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Report on the meeting of the Correctional Pedagogy Group with the Committee of Pedagogical Sciences of the Polish Academy of Sciences, 29.01.2016

On 29 January 2016 at 11.00 at the headquarters of Pedagogium School of Social Sciences in Warsaw an open reporting and election meeting of the Correctional Pedagogy Team with the Committee of Pedagogical Sciences of the Polish Academy of Sciences was held. The Team members and invited guests were greeted by the Rector of Pedagogium School of Social Sciences Professor Dr Marek Kopczyński. The acting president (after the death of Prof. Dr Bronisław Urban), Prof. Dr Wiesław Ambrozik reported on the current activities of the Team (2012–2015). The Team's activities in the previous term concentrated on the following areas: publishing, self-education, promotion and didactic.

An expression of activities to promote the achievements of correctional pedagogy was the involvement of Team members in the work of many expert groups, including the Ministry of Justice, Ministry of Interior, Education, the Office of the Ombudsman for Children's Rights, the Office of the Ombudsman for Citizens' Rights, Police Headquarters. It should be emphasized that the participation of the Team members in expert groups had a real impact on preventive and correctional activities undertaken especially for young people at risk of maladjustment or already socially maladjusted youth, as well as in the area of preventive, probation and penitentiary activities conducted in the environment of adult offenders.

Efforts were also made towards improving the quality of teaching students of social rehabilitation and the prospects of education and employment of future educators. The Team for Analyses of Plans and Curriculum was established, whose

task was to develop uniform educational standards for the specialty of social rehabilitation. However, the aim was not realized for reasons beyond the control of the Team members and it will be a priority of the new term, because the graduates of pedagogical studies in the field of social rehabilitation must have valid knowledge, skills and social competences.

Under the auspices of the Team, the only scientific and scored by the Ministry of Science and Higher Education journal was created and is released regularly, which focuses on the problems of social prevention and social rehabilitation – the semi-annual “Resocjalizacja Polska” – “Polish Social Rehabilitation”. Since 2014, the journal has also been published in English. The editor of the semi-annual is Prof. Dr Marek Konopczyński. The publisher in 2010–2015 was Pedagogium School of Social Sciences in Warsaw, and since 2016 – Pedagogium Foundation. The Scientific Council of the journal is made up of Polish and foreign professors representing various areas of contemporary social prevention and social rehabilitation. On 17 December 2013, by the decision of the Minister of Science and Higher Education, the semi-annual “Polish Social Rehabilitation” gained 5 parametric points. Currently, in accordance with the Notice of the Minister of Science and Higher Education dated 18 December 2015 on the list of scientific journals with the number of points awarded for the publication in these journals, the semi-annual “Polish Social Rehabilitation” has 12 points. It should also be noted that the journal is indexed in databases: The Central European Journal of Social Sciences and Humanities (CEJSH), Directory of Open Access Journals (DOAJ), Index Copernicus International, BazHum, ARIANTA, Centre for Open Science and World Catalogue of Scientific Journals.

The Correctional Pedagogy Team with the Committee of Pedagogical Sciences of the Polish Academy of Sciences was also the patron of many conferences and scientific seminars in Poland, organized by the central and local links of social rehabilitation practice. A particularly important area of discussion was the Congress of Probation Officers (September 2015) in Warsaw which, in addition to representatives of the Ministry of Justice and practitioners, was attended by a large group of representatives of science, including representatives of the Correctional Pedagogy Team with the Committee of Pedagogical Sciences of the Polish Academy of Sciences.

Within the Team a Circle of Young Scholars was established, whose task is to support the development of the young scientific and academic staff who already have a doctoral degree. Members of the Circle adopted the principle that the seminars will be attended by both young scientific workers representing various academic centers and invited professors specializing in the presented topics. This initiative was met with great interest of the whole team. So far there have been seven such meetings. An interesting module of work was also developed, allowing to organize meetings simultaneously in two places, thanks to the possibility of the Internet connection at Pedagogium School of Social Sciences in Warsaw

and at the Department of Educational Studies of the Adam Mickiewicz University in Poznań. Thanks to this solution, the interested participants, depending on the existing possibilities for travel, take part in the meeting in the center selected by them. The President of the Circle of Young Scholars is Dr Maciej Muskała (Adam Mickiewicz University in Poznań).

After presenting the report on the ending term of the Team, Prof. Wiesław Ambrozik initiated a discussion on the place and role of correctional pedagogy in relation to contemporary challenges. This discussion focused around the theses contained in the report and the tasks of the Team of the new term.

During the meeting, elections were held for the new government of the Team. In an open vote, which was attended by 28 people, the composition of the new presidium was unanimously elected:

- Prof. Dr Wiesław Ambrozik (Adam Mickiewicz University in Poznań) – President of Correctional Pedagogy Team with the Committee of Pedagogical Sciences of the Polish Academy of Sciences.
- Prof. Dr Andrzej Bałandynowicz (Jan Kochanowski University in Kielce) – Vice-President;
- Prof. Dr Marek Konopczyński (Pedagogium School of Social Sciences in Warsaw) – Vice-President;
- Dr Beata Maria Nowak (Pedagogium School of Social Sciences in Warsaw) – Vice-President;
- Dr Beata Pastwa-Wojciechowska (University of Gdańsk) – Vice-President;
- Dr Sławomir Przybyliński (University of Warmia and Mazury in Olsztyn) – Vice-President;
- Dr Maciej Muskała (Adam Mickiewicz University in Poznań) – secretary.

After the election of the new presidium, the President of the Team, Prof. Wiesław Ambrozik committed new members to create and identify areas of action of teams specializing in selected problem areas.

The meeting was attended by invited guests: Andrzej Martusiewicz – President of the National Association of Professional Probation Officers and Ewa Małachowska – President of the Board of the Polish Association of Speech Therapists who spoke in turn, outlining areas of mutual cooperation. Andrzej Martusiewicz thanked for the contribution to date of representatives of Polish science in the development of this professional group, especially Prof. Andrzej Bałandynowicz and Dr Krystyna Sawicka, and appealed for the opportunity to participate in meetings of the Team, which give the opportunity to discuss the problems faced by the occupational group of probation officers. Ewa Małachowska invited to cooperate in terms of exchange of experiences in the field of broadening language competences necessary for effective communication, and which she believes to be necessary in the occupational group of social rehabilitation educators.

At the end of the meeting, the members of the Team were invited to submit by e-mail suggestions and ideas for further work of the Team.