhDr. Radko Obereignerů, PhD., PhDr. Lenka Šrámková (DSP student), PhDr. Michal Walter (external), PhDr. Libor Eliášek (external), Bc. Kateřina Böhmová (student)

Abstract: When assessing mental fitness for driving in traffic with psychological examinations, we combine test and clinical approaches. The research project describes the principles and methods of a clinical approach - interviews, observations and history of the traffic psychological examination in the Czech Republic. The basis is a content analysis of interviews with experienced traffic psychologists in the country. The output of the project is a monograph on the subject, which will be published in 2014.

Grant support: CZ.1.07/2.2.00/28.0143 - "Iniciace mezioborového potenciálu psychologie – inovace odborné přípravy studentů UP pro praxi"

### PEDESTRIANS AND DRIVERS: COMMUNICATION WHEN CROSSING THE ROAD AND AT PEDESTRIAN CROSSINGS

Guarantor: PhDr. Matúš Šucha, PhD.

Abstract: The aim of the research is to describe pedestrian strategies when crossing the road, driver strategies at pedestrian crossings, and communication. It describes the various strategies (and the factors that influence decision making), for pedestrians as well as drivers, the combination of strategies and influencing factors, and communication between pedestrians and drivers. Risk strategies and risk combinations of different strategies are identified as well as risks and protective factors for both groups. Conflict situations (conflicts, near-misses, accidents) are discussed, and the causal processes that lead to them are described. The findings are interpreted in the context of the traffic environment.

### METHODS FOR ASSESSING MENTAL FITNESS FOR DRIVING, AND SOCIO-PSYCHOLOGICAL ASPECTS OF DRIVERS COMMITTING REPEATED TRAFFIC OFFENCES

Guarantor: PhDr. Matúš Šucha, PhD.

Co-organisers: PhDr. Lenka Šrámková (DSP student), Mgr. Petr Zámečník (DSP student), PhDr. Dana Černochová (external), PhDr. Vlasta Rehnová (external)

Abstract: The main objective of the project is to carry out socio-psychological analysis of drivers who have reached the limit of 12 points in the Czech traffic offence system, which means their licenses have been revoked. The analysis will focus on the personality of the driver (personality traits, motivational factors and attitudes) and sociodemographic characteristics. Subsequently, (on the basis of those findings) a methodology for assessing mental fitness for driving, to be used when

selecting and training drivers in driving schools, will be prepared. The project overlaps with the field of rehabilitation of drivers, where the information about the personality and demographic characteristics of the so-called "vybodovaných" (drivers with many traffic offences) can be used to improve the rehabilitation programs.

Grant support: Safety research MV ČR, VG20132015121.

#### EXPLANATORY TRAFFIC PSYCHOLOGY DICTIONARY

Guarantor: PhDr. Matúš Šucha, PhD.

Co-organisers: PhDr. Lenka Šrámková (DSP student), Mgr. Petr Zámečník (DSP student), PhDr. Dana Černochová (external), PhDr. Vlasta Rehnová (external)

Abstract: Traffic psychology as a scientific discipline works with a certain conceptual apparatus in which there are many terminological ambiguities, and efforts to clarify these ambiguities support the clarity and objectivity of the discipline. Due to this the project will create a dictionary of terminology and explanations for traffic psychology, which aims to collect and define the basic terms used. In addition to the interpretation of the terms, their English and German translations or equivalents will be included. The main aim of the project is the creation and publication of the dictionary (2015). The aim of the project follows general social and scientific goals aimed at unifying the terminology in the field of traffic psychology and the definition of key terms. The book will serve as a foundation for transport professionals.

Grant support: Supported by the UP

#### VALUES AND ATTITUDES TOWARDS TRAFFIC SAFETY

Guarantor: PhDr. Matúš Šucha, PhD.

Abstract: The research focuses on identifying and describing the attitudes and underlying values of citizens of different nations towards traffic safety. The research is conducted in the form of on-line questionnaires, and the qualitative data is processed in the form of a text analysis. The research is conducted on five continents (in 7 languages) in approximately 50 countries. The aim of the research is to describe and compare the global values and attitudes of different populations towards traffic safety. The practical implications of the research results are a better understanding of traffic safety in different communities and better targeted safety campaigns.

#### OPERATION AND SAFETY OF TRAMWAYS IN INTERACTION WITH PUBLIC SPACE

Guarantor: PhDr. Matúš Šucha, PhD.

The main objective of the project is to increase the safety of tram traffic in cities, and by analysing the risk of nodes (called hotspots), describe procedures for avoiding conflicts and accidents in these locations. The project will further describe the interaction between trams and other participants in the traffic environment - especially automobiles, cyclists, and pedestrians. The human factor will

be emphasised as a central control element in the transport system. The philosophical basis of the conceptualisation of safety and accident prevention is the assumption that there are various indicators that can be expected of an accident in the future (at any location), which means it can be predicted. A description of these indicators and introducing them into traffic safety practice is one of the objectives of the project.

Grant support: 7. EU framework programme, COST, TU 1103

## GREEN UNIVERSITY

Guarantor: PhDr. Matúš Šucha, PhD.

Co-organisers: Bc. Kateřina Böhmová, Alena Hrbáčová

Abstract: The main objective of this project is to engage Palacky University in the nationwide trend of improving traffic safety, citizens' quality of life, and ecological sustainability. The key concepts include safety for all, the quality of life of the students, university staff, and the inhabitants of the city, the environment, and the prestige of the university as a socially responsible organisation. The campaign is targeted at the university environment, including the vicinity of the university buildings, university employees, students, and the inhabitants of the city in contact with the university.

## THE MONITORING OF TESTOSTERONE LEVELS IN RISKY DRIVERS

Guarantor: PhDr. Matúš Šucha, PhD.

Co-organisers: PhDr. Radko Obereignerů, PhD., PhDr. et MUDr. Miroslav Orel, Mgr. Petr Zámečník (Transport Research Centre), MUDr. Július Hodosy (Institute of Molecular Biomedicine and the Institute of Physiology, Faculty of Medicine, Comenius University, Bratislava).

Abstract: The purpose of the project is to test whether risky and safe drivers differ in their levels of testosterone (and other characteristics related to the hormone). Data will be collected by our partner organisation, the Brno Transport Research Centre, for drivers who have their driving licences suspended (and who are undergoing rehabilitation programmes before the reinstatement of their licences). The sample comprises some 100 drivers. Average population levels will be used as control values. If this pilot research study yields promising results, an application for funding will be submitted in association with the Institute of Molecular Biomedicine in Bratislava.

## PERCEPTION OF RISK IN TRAFFIC SITUATIONS

Guarantor: PhDr. Matúš Šucha, PhD.

Co-organisers: Ing. Jiří Ambrož (Transport Research Centre)

Abstract: The objective of this research project is to describe the way in which people perceive and assess risk-posing traffic situations with respect to their personality traits, identifications with specific road user roles (pedestrian, cyclist, driver, etc.), and driving behaviour. The respondents will be asked to scale-rate 35 short videos in terms of the level of risk they perceive in the situation

on display. In addition, they will be asked to complete a short questionnaire (personal data), the TVP personality test, and the DBQ questionnaire. The project is carried out in cooperation with the Transport Research Centre.

#### NVH ANALYSIS TECHNIQUES FOR THE DESIGN AND OPTIMISATION OF HYBRID AND ELECTRIC VEHICLES

Guarantor: PhDr. Matúš Šucha, PhD.

Co-organisers: Mgr. Petr Zámečník

**Abstract:** The main objective of the COST projects is to share international expert knowledge and produce compilations of findings in the form of progress and final reports. This COST Action focuses on the issue of hybrid and electric vehicles, especially with a view to their development and optimisation for wider community use. The main contributions and tasks of our university within the consortium are the provision of information about the public perception of electromobility, the definition of consumers' requirements, and the linking of consumers' needs with the potential development of the vehicles.

Grant support: COST Action TU 1105, H2020

TOPICS CLOSED IN ACADEMIC YEAR 2013-2014

THE HAND TEST METHOD IN DIFFERENTIAL DIAGNOSIS OF MENTAL DISORDERS

Guarantor: PhDr. Martin Lečbych, Ph.D.  
Co-organisers: PhDr. Pavel Kolda, Mgr. Martin Vaverka (PL Šternberk)

Abstract: The Projective Hand Test method is the traditional projective method applied in learning about the human personality. The essence of this research project is to extend the existing knowledge in the field to describe the relationship between personality and psychopathology and to describe the characteristics of results in patients with various mental disorders. The expected output of the research is a modern design manual for testing and technical articles summarizing research results.

Grant support: Project PAPSAV

ASSESSMENT OF INTERPERSONAL DECENTRATION IN PATIENTS WITH SCHIZOPHRENIA, TAT

Guarantor: PhDr. Martin Lečbych, Ph.D.  
Co-organisers: Mgr. Kristýna Hosáková (DSP student)

Abstract: Interpersonal decentration is an important concept which describes a person's ability to estimate the minds of others. It has a close relation to the so-called Theory of mind. It is possible to evaluate the method through TAT. In our research we try to describe this disposition in patients with schizophrenia, compare their performance with other known cases, link the results of our research to neuropsychological theories of schizophrenia, and create recommendations for the development of this disposition.

Grant support: IGA FF UP, MŠMT

EXPEDITIONS TO THE AYAHUASCA - A SURVEY OF A CURRENT PHENOMENON

Guarantor: PhDr. Veronika Kavenská, Ph.D.  
Co-organisers: Mgr. Hana Simonová, Mgr. Jakub Kuchař, Kateřina Wzatková, Veronika Černá

Abstract: The research project builds on ongoing research in the field by the Department of Psychology in order to extend its engagement with interested students. The aim of the research is to explore the global phenomenon of Ayahuasca tourism, focusing on the motivation of the participants, their psychological experiences during the ritual, the benefits in their subsequent life and potential risks. The operational objective is to describe the personality structure of these people and detect any deviations from the norm. Finally, it is also necessary to mention the practical impact of the project - information for professionals and the general public about the issue, and therefore awareness and prevention in the form of publications. Ayahuasca shamanic

tourism is a currently researched phenomenon, but in the Czech Republic so far insufficiently scientifically covered.

Grant support: IGA

#### TRAVELS IN THE QUEST FOR AYAHUASCA – INVESTIGATION OF A CURRENT PHENOMENON

Guarantor: PhDr. Veronika Kavenská, Ph.D.

Co-organisers: Hana Simonová, Jakub Kuchař, Kateřina Wzatková, Veronika Černá

**Abstract:** Following up on the study of this topic which is presently under way at the Department of Psychology, Philosophical Faculty, Palacky University, this research project is aimed at extending the previous investigational activities and engaging a team of students concerned with the area under study. The objective of the research is to describe the global phenomenon of ayahuasca tourism, with a particular focus on the participants' motivation, their psychological experiences during the ritual, and the benefits for their further life, as well as the potential risks. These individuals' personality structure and any possible deviations from the norm will also be studied. Last but not least, the practical implications of the project should be mentioned: both the professional community and the general public will be provided with information about the issue in the form of publications and websites, which will also work as awareness-raising and prevention resources. While arousing considerable research interest abroad recently, scientific evidence about tourism associated with ayahuasca shamanism has been scarce in the Czech Republic.

Grant support: Internal grant agency

#### ALEXITHYMIA AND RELATIONSHIP ISSUES FOR PEOPLE ADDICTED TO PSYCHOACTIVE SUBSTANCES

Guarantor: PhDr. Roman Procházka, Ph.D.

Co-organisers: Mgr. Gabriela Mahrová, Bc. Marek Laštovica (Psychiatrich ward Marianna Oranžská)

**Abstract:** The research focuses on the study of alexithymia and connections to people addicted to alcohol. The research methods that will be used are the questionnaire models TAS-20, ECR, SVF-78, and PSSI. The research aim is to statistically verify whether interactions between alexithymia, coping strategies, type of relationship and personality styles create a significant relationship and in what direction. The current research has established an interconnection between these phenomena, especially in people who are addicted to psychoactive substances. Our research also focuses on whether there are differences in these constructs studied in humans with different primary dependence on addictive substances (i.e., alcohol dependence, stimulant dependence, opioid dependence, etc.). The aim is to implement the results in clinical-diagnostic and therapeutic situations.

Grant support: Project PAPSAV

#### FOSTER CARE: EXPERIENCE VS. TRENDS

Guarantor: doc. PhDr. Irena Sobotková, CSc.

Co-organisers: PhDr. Veronika Očenášková, Ph.D., Mgr. Martina Fülepová (DSP student)

**Abstract:** While representing a narrow segment of social and professional practice, foster care deserves attention, as it has a major impact on many people's lives. Foster care-specific legislation and practices are being changed without anybody showing interest in the experience and opinions of those who are directly concerned with this type of childcare. An extensive and locally unprecedented research project was designed to study the personal experience of adult individuals who were raised in a foster family. Its aim was to compare the personal experience with the trends that are currently being promoted and to point out the potential risks of the latter in terms of children's psychological needs being met. In particular, the research focused on the issues of both the biological and foster families and their significance for the subjects' further life, the process of their dealing with their non-standard personal histories, their current life satisfaction, and the level of their coping with their adult-life roles (occupational, partnership, parental). The main publication outcome is a monograph published by Palacky University Press.

**Grant support:** Internal Grant Agency, Philosophical Faculty, Palacky University; Ministry of Education (IGA FF\_2012\_003)

#### RESEARCH ON THE PARTNER SATISFACTION OF WOMEN IN ACADEMIC PROFESSIONS

Guarantor: PhDr. Veronika Očenášková, Ph.D.

Co-organisers: doc. PhDr. Irena Sobotková, CSc.

**Abstract:** This research focuses on the partner satisfaction of women in academic positions. The main objective is to survey the perceived importance of partner relationships in the lives of these women and the ways they harmonise their personal lives with their professional careers. It is a qualitative study complemented with questionnaire methods, a "parallel embedded strategy" (Cresswell, 2003). The target group comprises women in young and mid-adulthood who have been pursuing their academic careers for three or more years and have been in a steady partner relationship for at least three years. The preliminary results show that while women accentuate their families and relationships, their professional duties significantly predominate and affect their personal lives.

**Grant support:** Internal Grant Agency, Philosophical Faculty, Palacky University; Ministry of Education (IGA FF\_2013\_021)

#### TRANSLATION AND LOCAL ADAPTATION OF THE DBQ QUESTIONNAIRE

Guarantor: PhDr. Matúš Šucha, PhD.

Co-organiser: PhDr. Lenka Šrámková (DSP student)

The Manchester Driver Behaviour Questionnaire, DBQ, is a widely recognized tool in the psychological diagnosis of drivers. A part of the research is the distribution of the Manchester

driver behavior questionnaire (DBQ) to drivers in this country. However, the main objective of the study is to create a valid tool for psychological diagnosis in the field of traffic psychology in the Czech Republic (including those for drivers). A further aim is to demonstrate the relationship between different scales of the questionnaire (intentional infringements, dangerous mistakes, errors of inattention), socio-demographic characteristics of drivers, and their driving history (mileage, accidents, violations).

#### ASSESSMENT OF PSYCHOLOGICAL STRAIN IN EMPLOYEES WORKING AS TRAIN DESPATCHERS AND TRAFFIC CONTROLLERS

Guarantor: PhDr. Matúš Šucha, PhD.

Co-organisers: Doc. PhDr. Zdeněk Vtípil, CSc., Doc. Ing. Pavel Drdla, PhD., Ing. Josef Bulíček, PhD., Mgr. Petr Zámečník, Mgr. Michal Šimeček, Mgr. Veronika Kuřečková, PhDr. Jiří Popelka.

Abstract: The main purpose of this assignment is to assess the psychological strain associated with the performance of the above jobs, including the assessment of the ergonomic design of control elements used to operate communication, radio, and information devices and other technological equipment. The contract also involves the requirements for the drafting of a psychological profile of an employee in this position, the development of a psychodiagnostic test battery for selecting people for these positions, and a proposal for measures aimed at mitigating psychological strain, with implications for the design of a new traffic control centre meeting the latest requirements for occupational hygiene. Working with the Traffic Research Centre in Brno and the University of Pardubice, the Department of Psychology will bring this CZK 3.5 million contract to fruition in the first half of 2014.

Grant support: Public procurement, Railway Infrastructure Administration.

#### SENSE OF SELF IN GIFTED CHILDREN

Guarantor: PhDr. Jan Šmahaj, Ph.D.

Co-organisers: Mgr. Ester Šromová

Abstract: The research project will increase interest in the issue of intellectually gifted children among the professional and general public. We intend to focus on the exploration of the self. The concept of self is one of the cornerstones of the human psyche, determining an individual's quality of life (Vymětal, 2010). The aim is to determine whether intellectual aptitude influences children's sense of self, and whether there is a difference between gifted and averagely talented children. The plan is to examine a sample of school-aged children in the Zlín and Olomouc regions. The collection of data will be conducted through personal meetings, which means visits to the selected schools where the children will do intelligence tests and tests examining their concept of self. Planned outputs are, for example, publications in professional journals and participation at the international conference Psychological Days. The results will hopefully be able to be put to use as a framework for the whole topic.

Grant support: IGA, FF UP, MŠMT