2/2017

alumni ABSOLVENTI VŠB-TUO

Magazine
for graduates
of všb-tuo

QUO VADIS UNIVERSITY?

Where Are We and Where Are We Going to Be?
Results of the world university rankings

New Leadership and a New Vision.
One of the priorities is recruiting students

Jaroslav Kolbaba, Our Diamond Graduate
From the first Majáles to the Alumni Club

Alumni 2/2017
Magazine for graduates
VŠB-TU Ostrava

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Vice-Rector's editorial

Dear readers,

You are now holding in your hands a new issue of Alumni magazine which again brings information about current events and happenings at our alma mater. You have probably learned from the media coverage about the recent change in the University leadership, and we have decided to devote a significant part of this issue to the above topic.

I believe that getting to know the vision of the new Rector is going to provide you with important information and insight into the future direction of VŠB-TUO. Our University is undergoing a number of organisational changes at the moment and during such a period it is important to share essential information using all communication channels. It is necessary to know where we are headed in order for changes to be accepted positively and for the University to act together in harmony in the future. Many of you may have noticed a new University website that will continue to develop. One of the goals is, for example, to be able to fill out the application from one's mobile phone. Keep your fingers crossed for us to be the first in the country.

The Rector has chosen new people, including me, for his „team." So, you'll learn, amongst other things something about me and my new colleague's vision and life. „New Leadership – A New Vision" is actually the key motto of this issue. We also provide up-to-date information about what is happening at the University, interviews with successful graduates, and other interesting things.

We value our graduates, which is reflected, for example, in the new benefits of the ALUMNI programme, but also in the possibility of free participation in the busy schedule of our Career Centre. And because we write about it at the very end of this issue, remember to save some energy for it, too.

We would be happy if you talk about the alumni network with your classmates.

Enough talking, I hope you will have a pleasant time reading the following pages, and since the end of the year is around the corner, I would like to wish you a successful completion of your workload, Merry Christmas and Happy New Year.

Assoc. Prof. Ing. Radim Halama, Ph.D.
Vice-Rector for International Relations and Social Affairs

alumni ABSOLVENTI VŠB-TUO

Where Are We and Where Are We Going to Be?

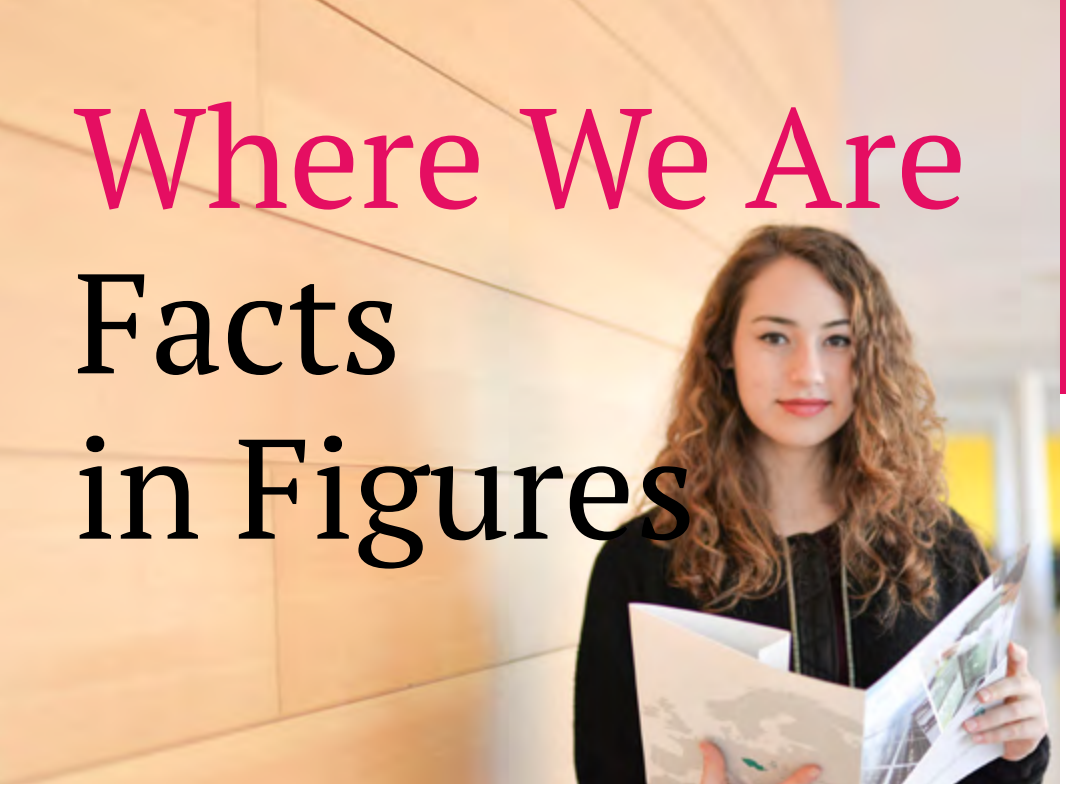
Population trends are unfavourable. The interest in technical fields is low. Universities lack money...

In recent years, these slogans could be heard from all different directions. They can begin to sound like empty phrases that appear in every rationale of negative development. In fact, you have to take every opportunity to reverse or at least mitigate these trends. These are also the challenges that the University needs to face.

VŠB-TUO is currently ascending the international rankings of universities. We can encounter the students from different parts of the world in corridors, and we can boast about a modern infrastructure and facilities with top-class equipment. The new management of the University can thus build on previous achievements and further develop the work already started. However, it also faces a number of new challenges, changes and obstacles that need to be solved. There is no other way but to wish the University, its students and employees that a new common road will lead to achieving the goals which were set, the expectations are met in line with our visions and all future steps lead to the satisfaction of all parties.

TEXT: Lucie Rýcová '09
PHOTO: Lucie Nohlová '17

Where We Are
Facts in Figures



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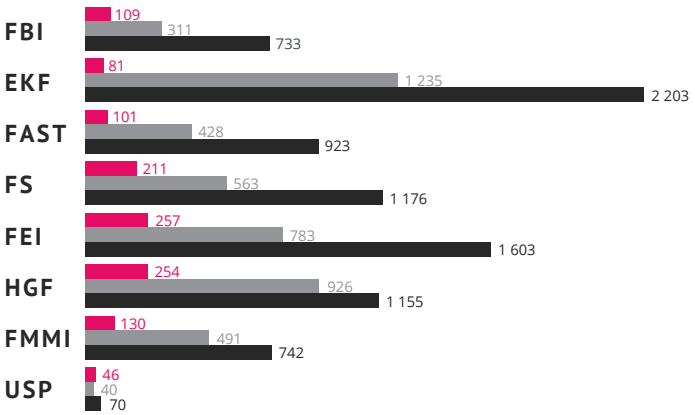
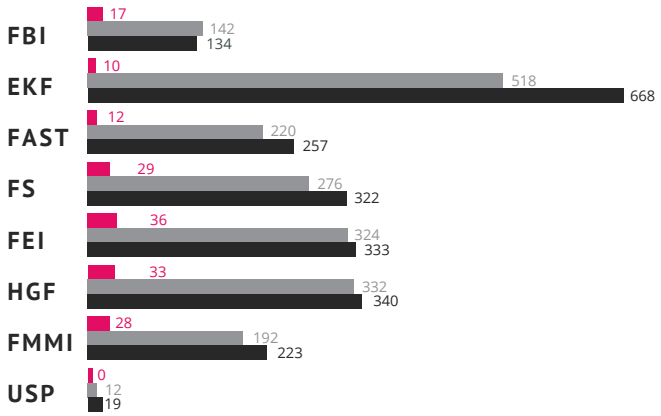
NEWLY APPOINTED PROFESSORS

42
NEWLY APPOINTED ASSOCIATE PROFESSORS

Students by faculties



Graduates by faculties



EKF – Faculty of Economics / FAST – Faculty of Civil Engineering / FBI – Faculty of Safety Engineering / FEI – Faculty of Electrical Engineering and Computer Science / FMMI – Faculty of Metallurgy and Materials Engineering / HUF – Faculty of Metallurgy / FS – Faculty of Mechanical Engineering / FSE – Faculty of Mechanical and Electrical Engineering / HGF – Faculty of Mining and Geology/ USP - University Study Programmes

PhD
Follow-up Master's
Bachelor's

310 students sent abroad

864 international students admitted to study at VŠB-TUO

Source: VŠB-TUO 2016 Annual Report

VŠB-TUO belongs to the top 4% world universities according to THE.

Income from industry remains the best-evaluated indicator of VŠB-TUO.

Development of VŠB-TUO scores according to 5 THE pillars:

	Share on the total result	2018 rank on a global scale	2017 score	2018 score	Year-on-year point difference 2017 vs 2018
TUITION	30%	912.	15,6	18,6	3,0 ↑
INTERNATIONALIZATION	7,5%	764.	27,1	30,4	3,3 ↑
REVENUE FROM INDUSTRY	2,5%	496.	37,9	39,5	1,6 ↑
RESEARCH	30%	737.	11,7	13,1	1,4 ↑
CITATIONS	30%	979.	20,8	12,8	−8,0 ↓

Ranking of Czech Universities by THE: This year, VŠB-TUO is on the shared 6th rank of a total of 13 evaluated Czech universities.

Rank 2016 | Rank 2017 | Rank 2018

VŠB-TUO in the QS ranking

Within the QS World University Ranking, the VŠB-TUO continues to improve its position in the region in a year-on-year ranking.

EECA (= Eastern Europe and Central Asia)

New Leadership and a New Vision

Rector Václav Snášel: „I have a vision which I would like to make come true.“

This March, Prof. RNDr. Václav Snášel, CSc. was elected as the new rector of VŠB-TUO by the University Academic Senate. Of the six candidates he advanced to the second round, winning 25 votes to 12 votes. Professor Snášel assumed the office on September 1, 2017. What is his vision? What are his plans to attract potential applicants to study at our University? And what is the state of collaboration with other universities? You can read all of this and much more in an interview with the new Rector of VŠB – Technical University of Ostrava.

You are a graduate of Numerical Mathematics at Palacký University in Olomouc. What does this specifically deal with?
Essentially, it was mathematics and its possible applications in various fields.

Could you share with us what kind of student you were?
I think I was just like everyone else and was definitely nothing special. I only had an individual study plan for one year, since mathematics, which was being taught at the time, seemed too easy for me. So I tried to make it more difficult. I took some subjects that were a bit different from my other classmates' subjects.

How did you get from Olomouc to Ostrava?
A long time ago, I met the current governor Ivo Vondrák, who was the head of the Department of Computer Science at the time, and we agreed that it would be good for both of us if I applied for a work position here. So that's what I did, and took up the position at the University.

What is your relationship to Ostrava?
I think that Ostrava is a beautiful city. It has shown huge progress. When you compare the city to what it looked like before the Revolution and to what it looks like now, you can see a massive change. The main thing I like about Ostrava is its people. I think they are more open and I like working with them.

What is the incentive for a man who has devoted his entire life to science and is now running for managerial positions such as Rector or Dean?
It is simple. It's because I have some vision that I want to realize and, of course, there are things that I like and that I don't. And when I don't like something, I have a few options. I can either complain, or try to change things. My idea is that it is better to change things.

How have you been getting used to your new position?
I think it's very similar to what I did at the Faculty of Electrical Engineering and Computer Science; I'm trying to implement similar principles and methods. I would be happy if we managed to achieve that, for example, all university staff had contracts for an indefinite period, just like at my former faculty. This was 6 years of work though. It would be interesting for the staff to have some certainty of perspective. It certainly contributes toward a better mood and better work performance.

In your election programme, you have mentioned that we must become a prestigious and preferred educational institution. How can this be achieved?
One of the fundamental things is that we need to be able to choose the area in which we would like to profile as a university. We are not such a big university to cover all areas. At this point, it seems that our university could become some kind of energy research centre. This focus stems from our infrastructure, when I add up our energy institutes and IT4I, then there is a background worth approx. 2 billion Czech crowns.

„The vision is to build an Energy Research Centre here on campus.“

It's an area that could be utilized. The vision is to build an energy centre so that we can help businesses and smaller municipalities in how to set up an energy mix in terms of its performance, security, etc. This is an asset for us because we have built our infrastructure and now need to be able to succeed with competition.

Do you plan to involve students in this project?
The PhD students are certainly now involved. Already when I was still at the faculty I promoted a focus on project learning, that is, students were offered participation in projects during their studies that would serve their profiling. So the answer is that the students would be able to get involved and should do so.

The University is involved in the Industry 4.0 Project. Could you explain what this project is about?
We are one of the founding universities of the National Industry Centre 4.0. Within the University, a so-called smart factory should be built. It is a project for approximately 160 million Czech crowns and should be completed in two years. The idea is that production could be brought closer to the customer by means of digitization. A great example can be found on Adidas's website, which offers the opportunity for every customer to have a customized shoe made, not a typical apparel shoe. For example, the automotive industry already works that way. According to statistics from 2016, BMW has not produced two identical cars since. When you go to buy a car, you can have it configured starting from colour through engine to all kinds of interior accessories. It means that every car is different. The concept differs a bit from Henry Ford's concept who gained his fame by introducing an assembly line production, thus manufacturing

„One of the priorities is student recruitment."

one car model in one colour and with one equipment, by which he was able to beat down the price. Today, with the use of robotics lines nobody really cares if produced cars are to differ from each other, because the robots can handle it.

In your programme vision, when running for the Rector's office, it was said that a motivating environment for students should be created. How can we create such an environment?
Here is an example. When I was a dean, we had 40 robotic study circles at the faculty. There was a bunch of students in the laboratory who were preparing projects even during the weekends that they subsequently presented at secondary schools. Students were awarded a scholarship for that. However, it turned out that they were in fact bad students, because due to their demanding schedule and work in the lab, they had never fully completed their study assignments. Therefore we have made a step forward having defined the subject to be of a C grade. The motivation of the students was that they could continue working in the given study circles, receive a scholarship as well as some credits for their efforts. We should seek this kind of student motivation across faculties, which in turn should lead to students being more active. The biggest issue is that most of our graduates think about finding an employer while a relatively low number of graduates think of setting up their own business. This needs to be changed.

Nowadays, an overall shortage of students and generally little interest in the study of technical disciplines is part of many discussions. How can we relay the information that technology is a good direction and choice for study to students?
It is represented at several levels. One level is that technical education has no support from the government, ministry, etc. The second level is that it takes a moment to be patient, since not every university graduate who ends up working somewhere in a supermarket would consider that life investment to be interesting. A fairly common model is that students graduate, then they find some inferior job abroad, and return home at the age of 35. And what is their value in the labour market? They can collect apples and strawberries. I think the perspective of these people is relatively low.

So how can we encourage young people to study technical programmes?
Motivation can be based on the fact that we can show the positions in which students who graduate in the technical field will receive. I think the salary conditions are somewhere else.

Do you think that the relationship between the graduates and the University is important?
It's definitely an important relationship, because one of the main areas we are interested in is recruiting and receiving more students. I see this relationship as part of building a brand and a good name of the University. On the other hand, we have to admit that it will not be a relationship similar to the one common in the United States, where successful graduates are capable of strongly supporting the universities financially. Such a culture has yet to be developed here.

There are some current talks about the cooperation of our university with the Palacký University in Olomouc (UPOL). Could you share this cooperation with us in more detail?
Both universities, VŠB-TUO and UPOL, complement each other quite well in some areas. UPOL is more focused on basic research, which is quite successful. We are focused on technology and here is where I think we are able to complement each other a lot. This is actually a driving force of co-operation. The advantage is, speaking figuratively, that the basic research ends by something being created in a tube. The question is, how to transfer it from a tube, hyperbolically speaking, to some 500 kg boiler. That is the role of technologists and it is not a totally simple matter. At the same time, we can complement each other in teaching. In Olomouc, they have relatively good art branches, which can be linked to the related fields, for example, to industrial design.

Do you plan to cooperate with the University of Ostrava as well?
Yes, we want to cooperate with the University of Ostrava very closely; it was just about timing. We first discussed the cooperation with Palacký University, but we are also interested in the closest possible cooperation with the University of Ostrava.

What is the significance of such cooperation? Does this have to do with the decline of students?
When we look at the number of study applications to enrol for the first year, both the University of Ostrava and Palacký University each receive approximately 50,000 applications every year. Our university has not even received 10,000 at this time. I think

the cooperation is open in the areas where we can complement each other. And because there are a lot of disciplines that are seemingly far from some real-world applications, they can be well combined with engineering. As I say, industrial design, for example, is a question of interconnecting the Department of Art with engineering study branches. It's not just this case, we can also talk about website design. It is a combination of IT and art, which is completely natural and these are the things that are desired. So, if we had some joint research and joint study programmes in these areas, then I believe we're going to produce the graduates who will be on demand.

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Every day you commute to work from Olomouc…It must be quite time-consuming. What do you do in your free time?
The commute is not so bad. Fortunately now, I drive on the speedway, so it takes me 45 minutes to get to work. If I worked somewhere in Prague and lived in the suburbs, it would take essentially the same time when taking public transport. I try to compensate my work with some sport, movement, because most of the day I just sit or walk a short distance.

It is said that behind every successful man there is a woman (Napoleon Hill's quote)…
Of course, without a good supporting family (background) it would be far worse to manage the workload. It definitely takes a functional family.

Prof. RNDr. Václav Snášel, CSc. graduated from Numerical Mathematics at Palacký University's Faculty of Science. Since 2010 he has held the position of the Dean of the Faculty of Electrical Engineering and Computer Science at VŠB-TUO. He was the head of the IT4Innovations research programme. In the field of science and research, Professor Snášel has been involved for 30 years; the fields of his interest include e.g. documentary information systems, knowledge systems, ontology, data compression, XML, multi-agent systems, organized sets theories, conceptual unions, semantic web. His hobbies include gardening, sports, and reading books.

TEXT: Petra Polesová'16
PHOTO: VŠB-TUO Archive

New Leadership and a New Vision

As of September 1, hand in hand with a change in the position of university rector the vicerector positions also changed. How do they identify with their (old) new positions? What are their plans and what do they do in their leisure time?

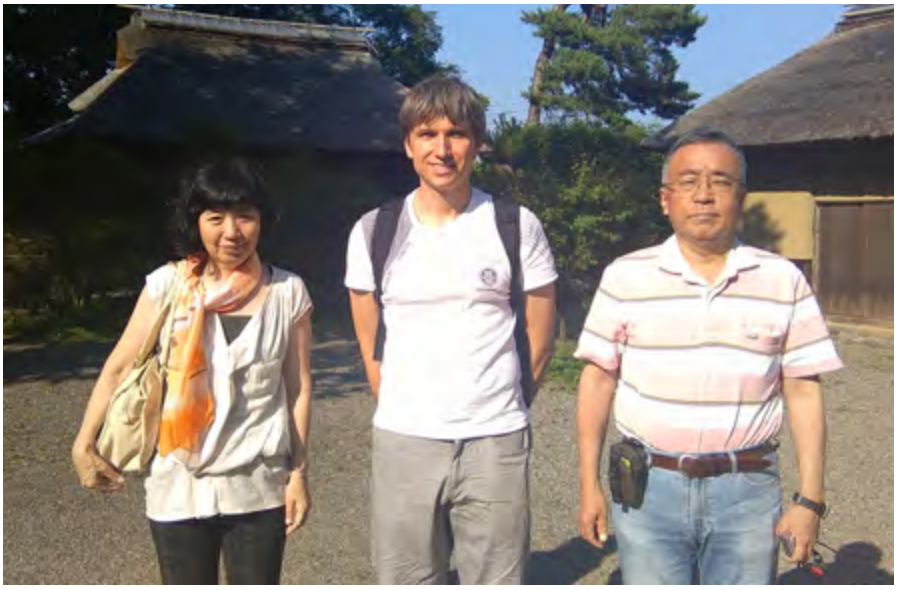
Ing. ZDEŇKA CHMELÍKOVÁ, Ph.D.
Vicerector for Study Affairs

How do you identify with your new position of a vicerector?
I have not had time to think about it at all. I jumped on the „bandwagon" and I am trying to continue working on projects and tasks that are already in progress and also working on the new ones. The position of vicerector for study affairs involves the management of extensive agendas. I am lucky to have an excellent team of co-workers with whom we manage. But I am going to leave the evaluation of our work to others, and perhaps the results will speak for us.

„I jumped on the bandwagon."

What are your future plans in this position?
I have got many plans, but will mention the most important one, which are accreditations. First of all, we need to accredit new study programmes with their accreditation expiring on August 31, 2019. And then we start institutional accreditation. We plan to set up the study programmes so as to attract as many young people as possible and, of course, to cover to the greatest extent the needs of the labour market and demands of industrial enterprises of all sizes and fields both in the region and throughout the Czech Republic. And that's another task – to increase the number of students at our University.

What do you do in your leisure time?
Leisure time? What is it? (laughs) I don't have much leisure time, because similar to most working women I have another shift at home, but when I manage to save some spare time, I prefer to spend it in nature and mountains. As a proper Walachian I love the Beskydy Mountain range, where I go hiking, ride a bicycle and also pick wild mushrooms and forest fruit in the summer. In winter, I like cross-country skiing and also downhill skiing, for which I prefer Austria with my family, where they can organize this sport well for all people. My other interests include reading books, especially historical crime fictions and novels.



Assoc. Prof. Ing. RADIM HALAMA, Ph.D.
Vicerector for International Relations and Social Affairs (from January 1, 2018 Vicerector for Commercialization and Cooperation with Industry)

How do you identify with your new position of a vicerector?
The position of the Vice-Rector is, of course, quite different from that of the Head of the Department or the senior IT4Innovations researcher I previously held. Things happen very quickly. Generally speaking, I enjoy meeting new people. In the current position of Vice-Rector for International Relations and Social Affairs, the range of meetings is very wide. For example, for international relations, I participated in meetings with representatives of foreign universities from China and Algeria. In October, VŠB-TUO also joined the Alliance of Chinese and Central European Universities, which will open a new gateway for international cooperation, for which I was honoured to be present in Bratislava. What I always find interesting is the meetings with representatives of student organisations. To be honest, I did not have any idea about their existence, and I have great respect for students who are willing to invest their time and for the most part great efforts for a good thing. But there are also new opportunities for our University. Already in the faculty, I have been trying to develop cooperation between individual faculties. I am trying to work in a similar manner now. The preparation of joint study programmes with the Palacký University in Olomouc looks promising. For example, we are preparing a study programme Industrial Design with their Department of Art Education. The interest of participation in the development of this study programme was manifested by four faculties – the Faculty of Mechanical Engineering, the Faculty of Metallurgy and Materials Engineering, the Faculty of Civil Engineering, and the Faculty of Mining and Geology. Of course, this effort does not just refer to joint study programmes, but to the launch of long-term functional cooperation in the field of science and research, technology transfer and others. Social affairs are also a very interesting area and we would need more time to discuss it.

What are your future plans in this position?
In the future, I will be entrusted with an agenda focused on commercialization, technology transfer, and in general, cooperation with industry. I look forward to cooperating with colleagues from the Centre for Innovation Support and its greater connection with the VŠB-TUO's Career Centre. Our graduates are quite on demand today. Companies are also actively involved in the education process. Industry experts from the application sphere lecture and generally support the job finding of our graduates more than ever before. It's good to know in which areas students lack the knowledge. I would like to just remind you that the successful job placement of VŠB-TUO graduates is supported thanks to the activities of the Career Centre and the career opportunities fair called Kariéra PLUS. However, companies want to reach even more students. I will mention the Faculty of Mechanical Engineering where a seminar for the students of the design fields of study is organized this year, where they have an opportunity to present the themes of final theses, participate in training programmes, get part-time and summer jobs, etc. It is rather on a smaller scale but we can imagine introducing similar events on a larger scale following the example of German universities. We have many plans, of course, but I am not going to reveal them all now. Greater support for the commercialisation of science and research results and being able to lead students toward finding courage to start their own businesses are important objectives.

„I enjoy meeting new people“

What could you reveal about your personal life?
I will be more brief in this area. For example, many colleagues around me do not know that I am divorced. I'm trying not to mix together my work and my personal life. The last three years of my life have been very challenging, but now I am very happy. I have recently met a soulmate who has an understanding of my enthusiasm about the university and a sense of responsibility. My life has changed to something unrecognisable, but I don't feel sorry about it. I have a 12 year-old son and an 11 year-old daughter who make me very happy. I prefer to spend time with my partner and children. Lately, I have not had any time left for my hobbies since we just moved into the reconstructed flat, but when I have time, I like reading, especially stories based on real events and books on self-development. People should work on themselves for the entire life.

Assoc. Prof. Ing. et. Ing. FRANTIŠEK KUDA, CSc.
Vicerector for Development and Investment Construction

How do you identify with your new position of a vicerector?
The position of Vicerector for Development and Investment Construction has put a big challenge in front of me. Just like everyone else who would be expected to make a similar decision, the thoughts of whether and how successfully I could handle this new job were running through my mind. An academic organisational activity is not unknown to me because, since 2002, I have been the head of the Department of Urban Engineering at the Faculty of Civil Engineering, VŠB-TUO, a member of the Scientific Council of the Faculty, a member of the Subject Area Board and I also work in other expert committees. At my new workplace, I have met friendly and very professional colleagues, and so I believe we will work well together.

What are your future plans in this position?
The future begins with every moment. I have been trying to follow new trends in the construction industry for a long time, both as a member of the Czech Chamber of Authorised Engineers and Technicians (CKAIT) working in the construction industry and as a Vice-President of the Czech Union of Civil Engineers (CSSI). The most important current trend is the digital transformation of the construction sector and the related BIM (Building Information Model/Modelling). The construction industry within Industry 4.0 acquires a new dimension in the planning, implementation and operation of all types of buildings, including the technical and transport infrastructure over the lifecycle of construction works. This is going to be particularly appreciated by the subsequent property and facility management. I want to work with my colleagues to start introducing this new philosophy into our university environment. First, I would like to implement a BIM pilot project to the faculty of my alma mater, that is the Faculty of Civil Engineering and subsequently apply the knowledge received across the entire university.

„The future begins with every moment.“

What could you reveal about your personal life?
In my leisure time, I try to keep active. I regularly go swimming, occasionally cycle and cross-country ski. I do all the sports just at ease and for leisure since we have a fairly large fruit tree orchard, where I get more than enough exercise. Fortunately, my whole family helps. I enjoy listening to classical and folk music very much. When young musicians convey it, my feelings are even deeper. Also, spending time with our four-year-old grandchildren, with whom we discover the world together, fills me with joy.

Prof. Ing. PETR PRAUS, Ph.D.
Vicerector for Science and Research

You are the only one who has kept the position of a vicerector. You have also been newly appointed to (become) the deputy rector. How do you perceive changes in the University management?
Our university and other universities and colleges in the Czech Republic are going to face a difficult period. We will have to deal with a number of issues related to the lack of students, a new methodology for assessing science and research, a new accreditation system, etc. This will require a number of changes, including taking often unpopular measures. Coping with these problems means to seek and implement non-traditional and decisive solutions, which will not always be easy. I consider (his Magnificence), the Rector to be a man of original thinking and great managerial experience, and therefore, when he offered me the position of Vicerector for S&R, I did not have to think about it for a long time. My hope with the new management is that they set up a transparent and motivating environment in the University that can overcome all future problems and lead to the University further development. I hope that we will soon be able to 'jump' on the Times Higher Education (THE) world rankings at least to 601th-800th place and become an internationally respected university. The enclosed photo is from my visit to University of California, Berkeley, and shows an impact that "Banska" will once make on the world.

„We will have to deal with a number of difficulties."

What are your future plans in this position?
As I answered above, I would like to help set out the conditions for our staff to be able to enhance their performance and quality in the research activities, which are now largely inhomogeneous. On the one hand, we have some top scientific teams whose results are international, and on the other hand almost two-thirds of staff have not published at least one article in journals from the Web of Science database in the past 5 years, as I have learned. When you look at the criteria by which universities are ranked, for example, in the THE ranking, 30% of the rating are citation, and 18% are represented by scientific reputation, which is almost half of the total rating. Both of these categories go hand in hand and there is definitely a lot of room for improvement, as is also shown in the annual science and research reports. Necessity and self-awareness for each teacher and researcher will be to systematically publish in quality journals and proceedings of recognized conferences. A good place in this and other similar rankings will help us attract international students, researchers, and partners for various projects and, last but not least, get the necessary funding.

What could you reveal about your personal life?
I love science in all its forms, but I prefer chemistry and am happy that I have stayed with it the whole the time after graduation. Many of my classmates from the University of Chemistry and Technology in Prague have gone into business and some into politics. I have been at VŠB-TUO since 2002 and before I worked in several research and industrial enterprise laboratories. In my leisure time, I try to do sports as much as possible to compensate for stress and sitting around at meetings, consultations, and in front of the computer. So I try to go running, cycling, and I also walk a lot (not just hike in the mountains) and swim, but always for joy and not for medals. I like going to the theatre and concerts. I like watching films, enjoy travelling, and when there is time, I like reading fiction. For example now, I have started The Hitchhiker's Guide to Galaxy. What also makes me happy is good food, drinks and going out with friends.

TEXT: Petra Polesová'16
PHOTO: Archive of respondents

What‘s Going

ASSOC. PROF. VÍT VONDRÁK IS THE NEW DIRECTOR OF IT4INNOVATIONS

Since August 1, Assoc. Prof. Mgr. Vít Vondrák, Ph.D. has become the director of the IT4Innovations Institute. He has been linked with the National Supercomputer Centre since its foundation, when he was part of the team that prepared the project of the Centre. Vít Vondrák also served as the head of the research programme and later as the Scientific Director in IT4Innovations.

Assoc. Prof. Vondrák has worked at VŠB-TUO since 1992. He obtained his associate professorship degree in Applied Mathematics from the Faculty of Electrical Engineering and Computer Science in 2007. In his scientific practice he has led or participated in the management of a number of research projects. The most significant projects include a Major Infrastructure Project (2012-2015), the projects under the 7th EU Framework Program or the Cze-BaCCA Project for cooperation between the Czech Republic and Bavaria in the field of supercomputing applications.

behind the gates of our university?

THE VŠB-TU OSTRAVA STUDENTS SUCCEEDED IN THE IQRF WIRELESS CHALLENGE III COMPETITION

The IQRF Summit 2017, which focuses on real solutions in the field of smart cities, buildings, households, transport, security and industry using IQRF technology, was held in Prague on June 7 and 8.

This year's competition motto "Make Use of Your Skills, Design the Best Application for IQRF Wireless Technology and Compete for Valuable Prizes" has brought great success to VŠB-TUO, a member of the IQRF Alliance and Smart School.

Jan Velička won first place with his CO_2 teaching and presentation module and Ing. Jiří Škovránek won first place with his security system solution for a block of flats. Both are the students of the Department of Cybernetics and Biomedical Engineering under the Faculty of Electrical Engineering and Computer Science. The winners received valuable prizes from the area of IT.

THE STUDENTS FROM THE FACULTY OF CIVIL ENGINEERING RECEIVED A NUMBER OF PRIZES BOTH IN THE COMPETITION FOR WRITING THE BEST STUDENT THESIS AND THE STUDENTS' SCIENTIFIC AND PROFESSIONAL ACTIVITIES

This year's competition for the Best Student Thesis and the Students' Scientific and Professional Activities (SVOC) contest were controlled by the students from the Faculty of Civil Engineering. Martin Laštík and Miroslav Kysela won the VŠB-TUO Rector's Award as well as the SUDOP Award in the ČDS&T 2016 competition for the best student thesis in the field of transport and transport engineering (Editorial's note: a project and an engineering prize).

Martin Laštík won the Rector of VŠB-TUO Award for his thesis "Conversion of the existing pedestrian footbridge with a focus on the dynamic behaviour of the footbridge and the design of measures to improve the user well-being of pedestrians and cyclists." Miroslav Kysela was awarded the SUDOP Award for his thesis entitled "Conversion of a truss girder bridge in Strečno, Slovakia."

Ondrej Kvašňovský and Katarína Sobolová attained the first positions in the sections Engineering Structures and Bridges and Geotechnics. Marek Obšivač won third place in the Technical Building Equipment and Power of the Buildings section. Lukáš Procházka's thesis was selected as the best in the Materials Engineering section.

VŠB-TUO WON THE HOCKEY DERBY FOR THE FOURTH TIME

The Ostrava Hockey Derby, which is a match between the two Ostrava universities, VŠB-TUO and University of Ostrava (UO), was won by our University for the fourth time.

The fifth year of the Ostrava Hockey Derby was again dominated by the ice hockey players from VŠB-TUO, who defeated UO 3:1. The match took place on November 7 in a sold-out RT TORAX Arena in Ostrava-Poruba. The rectors of both universities started the match. Atmosphere was absolutely stunning throughout the whole time. A lot of other activities, such as a parade from student dormitories to the stadium and a sale of T-shirts, sweatshirts and caps of each university, are connected with the game, which have divided the sports hall into two islands of fans. A healthy rivalry between the universities manifested itself in a bursting cheering that shook the tribune. The fifth year of the Derby for several reasons was newly moved to a winter semester. The first reason is that the best players do not have a play-off and there is a greater chance that these players will be part of the teams of both universities, thereby enhancing the hockey quality. The second reason was the opportunity to make a bigger time span between larger university events. The Derby used to be held close to Majáles (May Parade). Now both the students and graduates have been offered more diversity, the Hockey Derby in a winter semester and in Majáles a summer semester.

THE VŠB-TUO LIVENED UP THE SUMMER FESTIVALS

VŠB-TUO has not miss out on this year's Festival v ulicích (Festival in the Streets), where it entertained visitors with wooden brain-teasers or stationery bicycles with a screen simulating electric power production as part of its accompanying program near the Silesian Ostrava Castle.

The Festival Colours of Ostrava offered the UNIVERcity EXPERIENCE STAGE as part of the Meltingpot forum, which was a joint discussion stage of VŠB-TUO and the University of Ostrava. Our University was represented by Dr. Maléřová for the Faculty of Safety Engineering, Assoc. Prof. Kukutschová and Assoc. Prof. Plachý from the Nanotechnology Centre, PhDr. Jemelka from the Department of Social Sciences, and Prof. Mišák and Dr. Prokop from the ENET Centre.

The VŠB-TUO campus in the Poruba neighbourhood organized the Art&Science Festival already for the third time. Its purpose is to build on the time when art and science were inseparably linked. In addition to the great musical performances of the MIRAI, Marcel Woodman Rock&Roll Band and MIG 21 bands, the faculties prepared a demonstration of their work for the visitors. Very popular activities included scarf acrobatics, slack line, various workshops such as arts&crafts workshop, tunnel building, demonstrations of student and scientist activities, tin casting, a fast car, or laser maze.

THE VŠB-TUO WON SEVERAL WINNING PLACES IN THE CZECH ACADEMIC GAMES

A total of 51 athletes, the students of VŠB-TUO participated in Prague at the 16th Czech Academic Games. The event was jointly organized by Prague universities, the Charles University and CTU from June 18 to June 23. Our students took part in nine sports events: aerobics, athletics, beach volleyball, men's floorball, men's handball, orienteering, table tennis, tennis and women's volleyball. Our students won six

gold, six silver, and five bronze medals. In the scoring competition of universities, the VŠB-TUO team won 11th place out of a total of 41 participating universities, gaining 29.5 points.

The men's floorball team won the gold medal and the academic champion title of the Czech Republic 2017. In individual sports, table tennis players (Adámková, Bajger, Beneš, Rezetka – all the Faculty of Economics) traditionally succeeded; the team won eight medals (four of them were gold – three for Bajger, one for Adámková).

Also, the shot putter Pallová managed to win the gold medal and the academic title and added a bronze in a discus throw event. The pole jumper Kratochvíl won the silver medal and the runner Siebeltová won the silver on a 3,000-metre track and bronze on a 1,500-metre one.

The tennis player Kracík won a silver medal by advancing to the finals of a highly ranked men's singles competition. Finally, our University women's volleyball players won bronze medals.

THE CHARITABLE 'TECHNIKA RUN' ATTRACTED RUNNERS FROM ACROSS THE WHOLE UNIVERSITY

On Wednesday, October 4, the VŠB-TUO Poruba campus was full of runners participating in the Technika RUN. Three versions of the race were prepared for runners: 1,600 metres, 5 km, and 10 km. The University also had children in mind when organizing the race; they could compete as well. The full starting fee of 100 CZK per runner was contributed to charity purposes, namely to the Mobile Hospice Ondrášek. A total sum that the athletes contributed was 22,300 CZK.

In the newly launched 1,600-metre run the first three places in the men's category went to Martin Mánek, Michal Ruman, and Olaf Bača. In the women's category, Radka Pavelková finished first, Denisa Lungová was second, and Kateřina Gecová third. The men's five km race was best managed by Adam Gaura (00:17:59), Jakub Němec and the third Tomáš Hykel. Simona Vrzalová (00:19:29) shone in the women's category, followed by Kateřina Bluchová and Eva Šlosarová. Matouš Vrzala, who managed to defend last year's first place with 00:36:18, won a ten-kilometre race. Jakub Powada was 18 seconds behind him, followed by Jakub Glonek in the third place. In the women's 10-kilometre race cathegory, Adéla Voráčková was the fastest woman with 00:44:31, Magdaléna Drastichová came in second with a two minute difference, and Michaela Dubšíková finished third.

This year, teams could also run for the first time. The first place went to a team of Gustíci; Tymphany Friends came the second and Borečci finished in the third place.

THE ERASMUS+ CELEBRATED 30 YEARS OF ITS EXISTENCE

One of the most successful projects of the European Union, Erasmus+, celebrated this year already 30th anniversary of its existence. Student organizations ESN VŠB-TUO and ESN Ostravská organized under the international Erasmus Student Network (ESN) prepared a flagship parade, an interesting program at Trojhalí Karolina and a party at the Vrtule Club at the VŠB-TUO campus in Poruba.

The program started at Masaryk Square, where all the participants met. Students brought their flags; some even wore their national folk costumes. Then the police escorted them to the Karolina shopping mall. Students carried a Happy Birthday Erasmus banner with them.

Prior to entering the Trojhalí area, the procession stopped at Biskup Bruno Square, where a group photo from a terrace of the Karolina shopping mall was taken. Then they all attended joint festivities, which, besides the DJ and dulcimer music, offered great food, drinks and contests. Students also elected the Erasmus King and Queen.

„The Erasmus students were great and created an unforgettable atmosphere. Not only during the parade, but also in Trojhalí, and indeed at the Vrtule Club party," added Bára Urbanovská, the ESN VŠB-TUO event coordinator.

THE OSTRAVA RESEARCHER'S NIGHT

On Friday, October 6, an event took place that smashes one's concept of boring science closed behind the walls of laboratories: the Ostrava Researcher's Night. The organizers who choose mobility for this year theme and demonstrated it to visitors, for example, through the movement of planets or, by contrast, through the finest motives and incentives hidden in our DNA.

The program was put together in the cooperation of both Ostrava universities (University of Ostrava and VŠB-TUO) and implemented thanks to the involvement of the Science and Technology Center Ostrava and the Moravian-Silesian Scientific Library Ostrava at sixteen different locations throughout Ostrava.

The total attendance of the Ostrava Researcher's Night was just below 8,000 visitors, with more than 5,000 visitors in the Poruba campus. The greatest attractions from our University's offer traditionally include electric cars, the supercomputer, the Planetarium and Geological Pavilion, but people were also interested in different lectures.

TEXT: Šárka Sikorová, Petra Polesová'16
PHOTO: VŠB-TUO archive
SOURCE: VŠB-TUO press releases

Fifty years for the year 1967

This September the 1967 graduates celebrated fifty years since their graduation

More than ninety graduates of the Faculty of Mining and Geology, Faculty of Metallurgy and Faculty of Mechanical Engineering of the then Mining University (Vysoká škola Báňská) did not miss out on a campus tour and a festive ceremony. They came to accept commemorative diplomas, commemorative yearbooks, and small gifts from the Vice-Rector for Science and Research and deans of the individual faculties.

We asked some of this year's golden graduates at their Golden Graduation Ceremony about their emotions and what it means for them.

„I really looked forward to the Golden Graduation. It was not only to remind me of my own graduation act after finishing my studies. Above all, it was about meeting with my classmates and about recalling of at least a few stories from the study years, the exams that we passed and the ones that we failed, our professors, and our life in student dormitories. After my graduation, my job took me to the Podkrušnohoří surface mine Nástup, where I settled down and so I had returned to a place of my studies for the first time now, fifty years later. I liked the graduation ceremony. It was not only dignified, but also cordial and friendly for both days, thanks to you and your colleagues. Your simple comfort and smiles showed us that it was not a mere work duty that lead you when you were preparing a graduation ceremony for us. Thank you for that.“

Pavel Šitner

(Faculty of Mechanical Engineering, 1967)

“For us, who studied at the Faculty of Mining and Geology in Silesian Ostrava, a tour of the current VŠB-TUO campus was interesting. The idea of organizing the Golden Graduation is very meritorious, and the encounter with my peers after fifty years was very pleasant. We became participants in the ceremony and even tried on the graduation gowns. The entire graduation program was dignified, perfectly prepared, and we even shed some tears. It was a very pleasant experience.”

Stanislav Kučík

(Faculty of Mining and Geology, 1967)

“The Golden Graduation ceremony was a social event for me, which pleased me both personally and professionally, especially the encounter with my classmates, with most of them after 50 years indeed. It was a look back and reviewing of our personal and especially professional life, for which the VŠB Ostrava prepared us quite well. I would like to thank to all those who have contributed with their willingness and kind approach to prepare this demanding event for our seventy-year-olds. They showed us a high level of existing VŠB-TUO. I was very impressed with the two-day schedule (excursion, planetarium, golden graduation ceremony, and lunch) and my admiration and thanks to all organizers and academics of this Golden Graduation.”

Darina Walterová

(Faculty of Metallurgy, 1967)

TEXT: Lucie Rýcová'09
PHOTO: Radim Horák

INVITATION TO THE 1968-2018 GOLDEN GRADUATION CEREMONY

We cordially invite the 1968 graduates to the Golden Graduation Ceremony to be held on September 21, 2018 in the New Auditorium of the VŠB-Technical University of Ostrava in (the neighbourhood of) Poruba.

Recall your student years and come to see how the university has changed in 50 years. On this special occasion, meet with your former classmates and celebrate with us a beautiful golden anniversary.

The day before the graduation ceremony, on September 20, 2018, you will have an opportunity to take a campus tour and learn about many remarkable things. The schedule and other details will be specified soon.

We hope we'll meet with you in large numbers! Let us know if you are a graduate or have acquaintances, friends or family members who have completed their studies at the VŠB-Technical University of Ostrava in 1968. Please help us get the current contacts. Many of them are still missing.

Contact us at alumni@vsb.cz

This Year's Alumni Footprint Belongs to Professor Josef Aldorf

The Friday's festivities on September 22, following the Golden Graduation Ceremony, continued by revealing a footprint on the VŠB-TUO Walk of Fame. This year's Laureate was Professor Josef Aldorf, a university teacher and researcher at the Faculty of Civil Engineering, a recognized expert in Geotechnics and Underground Construction, and a co-founder of the study branch Geotechnics and Underground Construction at VŠB-TUO, the only one in the Czech Republic.

Professor Josef Aldorf was born on October 29, 1938 in Pelhřimov. He was awarded an engineering degree in the Mining Development at the Mining University and his professional life has been inherently connected with the VŠB-TUO. Josef Aldorf has taught at the University since 1962. Between 1977-1987 he was gradually awarded an academic degree of an associate professor (in Czech docent), a doctor of science, and a professor. Mr. Aldorf's pedagogical and scientific research activities at the University also include management positions within the University, the Faculty of Mining and Geology, and subsequently the Faculty of Civil Engineering.

Prof. Aldorf is a respected and reputable personality not only for his knowledge, experience, broad insight into various areas of human activity, and his ability to motivate students and junior collaborators to seek solutions to comprehensive geotechnical problems, but also for his willingness to help and humanity. The footprint of Professor Aldorf is significant not only at the level of our University, but also in specialized geotechnical circles. His work has been preserved on many structures in the Czech Republic and abroad.

TEXT: Petra Polesová
PHOTO: Archive of VŠB-TUO

An Awarded Graduate, Professor František Havlíček

We Liked Our Professors

VŠB-TUO has excellent experts amongst their graduates. On the occasion of this year's Golden Graduation Ceremony, Prof. Ing. František Havlíček was honoured for his lifelong work. During his activities at the University he enriched students with valuable experience from the foundry practice and published a large number of scientific and research papers.

What was your path to the foundry industry?

In 1939, Adolf Hitler shut down all secondary schools and universities, leaving only an elementary school level. This created tremendous confusion in the education system. And in this situation, I finished my elementary school in 1943. A town of Jílovec u Prahy managed to extend school attendance by one year. We were lectured by the professors who had been out of work due to the closure of schools. When we finished the extended year, I had to look for a job. I found the position of a woodworker in the František Janeček Factory. And I was happy about it. I was looking forward to the models of cars and aircraft. But in the end it was something completely different. There were large drawings on the stands all around me. And the component models were manufactured based on those drawings. Over time, I developed a taste for it, and fell in love with the foundry industry, including models.

Will you tell us how you enrolled in VŠB-TUO?

Because it is a rather demanding discipline, a three-year follow-up course was introduced in the factory. Engineers taught us technical subjects and grammar school teachers taught humanities. It was expected that there would be a four-year technical secondary school with a GCSE. Later, the Týnec plant sent us to a preparatory course to enter a secondary school. Because I still wanted to study, I welcomed this opportunity. After successfully passing of the course, I got my GCSE and was supposed to choose a university. And I chose Ostrava. The heavy industry was taught at VŠB. My friend and I battled the studies for four years and we both successfully completed it.

„I will never forget about my student years..“

Do you often recall your study years at VŠB?

Similar to other students, we were ordered part-time jobs. We first chose to work in the foundry. But in the third and fourth year I taught descriptive geometry in a military secondary school in Ostrava. And so my friend and I were fine in terms of finances for our studies. I will never forget about my student years. I often recall our teachers: Professor Teindr, Professor Kašpar, Professor Mařík, Professor Štěpánský, Professor Nitan, but who I recall the most is Professor Přibyl. He later became the head of the Foundry Department, where I worked as an assistant professor, while continued to study there. He was a very good man, a great patriot and an expert. Where he could, he gave advice. He always helped us, and never hurt anybody. Professor Přibyl was very easy to work with. I'm also happy to have him as a supervisor for my academic scientific thesis.

Where did you acquire experience in the field?

After defending my scientific thesis I continued with the measurement and problems of the life of metal casts, including their materials analysis. I started working for Vítkovice Ironworks, where there were more measurements, because the company had very interesting equipment available. I cooperated closely with the plant. I worked on flow systems and we introduced siphon flow systems. In further cooperation with the operations, I recall the unique solution of the crackling of tank tower castings in the Martin foundry plant in Slovakia.

An original solution was chosen to measure the temperature field throughout the casting. It also required to measure casting under water. It all worked out and so we were able to obtain good results. It is a pity that it was not possible to publish any results because it concerned the military production.

But you did not stay at the University...
In 1970 I was kicked out of the Communist party and later had to leave the university as well. My good friend from our department attended Palach's funeral and this sufficed as evidence. Because Vítkovice Ironworks knew my work and me, I received an offer to work in their technical development of the Plant No. 3 for the foundry and heavy mechanics.

I had worked there for eighteen years. It greatly benefited me. I met with a research measurement technology group more closely. In order to improve the material quality for the industry, we started milling and drilling selected castings for different needs. We also tried an acoustic emission method when determining the cooling casting time with a positive result. Using the acoustic emission method, defects within the material can be determined. Further research work was carried out as a broad analysis of the stress state in lattice castings.

What were the most frequent topics you dealt with in your scientific research?
The topics where the heat is the main factor affecting the processes in progress. Temperature and temperature differences – gradients and their changes. Heat is the main factor in the formation of the fluid phase, from which the casting is made for further processing. The cooling process in a mould leads to solidification as well as to linear and volume shrinkage and formation of the casting shrinks. The state of the temperature and stress mode of casting is another related process. First, the inner surface solidifies faster, later the inner parts of the casting, which is accompanied by changes in both a compressive stress and a tensile stress inside the casting. This is a dangerous state of hot cracks in an inner part of the casting. Thus, for example, a casting of an average of 1000 millimetres air-cooled may burst in a half of its length after annealing.

It is interesting. Do you have any explanation for that?
Now, after a number of experiments, I finally do. It is because a residual tensile stress is present in the casting; when cooling it the stress is increased and resulting in rupture. However, such a casting would break even at the beginning of turning the surface layer which was kept under a compressive stress, thus releasing tensile forces in its centre.

We would like you to share something interesting from your department with us...
I do not know if it is interesting for the today's readers, but it was for us back then. We succeeded in establishing the Department of Artistic Foundry. And of course, this study branch attracted most applicants. It is incredible what kind of artistic talents and both the classical and modern ideas students have! (smile) Take a look at our small exposition on the second floor of Building A. As part of this Bachelor's study program, a bust of Georgius Agricola, nowadays a patron of metallurgy was created in the former faculty building in the centre of Ostrava by using bronze casting. In connection with this work of art, it is necessary to remember the Rector Professor Václav Roubíček, who showed an eminent interest in the bust. It is now exhibited in the ground floor vestibule across from the main entrance. Nowadays, different embossed plaques for the merits in the University development begin to be cast. There is also a plaque with an Agricola relief, which is awarded to the University staff and other important guests for their merits and great service.

What other achievements have you attained in your discipline?
I cannot help mentioning a unique instrument to study strength and plastic properties of metallic materials at high solidus temperatures, hence crystallization temperature and crack types defects. Together with Petr Kozelský, we equipped the laboratory at the Foundry Department providing conditions for the maximum load on the two-ton support frame; the maximum temperature was from 700 to 1556 degrees Celsius. The test sample averaged between 6 and 8 millimetres and a total length was 170 millimetres. The instrument is equipped with a computer. A series of steel samples from 0.07% C to 0.37% C was measured.

Do you follow current events at the University? What does it look like today with a field of metallurgy?
A great bonus is constructing a new small foundry plant on the University campus. The training classes how to mould and cast castings take place there. There is also an exhibition of works of art there at the moment. What is an issue is that there is an overall lack of students at the Faculty of Metallurgy and Materials Engineering.

What do you do in your free time when you do not think about scientific research?
I enjoy reading. In particular about history. Other great past-time activity for me is classical music. My wife and I often attend opera and concerts. I like singing, because I have fun with it. Unfortunately, not in any large choir. I used to play the violin. When I was younger, we had a small orchestra, and later a dance group. We just toured a good number of balls and concerts to have some fun. I remember that we played on the ball in Neveklov until nine o'clock in the morning. The snow was falling, the sun was shining...it was beautiful like in a fairy tale.

Prof. Ing. František Havlíček, CSc. is a graduate from VŠB-TUO in the field of foundry. His professional career began at the JAWA factory in Týnec nad Sázavou, where he received his vocational certificate and worked as a woodworker. Thanks to his talent, he was able to continue his studies and completed the secondary education with a GCSE. In 1953 professor Havlíček graduated from the Mining University in Ostrava. He continued his career at the University achieving an academic title of professor. František Havlíček was also the head of the foundry department. In his practice, he worked in the foundry of heavy steel castings at Vítkovice Ironworks. He also pursued systematic scientific and research activities.

TEXT: Šárka Sikorová
PHOTO: Radim Horák

faculties

And What News Did Individual Faculties Prepare for You?

Two New Professors at the Faculty of Mining and Geology and a Popular Gathering of Mineralogists.

THE NEW PROFESSORS AT THE FACULTY OF MINING AND GEOLOGY

On Friday, June 23, two associate professors from the Faculty of Mining and Geology were appointed by the President of the Czech Republic, namely Marian Marschalko and Petr Skupien.

Prof. Ing. Marian Marschalko, Ph.D. was appointed as the Professor of Applied Geology. He works at the Institute of Geological Engineering under the Faculty of Mining and Geology, VŠB-TUO, is a guarantor of the study branch Geological and Mining Tourism. He deals with the assessment of engineering geological conditions and slope deformations. He also evaluates undermined areas affected by deep mining and creates multi-factorial maps of engineering and geological conditions for spatial planning.

Prof. Ing. Petr Skupien, Ph.D., was appointed Professor of Applied Geology. He is the head of the Institute of Geological Engineering at the Faculty of Mining and Geology, VŠB-TUO. Since 2015 he is a guarantor of the Bachelor and Master degree study program Geological Engineering and lectures subjects such as Paleogeography, Sedimentology, or General Geology. In 2011-2014, Professor Skupien was a visiting professor at AGH in Krakow. He cooperates with the application sector, for example with a limestone quarry Kotouč Štramberk, in forecasting cement-based raw materials or with the Czech Geological Service.

A POPULAR GATHERING OF MINERALOGISTS

In autumn, more specifically on Saturday, October 14, another Mineralogical Gathering took place. At the sales exhibition of minerals, fossils and products of nature, which took place in the University auditorium in Ostrava-Poruba, admirers of inanimate nature met. The event, which takes place regularly twice a year, in the spring and autumn, has found its supporters both from experts and the general public. There were wonderful minerals and fossils from different places all over the world, professional literature, and many other items related to geology and mining to look at and buy. Original jewellery and other decorative items were also on display to please a visitors' eye.

Near the auditorium visitors could take a tour of the Geopark, which is located in front of the Geological Pavilion building. Here one can see the typical regional rocks that were brought from nearby quarries. Traditionally, the University's geological collections were opened in the pavilion building during the Mineralogical meeting for the visitors to enjoy.

TEXT: Petra Polesová'16
SOURCE: Press Release of VŠB-TUO
PHOTO: Archive VŠB-TUO

A Design Study of the Roadster StudentCar SCE Was Presented at the Faculty of Metallurgy and Materials Engineering

On October 19, the StudentCar project presented a design study of a roadster with electric drive, a two-seat sports car with no permanent roof. For the construction of the design study, modern technologies of computer modelling and rapid prototyping, such as multi-axis milling and 3D printing technology, were used to a great extent. As is the case with every prototype, a significant part was manual work. The ceremonial presentation of the study took place at 10 a.m. in the StudentCar project area.

„Thanks to the funds provided, researchers together with students were able to implement an attractive top-level project that linked teaching with development in order to allow students to apply advanced 3D print technology and multi-axis CNC machining," said Petr Tomčík, Head of the StudentCar Team, Department of Materials and Technologies for Automobiles at the Faculty of Metallurgy and Materials Engineering, VŠB-TUO.

The study retains typical features for a given category, such as a long front hood, a seat virtually on the floor, almost near the rear wheels. The car is characterized by a low construction with no door and a very distinctly shaped sideline. In the interior we find Recaro sports seats. Infotainment is solved by two intelligent display modules and a touchscreen display. The StudentCar SCE uses 18-inch alloy wheels and 225/35 tires. The car has an inclined windshield that was specially developed for this project. Based on the design, front headlights and functional LED lights have been manufactured using a prototype technology for a StudentCar SCE. A reverse light is designed in a very original manner; it is long and from the central part of the rear of the car it follows to the sidelights on either side of the car.

In modern times which are characterized by the production of „sports" family station wagons, large-sized cars, MPVs, SUVs, etc., that try to cover a variety of categories with their bodywork and chassis characteristics, the light roadster development project is unique. This fact is also reflected in the market situation where the availability of affordable light roadsters is very limited. We hope that the new car will be interesting enough for potential investors that we will be able to find the funds for construction and thus for driving on the roads as well as technological capacities for a small-scale production.

In addition to academic staff, the works on a StudentCar SCE design study were also carried out by secondary school and university students, both on the platform of standard teaching subjects, including several graduate theses, and in the form of leisure activities. Students who collaborate on such a project during a course of their study are very attractive for employers in the industrial sector.

The construction of a design study was also funded from the Moravian-Silesian Region budget through the project „Secondary School and University Student Involvement in Design Development – Construction of a StudentCar SCE Design Model using a 1:1 Scale."

SOURCE: Press Release of VŠB-TUO
PHOTO: Archive of VŠB-TUO

The Ultimate Mechanical Engineer Collected 3 Public Relations Prizes

The 12th anniversary of the Czech Award for Public Relations took place on June 14 in City Tower and Aureole. The competition is open to all entities in the Czech Republic that provide or use public relations services, meaning that in addition to business entities it is also professional associations, foundations, educational institutions, state authorities and individuals. The prizes were awarded in a total of 21 categories. The PR projects involving creative solutions that have a demonstrably positive impact on the activities and reputation of the client have been mostly awarded.

In the competition of the 156 submitted projects, the „Poslední strojař“ (in English The Ultimate Mechanical Engineer) implemented by the Faculty of Mechanical Engineering of VŠB-TUO in cooperation with the ActionPlease and Idea Please teams succeeded three times. It achieved the third place in the field category „Public Administration, Public and Non-profit Sector,“ and the first place in the field category „Industry“ and ranked second in the category of communication tools „Online Media (Intranet, Websites, RSS, PDA, etc.).“

The „Ultimate Mechanical Engineer“ is the recruitment campaign of the VŠB-TUO Faculty of Mechanical Engineering, which inspires secondary school students to study engineering disciplines and at the same time represents a catastrophic vision of the world of vanishing technology with no qualified experts in the story of the Ultimate Mechanical Engineer. It demonstrates the strength and importance of mechanical engineering in cooperation with industry partners who really need mechanical engineering graduates. A group of creative young people who deeply realize the importance of technical development and innovative solutions for our future, and for their original idea they managed to win the management of the Faculty of Mechanical Engineering who believes that in addition to the competition for the best PR campaign also scores well with secondary school graduates, is behind the success of the campaign.

„The numbers of graduates of secondary schools enrolling at technical universities are no longer in line with the needs of industry. It is necessary that both the Faculty and industry join forces in the field of promotion and marketing. I believe that we will be able to take further common steps in the next campaign that we are going to prepare for the next academic year,“ adds Ivo Hlavatý, the Dean of the Faculty.

SOURCE: Press Release of VŠB-TUO
PHOTO: VŠB-TUO Archive

The Faculty of Economics Celebrated Its 40th Anniversary

On Saturday, October 7, the graduates of the Faculty of Economics, VŠB-TUO held the 40th anniversary of its foundation. The reunion took place at the Hlubina Mine in the Dolní Vítkovice area, the Cineport cinema and the Maryčka Café. 750 graduates and teachers from the Faculty of Economics attended the reunion. The opening ceremony took place at 5 p.m. in the Brick House Hall (Hlubina Mine), where interviews with important graduates and partners of the Faculty of Economics were also held.

The reunion was held in two places. One of them was Cineport, where in the cinema the participants could not only meet with interesting figures from among the graduates of the Faculty of Economics, but also attend their lectures. It needs to be said that they generated a really great interest and the capacity of auditorium was often not sufficient.

Ed Halla, the Managing Director of EYELEVEL, was the first one to introduce himself. He made the audience acquainted with their successful start-up company, from which even a more successful acquisition was created. Another guest who was given the floor was Tomáš Doležal, who is in charge of computer crime in Komerční banka. In his speech he dealt with the fight against credit and payment card fraud. He also spoke about the issue of hacker attacks at Komerční banka. His speech was followed by the one of Aleš Ondrůj, the Student Agency Communications Manager. He familiarized his spectators with the course of the first recruitment round and trainings of RegioJet train attendants directly at the Faculty of Economics.

Jan Stanko, the T-Mobile Marketing Communications Director, gently lightened the atmosphere with his lecture about how humorous stories in advertising work. Despite technical complications, he captured the audience attention by the humour and the most successful advertising examples. The former Ambassador to Denmark, Jan Lyčka, has also made an appearance with travel stories about his kayak adventures.

The microphone was then handed over to the former Mayor of Ostrava and the former governor of the Moravian-Silesian Region, the current European Parliament deputy and the graduate of System Engineering study programme, Evžen Tošenovský. He talked about the field of System Engineering and its contribution to his everyday day as well as to his life of a politician. In addition, he talked about his political career. The last speaker who concluded a round of lectures was an associate professor Jan Libich. He has shared his experience with education in Australia as a lecturer at La Trobe Univerity in Melbourne.

The second place where the celebrations were held was Staré koupelny (in English Former Washrooms) or also the Brick House. There were several rooms in this large building, each prepared for different purposes and each with its own specific program. For example, in the Festive Hall the graduates could be present at the ceremonial opening, where Prof. Dr. Ing. Zdeněk Zmeškal evaluated the history of the faculty until now. „The organisation team led by Professor Dluhošová did a really great job," the dean stated. Last but not least, he also cut a festive cake.

During the festive evening, a representative of Doplněk pro život (in English the Addition for Life) foundation was given a cheque that helps mothers of handicapped children who sow fashionable bow ties. The Faculty of Economics has supported the social project of this foundation.

A program for those who wanted to dance was prepared in a ballroom. The guests could enjoy the Marcel Woodman's Rock&Roll Band, Markéta Konvičková's performance, or a dance workshop led by Michaela Gatěková and Jakub Mazůch. Later, DJ Cyril G took over the mixer so that the after-party could officially start. The whole program in the Brick House was moderated by Magda Otáhalová.

The reunion of the graduates, which took place after ten years, was very successful and had a lot of positive feedback from both the participants and the performers.

TEXT: Vojtěch Spáčil, Daniel Pakši
SOURCE: www.sokolska33.cz
PHOTO: Jan Poláček

The New Leadership at the Faculty of Electrical Engineering and Computer Science

Changes in the management took place this year at the Faculty of Electrical Engineering and Computer Science (FEI). The imaginary helm after Prof. RNDr. Václav Snášel, CSc. was taken by Prof. Ing. Pavel Brandštetter, CSc., who has become the dean of the Faculty for the next four years.

Professor Brandštetter assumed his new position on September 1, but before that he had to propose a new team of vice-deans and the new Scientific Council of the Faculty to be approved by the FEI Senate. The new Dean is not going to make any fundamental changes at the moment. But as he himself says, „Although the following difficult period may be an initiator of certain changes in the Faculty, I would like to build on everything positive that has been accomplished so far. It is by no means any different direction in the development of the Faculty and its orientation."

The Dean determined the accreditation of selected study branches at all levels and forms of education as one of the important tasks and objectives for the next election period. „Currently, the amendment to the Higher Education Act that has introduced new conditions for the accreditation of study programs, including the establishment of the National Accreditation Office, is in place. No university or faculty has experience with a new accreditation system so far, so we are all waiting for what to expect in terms of its organisation," Brandštetter mentioned potential pitfalls faced by the Faculty, or perhaps by the entire University.

Professor Brandštetter is very qualified for the dean's position since he was the head of the department for 15 years, also worked as a Vice-Dean for Development at the Faculty for 4 years, and was a Dean's statutory deputy as well as a member the Dean's Advisory Board for 19 years. „I was able to draw on experience of various management styles from the meetings of the Dean's Advisory Board with all the previous deans of our Faculty. So I believe I am well prepared for the Dean's job. However, there is little time left for pedagogical and scientific activity, which I have to accept," adds Brandštetter.

And how does he evaluate the Faculty's strengths? „The Faculty provides quality education in all accredited study programs. Its scientific performance outcome represents approximately 25 percent of the University's overall results. The Faculty has been involved in very interesting domestic and foreign projects. It has extensive cooperation with foreign universities and work sites, and a number of international students come here to study. So, the strengths mainly include the teaching quality, which is subsequently related to the very low standardized unemployment rate of graduates, high quality basic and applied research as well as extensive international cooperation," concluded Prof. Brandštetter.

The Dean chose to invite the following colleagues to his management team: Assoc. Prof. Ing. Michal Krátký, Ph.D. for the position of a Vice-Dean for Science and Research, Assoc. Prof. Ing. Petr Krejčí, Ph.D. to serve as a Vice-Dean for Study Affairs, who is going to be also Dean's Statutory Deputy. Assoc. Prof. Ing. Pavel Krömer, Ph.D. is going to become a Vice-Dean for External Relations, and Ing. Petr Šimoník, Ph.D. will be a Vice-Dean for Development.

TEXT: Petra Halíková, Petra Polesová'16
PHOTO: Archive of Faculty of Electrical Engineering

Assoc. Prof. Martina Peřinková: Architecture Is the Highest Form of Civil Engineering

The Faculty of Civil Engineering celebrates the 20th anniversary since its establishment this year together with the 10th anniversary of the Department of Architecture. How is the department doing? What is architecture good for? Not only that you can read it in the article, which features opinions of its head, Assoc. Prof. Ing. Martina Peřinková, Ph.D.

Martina Peřinková decided to study architecture already when she was in the fourth grade of a primary school. She comes from a civil engineering family, always enjoyed drawing, and therefore felt more familiar with the more artistic civil engineering discipline." When I was little I always wanted to be a fashion designer, then decided to be an architect," adds Martina Peřinková. According to her, architecture is an applied art. „Above all, it is a creative work that bears some visible fruit and serves other people," she says. She admits, however, that it is a difficult, demanding, and a responsible job with some very high requirements. There is a great interest among the secondary school students to study this branch. But many of them do not know what the work of an architect is about. „The students have four years to decide if they would like to works as architects or engineers at our faculty," she adds. Architecture is generally considered to be the highest form of civil engineering. It brings artistic perception, and added value in the form of beauty and aesthetics.

The Department of Architecture and the entire Faculty of Civil Engineering, VŠB-TUO, are celebrating their 'double' anniversary this year. Changes between the initial and the current students are quite visible. Seventeen years ago, electronization was not as widespread as it is today. Today's students have the advantage of being able to acquire a large amount of information that they can get hold of very quickly. „But it requires some discipline, orientation and selection, and there is no space to have a fear," adds Martina Peřinková.

The Head of Ostrava Department of Architecture is a native of Ostrava, and is very fond of this city. „It is important to like the city, especially for people who try to build something here. To promote certain matters takes a great deal of enthusiasm and patriotism. „We find a lot of beautiful buildings in Ostrava, but there are also places that the locals do not like very much. It is especially a former department store, the Ostravica Textilia, or an office building torso near the Regional Authority. It would be great if Ostravica could still be somehow saved. It is an important building of the historical city centre, creating a border between the 'old' centre and contemporary Karolina part. „However, it is a matter of will. Ostravica is in an attractive and mainly lucrative site; it is quite noticeable. It is more about the location; the developers and building owners in most cases try to build new buildings that meet today's technological requirements. The city must be a qualified and strong partner to stand up to these actors," says Martina Peřinková. The Lower District of Vitkovice is very good. From the perspective of historical architecture, Olomouc, one of the most beautiful cities, fascinates her the most. „Almost every city has something beautiful in it. Some will absorb you with its historical silhouette, others for its dynamic presence," she smiles.

And where does she see the department in ten to fifteen years? „I believe that we can accomplish some fundamental things, establish our own PhD studies, accredit habilitation and professorship procedures. To lay foundations. It will be more difficult to get these things done at a university that has a lower number of students than the ones in Prague or Brno, however it is necessary" describes Martina Peřinková her vision. She also hopes to continue developing international cooperation. Martina has put together several courses that she now teaches with colleagues in English. She often goes on exchange study stays and assumed that all her colleagues and students at the university would have a similar desire. „It came to me a big surprise that it was not the case. And it makes no sense to me that most students lack this need," she says. „To study or teach abroad is the right way. It is enormously enriching. The experience is non-transferable," concludes Martina Peřinková.

TEXT: Barbora Urbanovská'16
PHOTO: Respondent's Archive

What News Has the Faculty of Safety Engineering Prepared?

FIFTEEN YEARS OF THE FACULTY

This year the Faculty of Safety Engineering (FBI) of VSB–Technical University of Ostrava has celebrated 15 years since its foundation.

Although the youngest faculty, the Faculty of Safety Engineering has been a solid part of VŠB-TUO for 15 years. In order to continue to develop as an excellent pedagogical and scientific-research workplace of safety engineering, the Faculty's priority remains safety research and an educational process based on it in all forms of education.

During its development, the Faculty has significantly expanded not only the activities in the field of education, research and development, but also material. Conversion of a former primary school building, ongoing partial modifications, and up-to-date refurbishment and complementing of equipment, particularly classrooms and laboratories, contribute to the ability to provide high-quality teaching to FBI students. Thanks to the reconstructed and newly built infrastructure, the Faculty can continue to play its important role in the preparation of experts in solving security issues not only in the restructured Moravian-Silesian region but also due to the uniqueness of the Faculty with an impact on the whole territory of the Czech Republic.

On the occasion of this anniversary, the ceremonial FBI Scientific Council meeting took place in the Faculty's auditorium on September 5, attended by the members of the Scientific Council, the Rector of the VŠB-TUO, the Vice-Rectors, the Deans and the Vide-Deans, and also by the representatives of the Czech and Slovak universities, the representatives of the Fire Brigade and the Police of the Czech Republic, current and former FBI staff and other important guests.

ASSOC. PROF. ING. JIŘÍ POKORNÝ, Ph.D., MPA HAS BEEN APPOINTED THE NEW FBI DEAN

On September 27, the only candidate for the the position of the dean of the Faculty of Safety Engineering at VŠB-TUO and the current Vice-Dean for Strategy and Development and the Head of the Department of Civil Protection, Ing. Jiří Pokorný, Ph.D., MPA, was elected by the most votes at the meting of the FBI Academic Senate.
On October 6, the Rector Prof. Ing. Václav Snášel, CSc. appointed the winning candidate. Ing. Jiří Pokorný, Ph.D., MPA assumed the new position on November 1.

SAFETY ENGINEERS DONATED BLOOD

On Tuesday, October 17, the FBI Blood Challenge was organized. The youngest Faculty attracted an amazing number of 140 blood donors through its campaign, including 104 first-time donors, 4 plasma donors and one donor of platelets. Together, they donated sixty-five thousand millilitres of blood.

FBI has proven that their „Hand on It" Campaign has met its purpose and they have done what they have promised to do. They managed to instil an idea in new donors to regularly donate blood. However, such an event did not take place for the first time in the University Hospital's Blood Centre. Students and employees of the Faculty of Economics, the Faculty of Mining and Geology and the Faculty of Mechanical Engineering have previously donated their blood too. Safety engineers have now passed this imaginary baton to the Faculty of Electrical Engineering and Computer Science.

TEXT: Martina Přečková
PHOTO: FBI Archive

Jaroslav Kolbaba: All Students Were Just As Poor As Me

The VŠB–Technical University of Ostrava annually honours its graduates who have been and still are part of it with the Golden Graduation Ceremony. Associate Professor Ing. Jaroslav Kolbaba, CSc. this year celebrated the diamond graduation. Since his studies at the Faculty of Metallurgy, he has remained faithful to the university and worked there as a senior lecturer at the Faculty of Economics. He continues to visit the University to keep posted about everything what is happening on the campus.

Was VŠB-TUO the first university you studied at?

It was not. After the war, I followed closely the political situation, and after my graduation from grammar school in 1947, I enrolled at the University of Political and Social Sciences in Prague. I studied a study branch known as the political science today. At that time, enrolment in the university was implemented in the same way as in the First Republic. You just needed to submit a secondary school-leaving certificate in order to be accepted and that was all. No assessments, no references, and no fees. So I became a university student. I was doing quite fine with my studies, then „Vítězný únor" (in English Victorious February or 1948 Czechoslovak Coup) came, so I finished the year and enrolled in the next semester. But in November 1948, so-called study reviews were launched at all schools. We had to submit our student's record books, were interviewed, and then the announcements were made. Almost half of students were suspended from their studies for political reasons across all universities in the country. At that time, a „right to work" existed, however it was virtually an „obligation to work," so I had to look for a job. Until entering military service (October 1950), I worked in various, mostly blue-collar professions.

When did you decide to start studying at VŠB-TUO?

I completed my compulsory military service at different military bases, mainly in Hradec Králové and Pardubice. My official ranking was defined as „capable as a typist." But I never stopped following the political events and learnt that some construction was being built in Ostrava: Nová huť. I concluded that metallurgy was a perspective field, so I submitted my application to the Faculty of Metallurgy. At that time, personnel opinions were important for the official position. I behaved well during military service and earned a good opinion. I took entrance examinations wearing a uniform and successfully passed the tests. Then I received a letter informing me that I was admitted as a student of the Faculty of Metallurgy. The university year began on October 1, but they extended our military service by another three weeks, so I started later and had to catch up with everything. The Faculty of Metallurgy used to have its seat on Českobratrská Street, where today the Faculty of Economics is located. Coincidentally, I started and finished my active work involvement in Ostrava in the same building.

What did your accommodation look like throughout your student years?
While studying in Prague, I was living with my relative's family, and only had my own bed there. I had to complete all my school assignments outside her home. For this I used a study room in Prague's Klementinum. There was a large room with tables, and there was one student sitting at each table, acting quietly and they could borrow any literature they needed. There were few dormitories in Ostrava too. The new ones were built on Dr. Malého Street. The school building in Brušperk was used as a temporary dormitory. In each classroom there were 6-8 beds available. It felt like in the army. We took a special bus line for several months. Fortunately, we then received some room in the building where the Rectorate of the University of Ostrava is nowadays located. At that time, everyone knew it as the Monastery. In the second year, we lived in two-bed rooms in newly constructed dormitories on Dr. Malého. In addition, one block was reserved for dining; even dinners were served there.

Did you stick with metallurgy study branch all the way until graduation?
I completed my first year at the Faculty of Metallurgy where I also started the second one. Following an example of Prague, the Faculty of Economics and Engineering was also established in Ostrava. In order to open, the students were recruited from both the Faculty of Metallurgy and the Faculty of Mining because the new Faculty was supposed to teach both directions. I personally liked the study program, so I applied. A total of 13 students, including one female student, switched. Most of the subjects were in common with metallurgical students, but some economic disciplines such as planning, standardization, statistics, financing, etc. were added. The degree certificate bore an inscription the specialization in the Economics of Metallurgy; it was red and had a serial number 1.

Did you experience a university military department?
Yes, but fortunately I avoided obligations associated with it. The guys had to attend military service class once a week. The commander of the military department, of course, persuaded me to join them and become an officer. I told him, „I served my two years. I do not want to be an officer. I do not have to become part of the department and I will not." And that was how I got an extra day. I made a use of it in a sense that already during my studies at the Faculty of Economics and Engineering I worked as a research assistant where I again worked on my writing skills. I compiled different study materials, textbooks and such. I earned approximately 200 CZK a month extra, and worked approximately 20 hours a month. To give you some idea, at that time a dormitory fee was 40 CZK per month, lunch and dinner was 2.50 CZK each. We also had part-time jobs, especially in Vítkovice Ironworks, where it was possible to earn 100 CZK per shift.

„I behaved well during my military service and received a good report."

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When you finished your studies, was it difficult for you to get a job?
That is the big difference between today‘s students and students during my time. At that time, ‘job admittances’ existed. We did not like it very much though. Together with my roommate we were given a position as foremen in the Kladno ironworks Poldina Hut. I ended up quitting my job there before I even started, because the prospect of acquiring a flat was not within sight. At least my wife lived in a lodging-house in Ostrava (Editorial note: a type of accommodation for singles), so I went back there. I had to deal with the then Ministry of Metallurgy in Prague about the transfer; they accommodated my request. I wanted to work for Nová huť ironworks, but they were not hiring at the time, so I was assigned to Vítkovice Ironworks. Vítkovice hired graduates, but after a fresh start of the job, it was mainly manual work. I got a job in a former pipe production plant where I started as a blast furnace helper.

„In November 1948, study checks were imposed in universities.“

But after some time, you went back to VŠB-TUO. What was your next path?
In 1959 a technical standardization team was established at Nová huť. Its members were also some of my classmates. So that is how I came to Nová huť. As early as in 1960, I received a decent two-bedroom flat from the enterprise. Over time I was promoted to the head of the department for the rationalization of production and labour. When, in the 1960s, the Faculty of Metallurgy announced an invitation for applications for a research assistant, I applied and was hired. In the meantime, the Faculty of Economics and Engineering ceased to exist and its competencies (specialization) were transferred to the Faculty of Mining and Metallurgy in the form of a department.

You were awarded the title of Associate Professor. How challenging was it? What did you have to do?
This is a bit longer history. The General Directorate of Iron Metallurgy in Prague decided to build its own economic research institute in Ostrava as part of the VÚHŽ (Editorial note: Research Institute of Metallurgy and Iron located in Dobrá near a town of Frýdek-Místek). The Managing Director of Nová Huť had asked me to build this workplace. But I managed to have him agreed that I would be able to go back to a shop floor if necessary. In Dobrá I managed to build a team of approximately 30 people in five years from scratch. For a filed of iron metallurgy we developed a number of research reports. A certain issue was that the “seedbed of scientists” was Ostrava (metallurgical enterprises and VŠB) and commuting from Ostrava to Dobrá was not convenient for all. I arranged that part of the research process was moved to Ostrava’s Institute of Metallurgy, and I myself returned to Nová Huť. There I became, after various reorganizations, the head of the corporate control department. I stayed there until leaving for the Faculty of Economics, VŠB-TUO. It was very difficult to get a degree back then. I submitted my application to the Faculty of Economics and it took approximately two years before it went through all the relevant institutions. I had all the necessary prerequisites for this function: operational practice, scientific research, and relatively extensive publishing activities. I wanted to pass it all on to next generations. The Ministry of Education appointed new associate professors at that time, so I received it from the Minister of Education in Prague’s Karolinum. I remember that at the same time Jana Hlaváčová, a famous actress, was awarded a degree of an associate professor. Her husband, Luděk Munzar, also a famous actor, awaited her.

And with the habilitation did your links with VŠB-TUO come to an end?
Definitely not. I am a member of Alumni club and a senior club. Occasionally I come to Menza (a student cafeteria) to have lunch and follow the events. In addition, my daughter graduated from the Faculty of Mechanical Engineering and received her doctorate at the Faculty of Safety Engineering. My grandson, Bc. Jan Velička (Editorial note: you can read about him on page 15) currently studies at the Faculty of Electrical Engineering. My other grandson studies at a technical secondary school and seems interested in VŠB. And my son-in-law has been working there for 25 years.

When you compare students from your student years with today’s students, what, in your view, are the biggest differences between them?

There were no attendance lists at the time; the lectures and seminars were essentially obligatory. As far as the social status of the students is concerned, we were basically all poor. I received a monthly scholarship in the amount of 380 CZK, and the graduates of workers' courses received 420 CZK a month, and it had to be enough. In addition, until 1953, there was a 'voucher economy'. We paid for our meals in a student cafeteria with meal vouchers. We were entitled to a relatively cheap tram pass, amounting to only 10 CZK a month. Today many students drive their cars to school. And there are not enough parking spots. This problem should be addressed by the University in the future. During my times, some students managed to get to school on their motorcycle. The graduation ceremonies used to be held in a conference room of the New City Hall and when I was a lecturer at the Community Centre. Today, the University has its own, more dignified New Auditorium (Nová aula).

And what about your classmates?
As far as I know, from 13 of us who graduated in February 1957, two of my colleagues, Jožka and Francek, who achieved quite high positions in the Vítkovice Ironworks, are still alive. But they are approximately five years younger than me.

You promised us photos from the historic first Majáles that you attended...
It was a long time ago, maybe in 1955 or 1956. We continued the tradition of the May parades that took place before the war, when VŠB was located in the town of Příbram. The then Youth Union was involved in supporting student activities. The whole idea was that we had formed an allegorical procession and marched through the city; it was basically a communal satire. Some allegories were quite daring for that time, such as a coffin for burying academic freedoms. With my friend Jožka, we made an allegory for Švejk joining the army. I was cast as Mrs. Müllerová and my colleague was Švejk. I borrowed a skirt and a scarf from a cleaning lady, we borrowed a wheelchair in the hospital, and my friend borrowed, maybe from the theatre, an old uniform. We were considered one of the best allegories. I met my current wife at one of the first Majáles. That is why I have a slightly stronger memory of Majáles.

Assoc. Prof. Ing. Jaroslav Kolbaba, CSc. graduated from the Economics of Metallurgy at the Faculty of Economics and Engineering at the former VŠB Mining University. He was awarded an associate professor degree from the Faculty of Economics. His scientific research activities included his involvement in the Research Institute of Iron Metallurgy. Mr. Kolbaba also worked at Nová Huť, where he managed to apply education acquired in the field of metallurgy and became the head of the corporate control department. Jaroslav Kolbaba is an active member of the Alumni club and keeps informed of events at the University.

TEXT: Šárka Sikorová
PHOTO: Kateřina Ševčíková, respondent's private archive





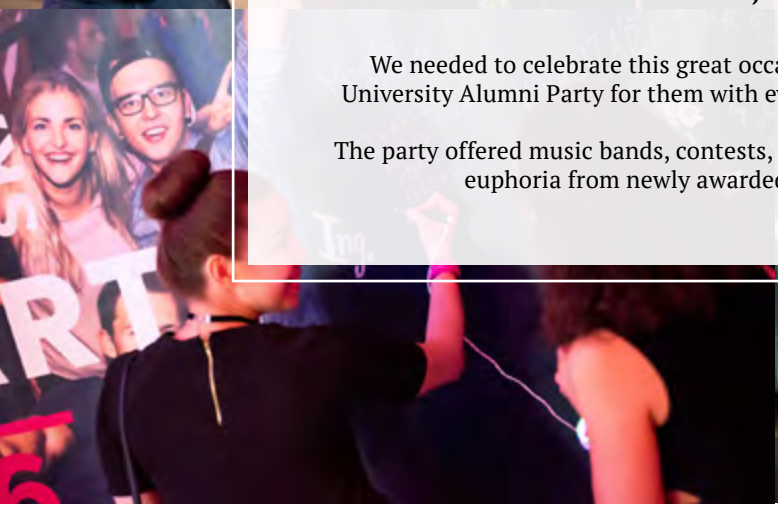
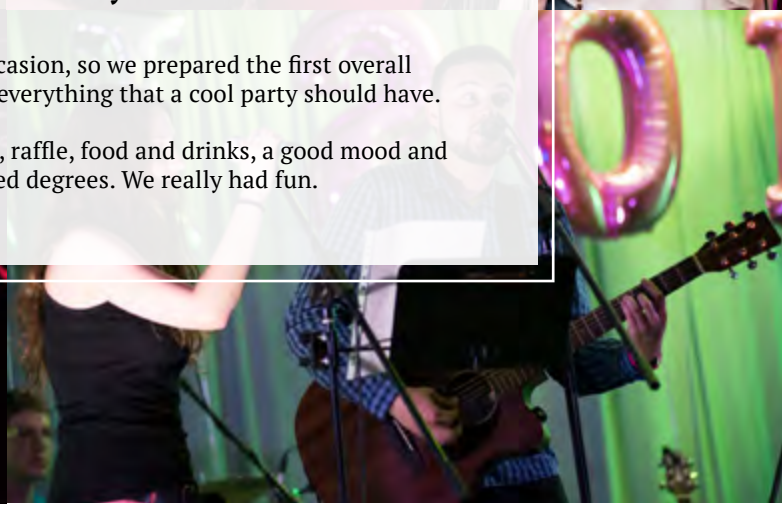



2017 Graduates

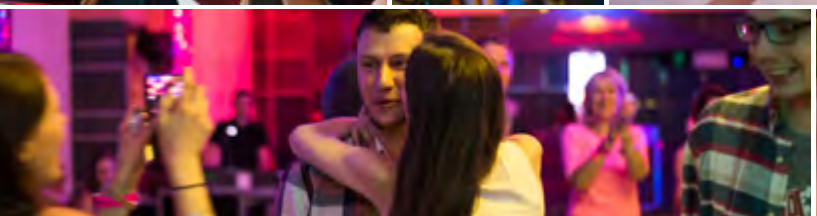
This year, more than 3,300 new graduates from VŠB-TUO have joined your ranks.

We needed to celebrate this great occasion, so we prepared the first overall University Alumni Party for them with everything that a cool party should have.

The party offered music bands, contests, raffle, food and drinks, a good mood and euphoria from newly awarded degrees. We really had fun.




The Graduates of the Month in 2017

ONDŘEJ KOUBEK /EKF '09/
A Marketing and Communications Manager at Scania for the Central European region

PAVEL KLEGA /FEI '11/
A traveller who hitchhiked 22,596 km in 890 days and visited 23 countries

Starting this April, we are going to regularly announce the graduate of the month.

We dedicate this section to the graduates who graduated a few years ago and managed to establish themselves, achieve high goals, occupy leading positions, receive awards, win in world competitions, and fulfil their dreams.

Each month a different story, each month a new inspiration.

IVA KUBANKOVÁ /EKF '15/
A Czech Television anchorwoman on the news show Události v regionech (in English Events in the Regions)

RADEK STROUHAL /EKF '06/
A former CFO and this year's new CEO of Tatra Trucks, a.s.

ALEŠ VYKA /FEI '11/
A co-founder of the company and a business architect in the field of custom-tailored application development

ŽANETA HAVÍROVÁ /FMMI '11/
An author of the Greenscan project to help map out harmful cosmetics

STANISLAV MIŠÁK /FEI '03/
One of the youngest professors and director of the Energy Research Centre

LUKÁŠ NOVÁK /FBI '08/
A multiple world champion in fire brigade sports and a professional fireman at the Prague's Castle

RADIM ČECH /FEI '09, FMMI '16/
He and his colleague found a gap in the market of aid and medical aids

Follow their stories with us

at alumni.vsb.cz/en/galerie-uspesnych-absolventu/graduate-month/

Do you have a tip for someone who should not be missed in this section? Contact us at

alumni@vsb.cz

What has happened, is happening, and is going to be happening in the Career Centre

WHAT HAS HAPPENED...

Pre-Christmas time is not supposed to be just a time of hustle and bustle, but a time of human encounters, contemplation and a wonderful Christmas atmosphere. It has become a tradition that during this time we are preparing for our students and graduates the lecture of some of the famous personalities. This time, we welcomed Petr Koukal, the best Czech badminton player and a flag bearer of the Czech team at the Olympic Games in London 2012. Petr talked about his journey full of pain and hard work that led him out of the school gym all the way to the Olympics, but also about his struggle with malicious illness. He shared lots of positive energy and motivation our students for an upcoming exam period.

WHAT IS HAPPENING...

WE INTRODUCE LEADING FIGURES OF THE CAREER CENTRE

In the past, Vlastík Holčák has worked as a manager in several construction companies, HR department of IT firms and in the field of marketing and sales. He has now passed on his experience from these positions as a trainer and coach of our students, graduates, and clients in many domestic and multinational companies.

His workshops on personality development, neuro-linguistic programming, self-management and soft skills are also very popular. He wins students' heart thanks to his great professional skills, enthusiasm, and friendliness.

In his private life he is the proud father of four children. With his big family and pets, Vlastík lives and recharges his energy in a gamekeeper's lodge near Olomouc. In his spare time he is dedicated to illustrating, mineralogy, gardening and exploring the beauty of our country.

„I value coaching despite the initial lack of trust very positively and really appreciate this opportunity, which the VŠB-TUO Career Centre offers to students free of charge. I would not expect in a bit this to be beneficial to me. Through regular consultations and a gradual process when we applied a variety of techniques of coaching, questioning and setting a certain state of mind, I can say that I feel more comfortable and more balanced. Vlastík helped me get to know myself better and also to find answers to questions I often asked and did not know any answer to them. Thank you." *Marek*

WHAT IS GOING TO BE HAPPENING...

In the summer semester, students and graduates will have an opportunity to figure out their personality with the world-renowned Myers–Briggs Type Indicator (MBTI) that provides a constructive framework for understanding differences between people and acquiring an accurate picture of one's strengths and weaknesses. The knowledge can then be used to find a suitable work position or to better understand and distribute roles in a work team.

Our students and graduates will also learn the basic principles of project management. At the Professional Image and Behaviour Workshop, participants can practise some basic rules of professional and social conduct and will also be introduced to effective people leadership techniques at the Leadership Workshop.

At the moment, we also deal with the lecturer of a global strategist, coach and mentor, Jan Mühlfeit, who has been working for Microsoft for 22 years, the last 15 years of which in the company's top management about his lecture. He currently helps individuals, organizations, and countries from different parts of the world to unlock their human potential. Will Jan Mühlfeit succeed to open our students to their full potential?

TEXT: Karin Krumlová
PHOTO: Radim Horák

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