

Editorial

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It is not very pleasant to write in the editorial that once again our journal is being published late. Our intention was to publish the first edition of *Klaudyán* in the first half of the year with the second edition coming out at the end of the year. I know, that to a certain extent, I am crying over spilt milk, as they say. In the editorial of the double issue 1-2/2009 I characterized the results of “impactmania” and “pointmania” in Czech academics as led by the Research and Development Committee (sic!, not the Academic Committee).

At the celebration of the anniversary of the founding of Charles University, traditionally held in the ancient Karolinum building, this method of “directing” science and academia, excuse me, research, was characterized in one of two speeches as limiting freedom in research. Today researchers are forced to publish only in journals determined by the Committee, both foreign and domestic, as long as they are impacted, or in worse cases at least in journals included on the Research and Development Committee’s list of peer-reviewed, non-impacted journals. Researchers must therefore work on and publish about topics that have the greatest chances of being accepted by these journals. If they do not have impacted articles or points, they will have problems at work. This scientometric, “economist’s” approach in the social sciences and above all in the humanities seems to be off to me. Perhaps academics above all know where to take their research, what is and what is not fruitful, what to work on in order to get results, which of course can be negative as well, and where to publish their findings.

The above-mentioned list of journals published in Czechia finally – in the Internet Age – contains on-line journals (see for example “e-Pedagogium” or “Envigogika”). I cannot but marvel at the titles of some of the applied science journals on the list – such as Tunel (Tunnel), Maso (Meat), Beton (Concrete), Plyn (Gas), etc. – and the agendas of their publishers. I fear that they have been included in part because they meet all “administrative” criteria, one of which is crucial for *Klaudyán*. That is the regularity of publishing. This is something we cannot demonstrate. When this list was put together we had been publishing our journal for too short a time to make the application. We met the requirements of publishing at least 2 volumes per year until 2008. However, we must respect the Committee’s methodology no matter what we think of it, and we must accept these rules of the “game”.

In order for *Klaudyán* to be published regularly, we need a sufficient supply of quality manuscripts. When this is achieved and *Klaudyán* is published according to the rules of the Research and Development Committee, then we will apply for being included on this list.

Electronic journals are accessible to all researches at both home and throughout the world; all it takes is to type in its address. The publicity of the findings of our authors and researchers

and the accessibility of their articles is much greater and timelier. Here is just one example. The organizers of an environmental conference held under the auspices of the Collegium Carolinum, a Czech studies research institute, invited N. Orsillo based on his article in vol. 1/2008 to this conference and even reimbursed him for expenses incurred. In summary: the solution is in you, our readers, in our academic community. If you do not help Klaudyán, and at the same time yourself, by not offering an appropriate amount of articles, reviews, annotations, announcements, etc. so that Klaudyán can be published regularly (at the beginning there will be no points), it will be a hopeless battle to get us on the list of the Research and Development Committee.

The contents of this volume of Klaudyán are exceptional. Based on the main articles we could describe this volume as “Slovak”. We are glad about this fact, and hope that the number of articles by our Slovak colleagues grows.

The authors of the first article, Z. Muchová a F. Petrovič from Nitra, definitively document that historic land use research using statistical records and cartographic methods is developing successfully in Slovakia. This is valid for geographic and historic geographic institutes, but in particular for environmental history, which is closely related to landscape ecology, which has a rich history in Slovakia. It documents the application of its findings in current complex land consolidation work. In the second study in the field of the history of geography, Jiří Martínek documents the role of Czech geographers in establishing Slovak geography and its development at the first Slovak university, established in 1919 in Bratislava after the founding of Czechoslovakia.

Peter Svoboda, a geography student at our faculty, has contributed an article on the development of thought on nature and landscape protection in the USA which culminated in the development of current environmental thinking in the USA.

The use of the geographic name “Česko” has been progressing excellently, with the one exception of one foreign language equivalent. And at that it is the most important language. The English “Czechia” has been more or less ignored by our politicians, businessmen and sport associations. Why? God knows. The study of local, regional and national identity is a frequent topic in political, cultural and historical geography. This is a result of the gradual globalization of the world. We are also publishing Petr Schnur’s thought provoking and inspiring speech about the importance of geographic names for strengthening national identity made at a public hearing of the Senate of the Parliament of the Czech Republic in 2005. In the United States geographic atlases and publications are already being published which use the name Czechia. Perhaps we will be able to share more information about these publications in the next volume, which, I hope, should be published this year.

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