

Czech Republic

National Delegate: Renata Hacklova

History

The Czech (former Czechoslovak) Section of Health Psychology was founded in 1988, originally as the Psychology of Healthy Life Section, and since 1990 as the Czech Health Psychology Section and as one of sections of the Czech-Moravian Psychological Association.

Elections

As the period of the current Committee of the Czech Section of Health Psychology (2004 – 2012) finished in 2012, the elections of the new Committee was initiated by the former Committee, and organized and implemented using an electronic vote by the Czech-Moravian Psychological Association.

Based on the results of the elections, the structure of the new Committee of the Czech Section of Health Psychology for the 2013 – 2020 period consists of the following Committee representatives and members:

Vladimír Kebza, Chair, EHPS National delegate (Charles University, Dept. of Psychology, and Czech University of Life Sciences);

Bohumil Koukola, Deputy Chair (Ostrava University, Faculty of Education, Dept. of Educational and School Psychology, Ostrava);

Iva Štětovská, Secretary (Dept. of Psychology, Charles University, Prague);

Members:

Radim Badošek (Ostrava University, Faculty of Education, Dept. of Educational and School Psychology, Ostrava);

Renata Hacklová (National Institute of Public Health, Prague);

Tereza Kimplová (Ostrava University, Faculty of Education, Dept. of Educational and School Psychology, Ostrava);

Jiří Mareš (Charles University, Faculty of Medicine, Hradec Králové);

After the elections members of the new Committee accepted the Vladimír Kebza's proposal for the new Czech national delegate, Renata Hacklová. The committee thanks to Vladimír Kebza for his 10- year work in the position of Czech national delegate.

Main activities of theSection

All member of theCommittee of the Czech Section of Health Psychology in cooperation with members of theSection, and the Czech-Moravian Psychological Association and also with Charles University in Prague were honoured by the EHPS to organize the 26th 2012 EHPS Antal Conference for the first time within the history of these Conferences in the Czech Republic. After this Conference, we, Czech health psychologists are very pleased that the 26th EHPS Conference was evaluated as very successful.

As regards to other ractivities, the web page of the Czech Health Psychology Section within the web page of the Czech-MoravianPsychological Society (<http://cmps.ecn.cz/sections>), and the web page of the 26th 2012 EHPS Conference (<http://www.ehps2012prague.com>) were the main IT sources both for our rmembers, and for other psychologists, physicians, teachers, and other Professional working in this field.

Czech health psychologists took part in the mentioned period also in some important international psychological events: one of them was the 13th European Congress of Psychology, Stockholm, Sweden, July 9 – 12, 2013, the second was also the 27th Conference of the European Health Psychology Society, Bordeaux, France, July 16 – 20, 2013.

The Czech Health Psychology Section members, supporters, and sympathizers meet regularly at the Annual National Section Conferences held in Vernířovice (see below) in the 3rd weekend in May 2013. The Committee members are also organizers as well as participants of the mentioned Annual National Section

Conference in Vernířovice. A lot of Czech health psychologists participate also in educational and training activities as university teachers, supervisors, tutors etc. Somewhat, but already experienced and encouraging colleagues as R. Hacklová from Prague Charles University and National Institute of Public Health, or R. Badošek and T. Kimplová from Ostrava University who completed their Ph.D. study were involved into activities of our Section.

Conferences and special events

Annual National 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. This year Conference of our Section in Vernířovice was associated with the two important anniversaries: the 25. anniversary of the Czech Section of Health Psychology, and the 20th anniversary of Vernířovice conferences.

The programme consisted of regular lectures, evening ground 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. The Book of Abstracts of the Conference presentations was prepared and distributed at the Conference CD-ROM with an ISBN.

Education

Some regular, and some new training courses in health psychology are offered at Czech and Moravian universities. As a part of Master's Curriculum, a two-term course is offered at the Faculty of Philosophy, Charles University, 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, Palacký University in Olomouc, West-Bohemian University in Plzeň, University Hradec Králové, and at other Czech and Moravian universities. The majority of Czech and Moravian Faculties of Education offers a course called „Education for Health“.

The postgraduate course for psychologists working in the health care system called „Psychologist in the Health Service“, accredited by the Czech Ministry of Health is offered at universities 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. Its implementation depends on the further Associate Professor or Professor position that is needed for the accreditation procedure of the Czech Ministry of Education.

Research

Some important research projects were implemented in 2013 by members of the Section. One of them is the further period of research within 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 Czech University of Life Sciences. As other research projects implemented within the 2013 is the research implemented by M. Blatný et al. in Brno concerning the quality of life, 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 and published their monograph „Load and Stress in Medical Professions“.

E. Řehulka and his team from Masaryk University in Brno finished and successfully defended the results and outcomes of his long-term research proposal related to the study of complex problems entitled „School and Health for the 21st Century“. J. Mareš completed and published his monograph „Posttraumatic Growth of Man“ and with his colleagues from the Faculty of Medicine, Charles University in Hradec Králové published results of their research on patient's perceptions of disease. B. Koukola from Ostrava University finished his project concerning the results of SOC questionnaire in a sample of school-aged children in Krnov. B. Hátlová and her colleagues from the Dept. of Psychology, Faculty of Education of the J. E. Purkyně University in Ústí nad Labem implemented research project on the therapeutic use of movement activities in psychiatric treatment. K. Paulík and his colleagues from Ostrava University completed and published in a monograph results of their research project concerning psychological aspects of coping with load in a sample of Czech men and women.