

Current events

The members of the Committee of the Czech Section of Health Psychology (except Jaro Křivohlavý) are also members of the Organizing Committee of the 26th EHPS Conference that is organized from August 21 to August 25, 2012 in Prague, Czech Republic.

The Czech Section of Health Psychology initiated and accomplished also in the 2011 period a lot of several activities (see below).

The structure of the Committee of the Czech Section of Health Psychology consists of the following members: Vladimír Kebza, Chair, EHPS National delegate (National Institute of Public Health, and Charles University, Faculty of Philosophy, Dept. of Psychology, Prague); Evžen Řehulka, Deputy Chair (Masaryk University, Faculty of Education, Brno); Iva Štětovská, Secretary (Dept. of Psychology, Charles University, Prague); Members: Václav Hošek (Charles University, Faculty of Sports, Prague); Jaro Křivohlavý (Charles University, Faculty of Humanistic Studies, Prague); Bohumil Koukola (University of Ostrava, Faculty of Education, Ostrava); Jiří Mareš (Charles University, Faculty of Medicine, Hradec Králové).

Main activities

All members of the Committee of the Czech Section of Health Psychology in cooperation with all members of the Section, and the Czech-Moravian Psychological Association and with Charles University in Prague were honoured by the EHPS to organize the 26th 2012 EHPS annual Conference for the first time within the history of these Conferences in the Czech Republic. The opening ceremony will take place on Tuesday, August 21, 2012 in the main historical building of the Charles University in Prague, congress hotel Diplomat Prague is to host the regular course of the Conference.

As regards other activities, the web page of the Czech Health Psychology Section within the web page of the Czech-Moravian Psychological Society (<http://cmps.ecn.cz/sections>), and the web page of the 26th 2012 EHPS Conference (<http://www.ehps2012prague.com>) is the main information source both for our members, and for other psychologists, physicians, teachers, and other professionals working in this field. Czech health psychologist took part in the mentioned period in some important international psychological events: one of them was the 12th European Congress of Psychology, Istanbul, July 4 - 8, 2011. Some Czech health psychologists took part also in the 2nd World Congress on Positive Psychology, Philadelphia, July 23-26, 2011, and in the 25th Annual Conference of the European Health Psychology Society, Crete, Greece, September 20 – 24, 2011.

The Czech Health Psychology Section members, supporters, and sympathizers meet regularly at the Annual Section Conferences held in Vernířovice (see below) in the 3rd weekend in May 2011. The Committee members are also organizers as well as participants of the mentioned Annual Section Conference in Vernířovice. A lot of Czech health psychologists participate also in educational and training activities as university teachers, supervisors, tutors etc. Assoc. Prof. E. Řehulka, the deputy chair of the Committee of our Section from the Masaryk University, Faculty of Education, Brno successfully completed his full Professorship at the University in Nitra, Slovakia. Some of Czech health psychologists participated also in the conferences of the Slovak Health Psychology Section held in 2011 in Bratislava, Slovakia.

Research

Some important research projects were implemented in 2011 by members of the Section. One of them is the grant project „Longitudinal Study of Optimal Development“, developed and completed by M. Blatný from the Institute of Psychology, Czech Academy of Science, and Vladimír Kebza from the National Institute of Public Health. As other research projects implemented within the 2011 is the research implemented by M. Blatný et al. in Brno concerning the quality of life, research related to comparison of several conceptions of resilience implemented by I. Šolcová and V. Kebza in Prague for an international monograph that was published in 2011 in New York, Nova Science Publ. House, or research focused on the relations between burnout syndrome, engagement and social events by V. Kebza and I. Šolcová in Prague. V. Kebza with I. Šolcová, R. Ptáček and I. Paclt completed the monograph „Load and Stress in Medical Professions“. E. Řehulka and his team in Brno continued in the implementation of long-term research proposal related to the study of complex problems entitled „School and Health 21“.

Conferences

The main Czech activity in this field, the Annual Conference of the Section held in Vernířovice was organized by the Committee of the Section (Bohumil Koukola from the Ostrava University, member of the Committee, is a local organizer), in the third week-end of May 2011. The programme consisted of regular lectures, evening round table discussions, and workshops, implemented in a week-end period (Friday evening - Sunday afternoon), using plenary, and two parallel sessions. About 60 participants from Bohemia, Moravia, Silesia, and Slovakia presented at this conference results of their work in the field of health psychology.

Evžen Řehulka, the deputy chair of the Committee of the Section, and his colleagues organized also in 2011 at the Masaryk University in Brno conference "School and Health 21" with an active participation of many Section members.

Special events concerning the World Day of Mental Health are implemented annually in October in the National Institute of Public Health in Prague in co-operation with the Czech Section of Health Psychology, both Czech Psychological and Psychiatric Societies, and the Charles University, Faculty of Philosophy, Dept. of Psychology, and 3rd Medical Faculty.

Other conferences with Czech participation and with health psychology sections/topics:

- 12th European Congress of Psychology, Istanbul, July 4 - 8, 2011;
- 2nd World Congress on Positive Psychology, Philadelphia, July 23-26, 2011;
- 25th Annual Conference of the European Health Psychology Society, Crete, Greece, September 20 – 24, 2011.

Education

A lot of regular, and some new training courses in health psychology is offered at Czech and Moravian universities: at the 3rd Medical Faculty, Charles University in Prague as an important part of the Bachelor's Public Health and Health Sciences programmes. As a part of Master's Curriculum, a two-term course is offered at the Faculty of Philosophy, Dept. of Psychology (within the Master's Programme of Psychology). Several health psychology courses and lectures are offered also at the

Masaryk University in Brno, Ostrava University in Ostrava, West-Bohemian University in Plzeň, and at other Czech and Moravian universities.

Some new, but already experienced and encouraging colleagues as R. Ptáček, J. Jakubů, R. Hacklová from Prague universities and institutions, or R. Badošek and J. Mynářová from Ostrava University were involved into activities of our Section.

Some postgraduate health psychology courses were developed also within the Postgraduate Institute for Health Professionals' curriculum and Czech Ministry of Health in Prague, Olomouc and Brno. One new Ph.D. programme in health psychology, the first in the Czech Republic, is still underway at the Faculty of Philosophy, Dept. of Psychology, Charles University in Prague. It's implementation depends on the further Associate Professor or Professor position that is needed for the accreditation procedure.