Country: **Slovakia**

Period: **December – July 2018**

**Country report**

1. **Activities**

**- Lecturing/teaching outside the home university (2)**

1) PhDr. Marián Gazdík, PhD.: Title of the lecture: “Margaret Atwood The Handmaid’s Tale and its Slovak translation”. Programme: Discussion about literary and cultural circumstances of the novel by Margaret Atwood The Handmaid’s Tale and its Slovak translation on April 21, 2018. Organized and hosted by Artforum in Banská Bystrica and “Liteárna Bašta” with the hosts of Slavo Sochor and Radovan Sloboda, with guests Marián Gazdík and doc. Mgr. Jura Malíček, PhD.

2) Doc. PaedDr. Jana Javorčíková, PhD. gained the Erasmus grant to give a series of lectures on Canadian women authors at Szopron University, Hungary in October 2018.

Planned: Dr. Marián Gazdík : Participation at the conference of the CEACS in Prague in September, 2018.

**- Cultural activities (2)**

1) PhDr. Marián Gazdík, PhD.: Title of the lecture: “Margaret Atwood The Handmaid’s Tale and its Slovak translation”. The discussion was followed by presentation of the new book and was very well accepted by the general public. The interview with the translators will be published in the local media *Banska Bystrica* and the local TV channel Hronka, which will help to disseminate the general awareness of Canadian literature and culture.

2) Canadian artist Michel Gautier will be present at the triennale of textile art Textile Art Today in Cunovo – Danubiana Gallery in September 2018. This show was organized and promoted by the Fhilosophical Facutly of Comenius University, Bratislava.

**3. Translations and special issues of journals (3)**

Multiple translations have been conducted by the research team of the 033UMB-4/2017 research grant *Experience of Otherness.* (for more details, see point 7 of the report):

1. Author: Margaret Atwood: Handmaid´s Tale (a novel). Translated by: Marián Gazdík.
2. Author: Blažková, Jaroslava: *40 Pink Flamengos* (a short story). Translated by Javorčíková – Otrísalová.

1. Author: Breiner, Peter: *In Zine Contributions* (essays). Translated by Javorčíková. (both translations will be published in 2019).

**4. Young Canadianists (2)**

2 new members were inspired to join the CEACS organization:

1. MA Ivana Styková PhD. Matej Bel University, Banská Bystrica.
2. Mgr. Stanislav Kováč, Comenius University, Bratislava.

**- New courses:**

Doc. PaedDr. Jana Javorčíková, PhD. Comenius University, Pedagogical Faculty.

* Title of the course: World Literature written in English: English, American and Canadian literature and Culture (30% Canadian content, 30% US content, 40% other literatures written in English – Australian, Indian, Japanese, Far East).
* Course originally installed: January 2017 (spring term); the second successful run of the course: spring 2018.

**- Theses** (2)

1. THESES: Matej Bel Univesrsity: Kollářová, Barbora, Aj-Fj, UAP: Portraits of Women in Willa Cather and Lucy Maud Montgomery´s Fiction Grade awarded: A
2. THESES: Comenius University: Bachelor’s thesis: Agáta Vojtaššáková: The typology of the main characters according to their perception of a reality in Margaret Atwood´s Oryx and Crake. The thesis was successfuly defended with the grade D. The name of supervisor is Mgr. Mária Huttová, PhD.

At Matej Bel University, four (4) students are currently preparing for Student research activity which occurs in April 2019 in Canada – related topics. They further wish to extend their research and include it in their BC. theses.

**- Student-focused activities**

ŠVA: (Student research activity at Matej Bel University, Banská Bystrica): Kollářová, Barbora, Aj-Fj, UAP: Portraits of Women in Willa Cather and Lucy Maud Montgomery´s Fiction. Price awarded: 1st place. (Shortened version of the presentation will be published in a periodical abroad – Russia in 2018.).

**5. Collaborative activities (1)**

**- Visiting lecturers**:

Matej Bel University: National coordinator: Doc. Jana Javorčíková, PhD. Visiting professor: prof. Ruslan Saduov from Bashkir State University, Ufa, Russia. Awarded the National Scholarship fund subvenced by the Slovak Republic, the Lengths of academic stay: 2 months.

Titles of lecture: American political discourse in the North America. (Time of lectorship: February – March –April 2018).

**7. Research projects (1)**

**NATIONAL RESEARCH PROJECT AWARDED BY THE SLOVAK MINISTRY OF EDUCATION: (E)migrácia ako politický, etický, jazykový a kultúrny fenomén v ére gobalizácie (E)migration as a political, ethical, linguistic and cultural phenomenon in the Era of Globalisation.** Project number: 033UMB-4/2017 (The project is a 3-year one, ending in 2019)

Principal researcher: Doc. Jana Javorčíková, PhD. (Matej Bel University – Comenius University)

Collaborators:

Doc. PaedDr. Anna Zelenková, PhD. Matej Bel University

PhDr. Mária Badinská, PhD. PhD. Matej Bel University

Dr. Eva Hohn PhD. Matej Bel University

Dr. Anna Slatinská PhD. Matej Bel University

Dr. Jana Pecníková PhD. Matej Bel University

Dr. Roman Ličko PhD. Matej Bel University

Dr. Martin Kubuš PhD. Matej Bel University

MA Ivana Styková PhD. Matej Bel University

The aim of the research is a detailed and systematic analysis of the Slovak immigration history to North American, especially to Canada. Gathered information and data and also the results of the conference will be used as a basis for a bilingual coursebook of Canadian/Norht American Studies. (The coursebook is planned to be published in 2019).

**8. Up-coming activities & events (1)**

1. Conference: Identity and the Experience of “Otherness”. Planned Date: September 13 2018.

Organizing committee:

**Principal researcher:** Doc. Jana Javorčíková, PhD. (Matej Bel University – Comenius University)

Collaborators:

Doc. PaedDr. Anna Zelenková, PhD. Matej Bel University

PhDr. Mária Badinská, PhD. PhD. Matej Bel University

Dr. Eva Hohn PhD. Matej Bel University

Dr. Anna Slatinská PhD. Matej Bel University

Dr. Jana Pecníková PhD. Matej Bel University

Dr. Roman Ličko PhD. Matej Bel University

Dr. Martin Kubuš PhD. Matej Bel University

MA Ivana Styková PhD. Matej Bel University

**9. Other – ongoing (3)**

1. In 2018, Doc. Jana Javorčíková, PhD. Started a successful personal cooperation with an expert in Slovak-Canadian immigration Ondrej Miháľ. We are currently negotiating with Matej Bel University and hope to establish a centre for Canadian Studies (archive of books, letters, other immigration-related documents).
2. In 13.2.2018, Ondrej Miháľ gave a lecture entitled “Slovaks in Canada” focused on the social and cultural history of Slovak immigration to Canada from a diachronic perspective. He accompanied his speech by a rich collection of personal photographs gathered from immigrants from all corners of Canada. He also presented a collection of his publications. We hope for further successful cooperation. The lecture was organized by the Scientific Library and Department of English and American Studies, Matej Bel University, Slovakia.
3. In 2018, Doc. Jana Javorčíková and Dr. Roman Ličko started another successful cooperation with M. Stolárik, arrenowned expert in the history of Slovak/European immigration to North America. We hope prof. Stolárik to host the prepared conference on North-American Studies.

Given the very small membership, what we consider a successful path in the development of Canandian studies in Slovakia is recruiting new memebers:

CEACS Slovak Membership – treasurer: doc. PaedDr. Jana Javorčíková, PhD.

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| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | **2017 – Members** | **2018 - Members** |  |  |  |
| 1 | Gazdík, Marián (Comenius University, Bratislava)  mariangazdik@hotmail.com  marian.gazdik@uniba.sk | Gazdík, Marián (Comenius University, Bratislava)  mariangazdik@hotmail.com  marian.gazdik@uniba.sk |  |  |  |
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| 3 | Javorčíkova, Jana (Matej Bel University, Banská Bystrica)  jana.javorcikova@umb.sk | Javorčíkova, Jana (Matej Bel University, Banská Bystrica)  jana.javorcikova@umb.sk |  |  |  |
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| 9 |  | Mazureková Paulína |  |  |  |
| 10 |  | Kováč Stanislav (Comenius University Bratislava, PhD. Student): Topic of research : Functional and literary Literacy |  |  |  |
| 11 |  | Iva Styková (Matej Bel University, PhD. Student. Topic of research: The Experience of Otherness: Migration and immigration Nowadays  Ivana.stykova(at) student.umb.sk |  |  |  |
|  |  | TOTAL SUM |  |  |  |