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Address from the Executive Director

The fourth issue of the newsletter which you have just received brings regular information on AINova's ongoing and planned activities. The forthcoming end of the year brings about a duty for me, as the Executive director, to sum up the institution's condition and outcomes of the team's work. On this occasion I would like to thank all the involved persons within AINova who have a part in the achieved results.

First of all there are receivers of our services. The aim of our institution is to respond to current social needs in the area of preservation and valuation of cultural heritage, local development, building civil society, European integration and development of communication skills. No activity in this sphere is possible without a dialogue with the other party. The success of our efforts is only possible due to their contribution.

Targets set by our institution are basically oriented on creating partnerships among subjects with common interests. Activating broad layers of the society towards civil involvement and building an open society is not the matter of one institution. Events where AINova takes part are the evidence of the fact that there exist intersections and common topics across the wide social spectrum. Thus the success of the AINova's events is a joint success.

An overview of AINova's activities shows diversity from an

economic point of view. As a non-profit organisation, AINova focuses on the projects of public interest. It responds to national, as well as European programmes' calls for proposals. To keep economic balance, the organisation provides part of its services on a commercial basis in order to co-finance the above mentioned activities. Nevertheless, meeting the AINova targets would not be possible without support from our sponsors. Therefore we thank them for their expressed confidence.

Thanks to the governmental interest in supporting civil involvement in the socially beneficial spheres you have the opportunity to determine the usage of 2% from the paid income tax for selected activities. We believe that you find our effort meaningful and we ask you for support.



Profile: Zuzana Štefániková — Project manager

Zuzana Štefániková has ranked among AINova's key personalities since its foundation in 1996. As a close fellow-worker of Alena Brunovská, the first director and founder of the school, she shared in the formation of content orientation of the new institution, as well as in its physical building in Svätý Jur and also in forming written and unwritten rules of its functioning. In this period she was head of the European studies department which she built from scratch as the first one in Slovakia. At the same time she was a Deputy Director of Academic Affairs. After the unexpected decease of the outstanding personality of Alena Brunovská, Zuzana, as a temporary director, managed to overcome this high-pressure period, successfully finish the school

year and organize a selection procedure of the new director. After the 2-year break she returned to the function of a duly elected Executive director. She ended her successful acting in the leading position at her own request in June 2008. This leading period directed Zuzana towards the Lifelong learning topics; she passed the relevant courses, such as Higher Education Marketing Management at Galileo College in Israel and Curriculum development – preparation of educational programmes/courses, organised by HESP/ OSF in Hungary. Project management is another profile topic where she has reached excellent results confirmed by domestic as well as foreign course participants since 2008. In her teaching process she fully exploits her practical experi-

ence acquired during preparation and implementation of a number of projects; evaluating projects within the Grundtvig Lifelong learning programmes and completing international courses about project management organised by the Schools of Public Administration in Denmark and Maastricht was another professional inspiration. Zuzana's heartfelt effort to gain comprehensive and maximum up-to-date information in the given time is the added value to her professional-



International conference in Lviv



Conference in Lviv

An international conference for Ukrainian University teachers took place on 28 October 2011 in Lviv, Ukraine. The conference was the final activity within a SlovakAid project implemented by AINova Universities – the source of consolidation of civil society in neighbouring Ukraine; Slovakia – mediator on the way of Ukrainian academics to new European university area.

Around 80 university teachers from the National University in Lviv and other universities in Lviv and the region participated in the conference. The conference took place in the Mirror Hall in the Lviv National University and the title of the conference was *Education as a Tool of Civil Society*

Development (Sharing Experience between Ukraine and Slovakia).

The conference consisted of 3 panels and in total 3 Slovak and 10 Ukrainian teachers delivered their conference speeches. The contributions in the first panel *Role of Education in Modern Society; Current Trends, Challenges and Prospects* developed the topics such as the universities of the third millennium, strategic planning, trends in higher education in the SR, certified programmes in the university and education as a tool of integration of Ukraine into the EU.

The second panel was devoted to the topic *Ukrainian and Slovak Cooperation in the field of Higher Education*. The contributions

covered, for example, development of Slovak Studies in Lviv and in Uzgorod as a model of cross border cooperation, cooperation between the National University in Lviv and Constantin the Philosopher University in Nitra.

In the framework of the third panel discussion the *Importance of Life Long Education* was emphasised. The speakers introduced life long learning in the Volyn region, focused on education of aging people and partnership of schools and society.

The collection of all speeches will be issued in the collection of conference papers in Slovak and Ukrainian languages in January 2012.

Kick-off Meeting in Moldova

On 23 September 2011 the Kick off meeting of the SlovakAid project for Moldova was held. It is a new project which AINova started on 15 September 2011 under the name *Modernisation of education in Moldova – preparation of pedagogues and students for e-learning methodology enhances the access to flexible education* and which will be implemented within the next 2 years. The project responds to the sectoral priority Social development with the focus on education. It aims at supporting reforms in the Moldovan education system and improving access to education as an instru-

ment of social development through mediation of e-learning methodology as a form of flexible learning. The purpose of the project is training the Moldovan teachers and students of pedagogical faculties in the formation and tutoring of e-learning courses.

Within the project two train the trainers courses in Slovakia and an international conference in Moldova will be organised and a handbook of e-learning methodology will be published.

J. Bytčáneková and L. Bizoňová from AINova and A. Barbosie and A. Gremalschi

from the Institute for Public Policy, the partner institution, took part in the introductory meeting in Chisinau. The partners discussed the planned activities and ways of their realisation, specified the timetable, identified in detail the target group and particular institutions where the recruitment will take place, distributed the tasks and agreed on the languages used.

In april 2012 two training courses for Moldovan colleagues will be held in Slovakia.



Official development aid programme of the SR



Kick-off Meeting of In-TeaM partners

On 17 – 18 November 2011 a Kick off meeting of the partners within the Grundtvig – Learning partnership project was held. AINova as the project coordinator hosted 20 participants from 8 European organisations from Bulgaria, Greece, Italy, Latvia, Poland, Romania, Spain, and Turkey focused on lifelong learning. The objective of the project includes creating a partnership where the involved organisations will share best practices

and know-how in the area of innovative teaching methods used in adult education. The purpose of this exchange implies mastering non-traditional and innovative teaching methods and their further exploitation in practice of each organisation.

After the initial introduction of all the involved institutions, the partners presented 17 methodologies used in their work experience, eleven of these were selected. These will

be presented and recorded on camera at four workshops.

The workplan of activities with distribution of tasks, as well as a timetable of presentations of teaching methods at the next four workshops in Spain, Greece, Italy and Romania was arranged at the meeting. The final seminar will be organised by the Turkish partner.

The next meeting is scheduled for February 2012 and will be held in the Spanish city of Ceuta.

In-TeaM



Mansions and manor houses in Bratislava region

A conference entitled *Mansions and manor houses in the Bratislava region* took place on September 20th in the recently renewed Art hotel KAŠTIEĽ in the village of Tomášov. The conference was organised within the European Heritage Days 2011. AINova together with the Self-governing region of Bratislava in close co-operation with the Slovak Monument Board and Municipal Monument Board in Bratislava prepared a programme dealing with this much endangered group of historic buildings.

Contributions mapping the history, renewal and use of mansions and manor houses were pre-

sented. The Slovak/Austrian cross-border projects of the Self-governing region of Bratislava and the Lower Austria - RECOM SK AT a PALTOUR, demonstrated the opportunities for co-financing of restoration and examples of further use of historic objects. A stimulating enrichment was the presentation of the restoration of the Tomášov Mansion - Art hotel KAŠTIEĽ, which was rounded off by an excursion in its interior.

Apart from the contribution of Mr. Kilian focused on mansions in relation to the cultural landscape, AINova involved also professionals participating in our cultural and educational projects, namely Ms.

Barbora Vorlíčková, who prepared the contribution about mansions and manor houses in the Lesser Carpathian region and Mr. Peter Horanský who presented the interpretation posters about Modra manor house.

A text book from the conference will be published by the end of 2011.



EPOurban



AINova as one of the 9 project partners participating in the international project with the long title *Enabling Private Owners of Residential Buildings to Integrate them into Urban Restructuring Processes* (abbrev. EPOurban). The aim of the project is to propose in co-operation with EPOurban partners effective methods to integrate private owners into overall housing and urban development strategies, as well as consulting systems linking stakeholders from the public and the private sector including the private owners. This aim is highly relevant due to the housing ownership structure in Slovakia.

The main aim of the project is to

develop a ready-to-use action plan that allows creating and implementing consulting systems in municipalities of different backgrounds and sizes. Partners will pilot these instruments by implementing them in their cities.

The intention is to deliver instruments for the activation of private owners in order to integrate them into overall housing and urban development strategies. It will develop consulting systems that supply owners with knowledge on housing market trends, adapted use concepts, financing/funding possibilities, renovation procedures, marketing and management aspects. This will enable them to take the appropriate measu-

res towards a building stock that meets new needs.

AINova's task will be to look for proper forms of sensitization and activation of the private house owners, to collect data on housing conditions, assess trends and developments, and participate in creating training programs and consulting systems in order to institutionalize the integration of private owners into urban restructuring processes.

The project was approved by European Commission / Central Europe Monitoring Committee in January 2011. The project duration is 39 months, beginning in November 2011. The project is financed from the EU Central Europe Scheme.

Regional documents in the Sir Karl Popper Library

The revival of regional activities of libraries is closely related to activating regional cultural life and protection of intangible cultural heritage. The AINova Library started building its partial fund and regional literature database in 2009. Their basis consists of regional documents: book publications, periodicals and various types of special documents (manuscripts, projects, final year documents, electronic documents etc) which are related to the town of Svätý Jur and its surroundings. The fund functions as archival and documen-

tation collection and is supposed to be a source of factual and bibliographic regional information.

The regional literature fund is processed in the Profilib system. It is accessible for the users within the premises of the AINova Library and Information centre via lending on the spot, with the possibility of making photocopies. The online regional fund catalogue is accessible on the premises. The bibliographic list of publications is available on <http://www.ainova.sk/sk/>

[bibliograficky-zoznam-regionalnej-literatury/](#).

Searching for and acquiring of regional documents is very demanding and often random. Many valuable documents do not often find their way to the library (mainly unofficial and low-cost documents). We strive to engage the public in their acquisition to the maximum extent, creating as complex as possible publication fund as a source of information concerning regional history, personalities and culture.

Project Cycle Management



Project Cycle Management course

The year 2011 does not belong to the most successful one for the training course "Project Cycle Management". A decrease in interest in this type of adult education was caused by limited opportunities for submission of project proposals financed from structural funds, as well as by the deepening of the economic crisis in the second half of the year. In spite of this situation the training courses planned for autumn 2011 took place, although with a limited number of participants.

On September 19 – 23, 2011 the extended course in "**Project Cycle Management and EU structural funds**" took place in Svätý Jur and on November 7 – 10, 2011 the basic course "**Project Cycle Mana-**

gement" was presented in Košice for those interested in this topic from the eastern part of Slovakia. The course is attractive for participants because of its content and form of presentation. This is based on interactive teaching methods, predominantly on presentation of theory on examples from practice, followed by structured discussion with participants, on the group work, on preparation of the real projects, on the feedback from trainers and participants. The course is attractive also because of its accreditation. Successful graduates are awarded certificates valid in Slovakia.

For the year 2012 there are several courses in project

preparation and implementation planned for participants from Slovakia, as well as from abroad. The nearest course is planned in Svätý Jur on February 13 – 17, 2012. Courses for international participants under the title "**Enhancing European Cooperation through Strengthening Project Cycle Management Skills**" will take place at the premises of AINova in Svätý Jur in June and October 2012. They will be delivered in English. Participants from Slovakia who are interested in acquiring of specific English terminology and contacts with participants from other EU countries may participate as well. More information about opened courses can be found on www.ainova.sk.

A LEGO city grew up in the Information centre!



LEGO city

During three days in November children from Svätý Jur could join an interesting project. They were building a city. They started on Thursday, and by Sunday there was a beautiful city with buildings, towers, cars, railway, harbour and airport.

The LEGO project is a non commercial, voluntary activity of the Brethren Church. It

has been travelling across the Czech Republic and Slovakia since 2010. The project supports children's creativity and explains to children life principles and bible stories through games.

Each day nearly 25 children were engaged in Svätý Jur, with the help of volunteers. This event was a great success.



PF 2012



AINova
wishes you
a Happy Christmas
and all the best
for the New Year
2012.



Long term supporters of the institution:



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“We enjoy sharing our knowledge and experience.”

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Notices

AINova on Facebook

Become our fans on Facebook and gain fresh news about what's happening in NGO AINova. You will be among the first to be informed about new courses and events.

AINova:

<https://www.facebook.com/oz.ainova>

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Foreign Languages / SCHEDULE I/2012

In the period September- December 2011 Professional Communication and Language Programmes opened a total of 6 courses for the public; 4 for adults at all language levels, and one for children aged 9-11 years old, and one for youth 12-14 years old. The courses are highly interactive and a lot of fun for both participants and teachers. We will be opening these courses again starting January 16th 2012, and ending in June 2012.

Sign up for the courses starts from December 1st 2011. Further information, application forms and tests to find your correct level are on www.ainova.sk or contact Ruth Zorvan directly : ruth@ainova.sk

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY
Children (8-10r) 15.00-16.00 Start: 16.1.2012-11.06.2012 Number of lessons: 19+1 Price: 95 EUR	Children (10-12r) 14.15-15.15 Start: 17.1.2012-12.06.2012 Number of lessons: 17+1 Price: 85 EUR	Teenagers (12-14r) 15.00-16.00 Start: 18.1.2012-13.06.2012 Number of lessons: 19+1 Price: 95 EUR	
Students (17r+) Conversation 17.00-18.30 Start: 16.1.2012-11.06.2012 Number of lessons: 19+1 Price: 145 EUR	Advanced Conversation 17.30-19.00 Start: 24.1.2012-12.06.2012 Number of lessons: 16+1 Price: 120 EUR	Beginners 1+2 18.15-19.45 Start C1: 18.1.2012-13.06.2012 Start C2: 25.1.2012-13.06.2012 Number of lessons: 19+1 Price: 145 EUR	Intermediate 17.30-19.00 Start: 19.1.2012-14.06.2012 Number of lessons: 19+1 Price: 145 EUR