

Language Centre Week

Alena Hradilová

For years, everyone at the Masaryk University Language Centre (CJV) has known exactly what they will be doing during the fourth week of January. This week is reserved for **Language Centre Week (CJV Week)**, which aims to **share experiences and disseminate information useful for teachers of foreign languages at universities**. **Language Centre Week (CJV Week)** is an annual event. The program usually includes presentations and workshops prepared by teachers from different departments of CJV on the topics of internationalisation in education, teaching soft skills, examples of good practice, and the assessment of language skills in relation to the Common European Framework of Reference for Languages. CJV has been organising this event focused on CPD activities since 2016.



This year, CJV managed to accentuate a **greater connection between theory and practice** in the programme. The lecturers prepared **over 30 presentations and workshops** both in Czech and English covering topics such as games and applications in language classes, peer feedback, mentoring, work with teaching assistants, how to handle emotions and trauma in the classroom, or how to create a blended intensive programme through international cooperation. The aim was to share contributions from **all areas of activity at CJV**, where practice (e.g., in teaching)

is based on research results or inspired by them, or where new teaching practice leads, or could lead, to testing the suitability of the methods used through targeted research.

This year's contributions had the exclusive form of workshops or interactive presentations with a prepared guided discussion to make them **as practical as possible**. The goal of such a challenge was to **increase the transfer of good practice**, i.e., to transfer activities of one department or teacher to other departments and colleagues across CJV. And the other way around, to present partial results or untested approaches and discuss possibilities for further action or changes in the future. Thematically, this year's CJV Week was richer than in previous years because the offered contributions were based on all the current trends that teachers across CJV are dealing with.



The program created by the teachers at CJV is not only offered to participants from language centres across the country. We take care to invite also external guests who contribute to the program with their workshops and thus greatly enrich it. We also encourage visitors and guests from across the country to be members of our audience. This year, we were proud to welcome **Lisa Nazarenko**, a colleague from the **Technical University of Vienna** with a very practical workshop on academic writing. We had numerous visitors from cooperating language

centres associated in CASALC who took part not only in some of the workshops but also attended CASALC annual meeting.

Every year, CJV also brings in representatives of partner organizations to broaden the offered spectrum of seminars with topics focused on leadership or time management. This January, the Language Centre Week welcomed **Eliška Čepičková**, Customer Centre Operations Manager from Atlas Copco, and **David Hanley**, First Line Manager from Kyndryl. The event also attracted the attention of colleagues from other departments of Masaryk University who worked with CJV on soft skills in relation to our students.

The program was intensive, as were the discussions during breaks and in the corridors, and we are pleased with the feedback from participants. It indicates the **impact of the programme on the further work** of CJV teachers, as **evidenced by the verbs used in the feedback**: “I will try, I will also do, I will further study, it inspired me, I will come back to, I will address, I would be interested in, or will go and observe in action.” These expressions are evidence that the CJV Week once again fulfilled its purpose in terms of sharing good practice and developing the teaching competencies.



Do you already know what you will be doing during the fourth week of January 2024? Join us at the CJV Week!

Author

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FIESOLE Symposium a Teaching Practice Week 2023 v Brně

Hana Poledníková

V posledním dubnovém týdnu probíhaly na půdě Centra jazykového vzdělávání Masarykovy univerzity hned dvě akce zaměřené na vzdělávání mladých výzkumníků a sdílení dobrých praxí. Od 24.–28. dubna navštívili CJV již pošesté členové prestižního postgraduálního programu Max Weber z European University Institute. Tento program nabízí akademikům z celého světa strávit rok až dva prací na svém výzkumu v italském Fiesole a posílit své výukové zkušenosti na jedné z evropských vysokých škol. Z přibližně 1200 přihlášených je každoročně vybráno 50–55 „fellows“ z oborů politických a sociálních věd, ekonomie, práva a historie. CJV MU letos nabídlo místo šesti z nich pro tzv. Teaching Practice Week. V rámci něj jsou zástupci Max Weber programu rozřazeni na fakulty Masarykovy univerzity dle jejich zaměření, kde intenzivně pracují s lektory a lektorkami jazykového centra a vstupují do výuky bakalářských i magisterských studentů. Každý „fellow“ učí dva semináře, na které dostává zpětnou vazbu od dvou a více odborníků. V rámci celého týdne jim CJV také poskytuje vzdělávací workshopy, pedagogickou podporu a možnost diskuze o jejich zkušenostech s vyučováním. Tento rok se návštěvníci mohli zapojit také do FIESOLE Symposia, které na Teaching Practice Week navazovalo a sdílet zkušenosti z jejich mezinárodního studia.

V letošním roce CJV přivítalo odborníky s těmito tématy: Anastazja Grudnicka (Making Peace, Keeping Peace: Past Perspective in Present Problems), Eunjeong Paek (Gender, Parenthood and Work: how parenthood affects work outcomes with a focus on gender difference), Friso Bostoen (Taming Digital Monopolies: The Role of EU Competition Law), Sonali Chowdhry (Globalization from the perspective of individual firms), Miha Marčenko (Cities as Transformers of International Law and Governance?) a Iuliia Lashchuk (Ukrainian women's migration after 1991).