Information centre of AlNova

In 2012 the Information centre will celebrate the seventh year of its existence. During these seven years more than 20 000 visitors have used the services of the Infocentre. AlNova opened the Information centre in 2005. This was done through cooperation with the municipality of Svatý Jur and thanks to EU Phare funds. The Infocentre is located in the beautifully restored building called “Turna”. The building was built in 1899, and was used as the town’s gymnasium, later for cultural purposes as an amateur theater. Before the reconstruction there was a restaurant and a bar.

Currently the Infocentre offers a wide range of services to local residents, visitors and foreign tourists. You can find here a quantity of promotional materials, books and documentary movies. There are 8 computers with internet connection available, wi-fi, touch screen terminal, and a copy machine, of course. You can go to the information center to visit an exhibition of child and professional painters, and you can enjoy it with a nice cup of Italian coffee. If you need a present, you can choose from pottery from local artists, handmade jewelry, local wine, or engraving from well known artists.

The Infocentre is becoming more and more a meeting point of the local community. Thanks to its good location in the centre of the town, and comfortable space, there are regular courses of Pilates, Joga, self-defense, environmental education... AlNova uses the Infocentre premises for English courses and educational seminars. The Infocentre activities are not focused only on providing services, but also on education and culture:

Lectures about nature, educational events for families and children, guided trips, evenings with live music in Scheidlin’s garden ...these are just some of the events in which staff of the Infocentre participate.

A significant role is played by the long-term friendly relations formed between the Infocentre, local inhabitants, local associations and municipality.

Focus on: Helena Bakaljarová

Helena Bakaljarová is a key person of coordination and realization of the international post graduate study programme Built Heritage Conservation and Development in which she has been working as a project manager since 2001. As one lecturer recently remarked, ‘She is the calm centre around whom the programme rotates. She organises and mothers both students and lecturers and if something happens then Hela knows about it or, more probably, made it happen. Her efficiency, humanity and humour help make it a joy to visit Svatý Jur.’ Hela’s main task is the day to day management of the programme as well as communication with the foreign lecturers and experts who come from all over the world. The care and assistance for students of the programme includes a broad spectrum of tasks: recruitment; providing accommodation, necessary documents, and living permits (especially for foreigners and non EU residents); management of study plans and individual seminar paper consultations; as well as excursions and study trips within Slovakia and abroad.

Helena takes care also about advertising and publicity for the study programme. She edits the programme’s web page and designs print materials for promotion. Communication with donors and supporters of the study programme is an important part of her agenda. Helena started to work for AlNova in 1997 as the head manager of the study department. Here she was responsible for the study activities of several programmes which were running at that time. She also took care of PR activities and coordination of Study Abroad programme with a partner University from the US.

Helena enlarged her professional knowledge and skills beside work on educational courses of European integration and English communication, presentation techniques, project writing and work with graphics programmes. In all of her work she draws on her professional knowledge and skills of her former profession of photographer and designer and also from her work for the Institute of Ethnology of the Slovak Academy of Sciences where she worked in department of documentation.
In the period from 21 to 25 May 2012, the course "Methodology of flexible learning" took place in the premises of the Information centre in Štvrt Jur; this course was realised for a group of university teachers and PhD students from Moldovan universities and state educational institutions within the project SAMRS 2011/04/04 – Modernisation of education in Moldova – preparation of pedagogues and students for e-learning methodology enhances the access to flexible education.

The 5-day programme was laid out as follows: In the beginning all participating parties introduced themselves in their native languages. During the whole week Jaromír Novák interpreted lectures and presentations from/to Romanian language; sometimes English as a universal language was used in practical exercises. The course itself, lectured by Pavol Bisták assistant professor at the Faculty of Electrical Engineering and Information Technology, Slovak University of Technology, was divided into several topical blocks from the viewpoints of the participants’ roles – as future course managers, authors and tutors. Theoretical lectures alternated with practical exercises in the virtual learning environment – Moodle course European Union and its citizens which was based on the texts originated during the previous Grundtvig multilateral project, subsequently modified and updated.

Marta Jendeková introduced the topic of the Lisbon Treaty and innovations in the same title. It was dedicated to the possibility to initiate initiatives which gives EU citizens the possibility to initiate creation of European legislation. The third part of the seminar was assigned for the REC, namely Ingrid Ludviková, Press & Communication Officer, to brief the journalists on a wide range of information sources available in the EU institutions’ portals. Each of the meetings was closed with a lively discussion showing the interest of the participants in the presented topics and the need to repeat such events in the future.

The European affairs dept. lecturers tailored a one-day course "What changes has the Lisbon Treaty brought?" for the Ministry of transport, construction and regional development of the SR (MDVRRSR). The large interest of the Ministry employees in the given topic (more than 80 persons) brought about the need to split the number of participants into three courses (22, 23 and 29 May).

Lisbon treaty for state administration

The programme consisted of three blocks. In the beginning outlines and thoughts were presented concerning the functioning of the EU and reasons for potential reform, followed by facts and comments on adoption of the Treaty and innovations included. After lunch the presentations dealt with European citizenship and its real possibilities and limitations. The topic was selected with regard to the fact that next year was declared by the European Commission as the year of European citizenship. At the end of the course the lecturers presented Legislative and Non-legislative Acts after the Lisbon Treaty and Comitology. This topic, despite its significance and complexity, has been presented to an insufficient extent and this is why the state officials welcomed the opportunity to become familiar with it in detail.
EU citizens can actively affect the Union legislation

On 1 April 2012 the European Citizens’ Initiative (ECI), a new instrument of participative democracy which enables EU citizens to initiate preparation of European legislation, came into effect. The Lisbon Treaty sets the mantelpiece of the ECI. It must cover the areas where the European Commission is entitled to submit proposals of legal acts. Within one year the ECI organisers must collect statements of support from at least 1 million citizens coming from 7 EU member states while considering the required number of signatures derived from the number of its members of the European parliament.


The first initiatives have been already registered and you can use them as an inspiration or support them at [http://ec.europa.eu/citizens-initiative/public/welcome?lg=sk](http://ec.europa.eu/citizens-initiative/public/welcome?lg=sk).

Photographic exhibition of the competition

Lesser Carpathian Metamorphoses

Results of the second annual photographic competition The Lesser Carpathian Metamorphoses were presented to the public at the exhibition in the Lesser Carpathian museum and in the courtyard of Krušič manor-house, both in Pezinok.

The exhibition opening took place on May 10, in the Lesser Carpathian museum. The authors of photographs, invited guests, and fans of photography and historical photographs attended the opening event where more than 50 photographic pairs were presented. The photographs show well-known as well as not so well-known sites and landscapes within the region and their changes and metamorphoses during the last hundred years. Svatý Jur and Modrý, because of their importance in the past, were the most frequently represented towns on the exhibition.

The second part of the exhibition focusing on the town of Pezinok was installed in the courtyard of the recently restored Krušič manor-house, situated at the corner of Radničné square. Pezinok changed a lot especially in the second half of the 20th century. A large part of its historic buildings were demolished at that time and replaced by modern architecture to represent the new status of a capital of the county. Most of the views captured on the old photos changed dramatically compared with today. Therefore photographic couples – old and new photographs of the same place – have a great informative value for citizens who are sometimes not aware at all about how their town looked in the recent past.

The exhibition in the courtyard of the Krušič manor-house will be available to the public also during the Ceramic markets - a popular and important local and regional cultural event.

Transnational Triangulation workshop in Svatý Jur and Bratislava

A Transnational triangulation workshop of EPOurban partners took place in Svatý Jur at the premises of Academia Istropolitana Nova and in Bratislava City at 23-24 of April, 2012. The main objective of the Triangulation workshop was to define the common goals and the next steps in order to set up a method of local triangulation. Therefore the assessment of economic, social, financial, and cultural framework was presented and discussed at the beginning of the meeting. During the first day of the workshop all partner cities introduced their target areas and gave overviews of the local conditions based on a common questionnaire. A comparison of this data was also presented during the meeting.

The second issue which was discussed during the first day of the workshop regarded current ongoing activities of the partner cities in their target areas. The second day of the workshop continued in the target area of the Bratislava city – i.e. Bratislava-Petržalka area, Petržalka City District (Miestny úrad časti Bratislava-Petržalka). The target area in Petržalka was presented both by Ing. arch. Jozef Nemec (Petržalka City District (Miestny úrad časti Bratislava-Petržalka)) and the project partners from the City of Bratislava. Ing. arch. Elena Szolgayova (Director of Department of Housing Policy and Urban Development) gave an insight of the EPOurban project within the national policy in Slovakia. The workshop continued with the walk through the target area in Petržalka which was guided by Ing. arch. Jozef Nemec. The workshop was concluded with the Steering committee meeting where the communication outputs concerning CI-manual, website and leaflet of EPOurban project were introduced and discussed. The triangulation workshop was closed with the discussion led by the Lead partner, the City of Leipzig.
The accessibility and inner connectivity of the centrope region is a crucial pre-condition for its competitiveness. At the same time, only a balanced upgrading of transport infrastructure and services can ensure a sustainable, i.e. environmentally and socially sound development. Since April 2011 AINova together with other partners from four countries has been involved in the pilot project of centrope Infrastructure Needs Assessment Tool (INAT) – fostering competitive regional development. The draft of the “Strategic framework for transport and infrastructure development in the centrope region” was prepared by the INAT team. Building on the analysis of coherence, synergies and conflicts of existing spatial development strategies and on the identification of current and expected capacity constraints, this document provides a roadmap for future action rooted in a comprehensive picture of the entire region. The document has been negotiated by stakeholders in respective countries and was approved by the centrope Political Board in the meeting on May 2012 in Brno.

Professional Communication and Language Programmes is finishing a very successful term of teaching public courses in Svatý Jur, where over 40 students including children have attended courses of various levels. We will be reopening these courses in September – information on times and prices will be available on www.ainova.sk towards the end of August.

During the summer we will be focusing on specialised short-term activities such as the ‘Eurospeak’ course run in conjunction with programme of European Integration. We are also open to requests from individuals who would like one to one tailored courses during the summer, for more information contact Ruth Zorvan; ruth@ainova.sk.

As always, we continue to deliver our professional and business English programmes to the business community and state institutions in Bratislava; meeting the needs of high level managers on a one to one basis.

Letný Kurz Anglického jazyka pre mládež vo Svätom Jure.

Chcete sa naučiť po anglicky a zabaviť sa aj cez leto?

Pridajte sa k nám a učte sa formou hry a divadla.

Kedy: 9 – 13 júl 2012 každý deň od 9.00 – 12.00 hod
Pre koho: pre mládež vo veku 10 až 13 rokov
Kde: Informačné centrum vo Svätom Jure
Veľkosť skupín: maximálna 14 osôb
Učiteľia: slovenská a anglická lektorka
Cena: 65 EUR
Zápis: do 18. júna 2012 Viac info na www.ainova.sk, v informačnom centre a na e-mailovej adrese ruth@ainova.sk
Programme of the Information centre, June 2012

Mondays and Wednesdays, 17:30-19:30 runs selfdefence training of Wing Chun Kung Fu in the Information centre

Thursday, 14. 6., pottery evening in the Infocentre as a part of festival: “Porcellaneous june”

Saturday, 23. 6. Midsummer concert in Scheidlin’s garden

We will gladly provide you more information about the actual events in the Information centre.

Longterm supporters of institution:

“We enjoy sharing our knowledge and experience.”

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Notices

Course: Metodology of flexible learning

Educational programme for nursery school

The Information centre building of AlNova