

Activity Report for the Department of Social Sciences and Medical Humanities at University of Rijeka School of Medicine for 2010

By the decision of the Faculty Council at the meeting held on January 19 2010 the Department of Social Sciences altered its name to the **Department of Social Sciences and Medical Humanities**, in accordance with the activities of most its members being related to contemporary trends. At the same time, the Center for Integrative Bioethics and Applied Bioethics began the trial work and testing possibilities, with the ambition, once all preconditions are fulfilled, to become the organizational unit within the Department. In October, the Department signed the Cooperation Agreement (for three years) with *Jadran* –Galenic Laboratory and *Medico* Polyclinic, with the purpose of the support for organizing events of significance for these to successful companies.

People: **Damir Herega**, the associate, graduated on January 15 2010 at the *Faculty of Education and Rehabilitation Sciences*, University of Zagreb. The associate, **Suzana Jurin**, BA in German language and literature, Ph.D. defended her Ph.D. thesis (Textual Types in Corporative Management: mentor N. Ivanetić). **Amir Muzur**, Ph.D., Associate Professor was appointed a scientific advisor on April 12 2010 and **Anamarija Gjuran-Coha**, Ph.D., a research associate on May 19 2010 and the procedure for being appointed an assistant professor was started. **Katja Dobrić**, BA in English and German Language and Literature was employed as a lecturer on September 1 2010 (50% of the working hours norm). **Iva Rinčić**, Ph.D., senior assistant, defended on November 12 2010 at the Faculty of Philosophy her Ph.D. thesis *Theory Foundations, Achievements and Perspectives of Bioethical Institutionalization in the European Union* (mentor: A. Čović; co-mentor: N. Gosić). **Gordana Pelčić** (employed as a senior assistant, 25% of the working hours norm) passed a specialist exam in Pediatrics on December 22 2010.

Academic affairs: A. Muzur took over from the retired professor Ante Škrobonja the obligatory courses: *Introduction to medicine and the history of medicine* (Study of Medicine, year 1) and *History of dental medicine* (Study of Dental Medicine, year 4). From the academic year 2010/2011 the elective course Dental Ethics (Study of Dental Medicine) became obligatory and changed the name to (Bioethics and Den-

tal Ethics) and has a new curriculum (course holder N. Gosić). New elective courses were started: Introduction in Medical Ethics (Study of Medicine, year 1), Propedeutics of Clinical Ethics (Study of Medicine, year 1), Medicine and Law (Study of Medicine, year 5), From Euthanasia to Disthanasia (Study of Medicine, year 5), Clinical Bioethics (The Study of Medicine, year 5), Media and Health System (The Study of Medicine, year 6).

Science: On 22 January 2010 the Department and Rijeka subsidiary of the Croatian Bioethics Society held the round table entitled "The Current moment of Croatian Health System". Approximately fifty participants from different public and professional fields participated. Papers and a discussion were published in the second issue of *Jahr* (eds. N. Gosić and A. Muzur) in December 2010.

On the occasion of marking the Laboratory Animals Protection Day the Department organized on 26 April 2010 at the School of Medicine the public discussion with four introductory speakers and around twenty audience participants. The discussion resulted in the official raising the issue of the controversy of the Physiology and Pathophysiology workshop program as well as in the suggestion of quantity and quality expansion of the existing School of Medicine's Ethical Committee.

In May 2010 the 12th Days of Bioethics were held at University of Rijeka School of Medicine which included the 10th anniversary of the Croatian Bioethics Society, presentation of the first issue of *Jahr*, textbook *The Deaf and the Medical Sign Terminology* (authors: I. Šegota et al.) and a new *Bioethics Volume* on the topic of bioethical aspect of working on dead persons. The scientific and professional conference *Ethics and Sport* with around thirty participants from Croatia, Serbia and Macedonia.

Traditional scientific conference *Rijeka and Rijekans in Medical History*, 11th in a row was held on December 8 2010 at the School of Medicine, for the first time co-organized by our Department. Around twenty participants from Croatia, Slovenia and Serbia spoke about the history of pharmacy and private medical practice in Rijeka, but also about a series of other, miscellaneous topics from the medical history.

During 2010 the Department members applied for different funds for seven projects. In cooperation with the scientists from Croatia, the USA, Denmark, Lithuania, Cyprus and Ireland a project "Schools of European Bioethics" (within **FP7 – Health**) was prepared and sent for an evaluation, which should promote the ideas of European bioethics primarily in the countries preparing to take over the presidency over the European Union. The suggested coordinator of the project worth 100,000 Euros is A. Muzur.

I. Rinčić prepared and sent for an evaluation the project "Fritz Jahr and European Bioethics" to the Croatian Science Foundation which implies the meeting of scientist from around the world in Rijeka and their networking with clear goal and projects. With same project I. Rinčić applied to the Croatian Academy of Sciences and Arts (project was approved for funding).

N. Gosić applied to CEI for funds to aid the holding of the international conference on bioethical education, as well as establishing the international body which would plan, standardize and implement the bioethical education. With the same project N. Gosić applied to the Croatian Academy of Sciences and Arts.

Iva Rinčić prepared and sent two more smaller projects for the **Croatian Academy of Sciences and Arts'** funds: a project of establishment and initial equipment of the documentation center "Fritz Jahr and European Bioethics" and creation and distribution of the brochure which would unite three ethical codices of our School – teachers', students' and services'.

Drafts of the projects "University of Rijeka, School of Medicine – a friend for the deaf" (A. Muzur and N. Gosić) and "Who is who in Rijeka's medicine – once and today" (A. Muzur) have been prepared, which will, after adding some finishing touches, be sent to the following circle of applications.

In May 2010 the publishing of a new scientific journal Jahr – the Annual of the Department of Social Sciences and Medical Humanities, University of Rijeka was started, which should be published bilingually (in Croatian and English) 1-2 times a year in the distribution of approximately 200 printed and distributed with aim, and also electronically on Hrčak web sites. Editor-in-chief was A. Muzur. So far two issues were published (the editor of the first one was I. Rinčić, and the editors of the second one were N. Gosić and A. Muzur. The Advisory Board consisted of around twenty experts from the fields of social and human sciences from Croatia, Slovenia, Serbia, Macedonia, Germany, the USA, Chile, Argentina and China, and all members of the Department were also the members of the Editorial Board.

The members of the Department participated with around 40 papers on over 20 international and national scientific and professional conferences (round table "The Current Moment of Croatian Health System and Its Practice", Rijeka, January 2010; first video conference "Bioethical Education: Sharing various experiences", Zagreb/Beograd, January 2010; First Croatian Congress on Prevention and Rehabilitation in Psychiatry, Sv. Martin na Muri, March 2010; International Symposium on the Occasion of the Abraham Flexner's Reform 100th Anniversary, Split, March 2010; Croatian Ethics Teachers Conference, Zadar, April 2010; 12th Days of Bioethics – Ethics and sport", Rijeka, May 2010; Seventh European Academy of Der-

matovenerology, Cavtat, May 2010; 11th International Congress on Kant, Pisa, May 2010; 9th Lošinj Days of Bioethics, Mali Lošinj, May 2010; 24th International Conference of the Croatian Applied Linguistics Society "Discourse and Dialogue Studies Between Theory Research Method and Application", Osijek, May 2010; The Scientific conference on the Occasion of the 65th Anniversary of the Sušak Adriatic Institute foundation – the first institute in Croatia, Rijeka, May 2010; 4th Tensions of Europe Plenary, Sofia, June 20; 19th Summer School of Croatian Kinesiologists, Poreč, June 2010; 31st World Medical Games – Symposium "Sport and Medicine", Poreč, July 2010; 18th World Congress of Medical Law, Zagreb, August 2010; Croatian Ethics Teachers Conference, October 2010; 8th International Congress on Cooperation of Conventional and Unconventional Medicine, Zagreb, October 2010; 6th Bioethics Forum "Bioethics-Medicine-Politics", Belgrade, November 2010; 11th Scientific Conference *Rijeka and Rijekans in Medical History*, December 2010; 4th International Conference of the Language Studies Center, Singapore, December 2010).

Department members published, either as authors or co-authors, three books (*The Deaf and the Sign Medical Terminology* by I. Šegota et al; *The crisis of Health System: Threats and Possibilities* by M. Štifanić; *The Secrets of Brain* by A. Muzur) and about 40 papers in scientific/professional journal, out of which 3 in journals cited in CC bases, 18 in other journals and around twenty reviews of books and conferences, summaries and translations.

The Department has, joint with other institutions from Croatia (University of Zagreb) and abroad (Universities of Eichstätt-Ingolstadt, Sarajevo, Ljubljana, Novi Sad, Sofija, Skopje and Tirana) continued the project MA- program *Integrative Bioethics*.

Other activities: Department members held several (invited) public lectures (Brain Research and Integrative Neuroscience Center in Trieste; University of Ljubljana School of Medicine; Science Festival 2010; Omišalj Municipality, Croatian Hospice Society, etc.), courses (Croatian Hospitality Workers Association and the Ministry of Tourism; University for the Elder, etc.) In May 2010 they presented *The Deaf and the Sign Medical Terminology* (by I. Šegota et al.) in Rijeka City Hall in front of the numerous audience.

I. Rinčić, as a UNESCO scholarship holder attended the course for the ethics teacher in Dubrovnik 28 June – 2 July 2010.

I. Eterović became a secretary of the *Jahr* Editorial Board, editor-in-chief of the *Proceedings of Lovranščina* 1 and a member of youth editorials of journals *Synthesis Philosophica* and *Filozofska istraživanja*.

K. Dobrić attended County Assemblies for English Teachers of Istarska County (Pula, January 2010; Rovinj, February and May 2010) and for German Teachers of Primorsko-Goranska County (Rijeka, November 2010). In April 2010 she completed the court interpreters' training (HSUST, Pula) and attended the 18th Annual Conference of the Croatian Association of Teachers of English and in December 2010 she was included into RALF project of German teachers training (Goethe Institut).

V. Moretti participated in *Humanijada* (Crikvenica, May, 2010) where he managed the sports teams of the School and won most medals (Medical School in Rijeka was announced the most successful Faculty at the competition). He participated at the University Sports Championship with his University of Rijeka male handball team (Vinkovci, June 2010) and won third place, and as a manager of a female University football team, he won first place. As a manager of Futsal female University team he participated at the European University Futsal Championship (Zagreb, July 2010) and won sixth place.

N. Gosić is deserving, as manager of Rijeka Subsidiary of the Croatian Bioethics Society, for the co-organization of the round table "The Current Moment of Croatian Health System" and several public discussions on the topics of bioethics and health.

N. Gosić and A. Muzur are co-authors of the *Ethical Codex of Teachers, Scientists and Associates of University of Rijeka School of Medicine* (adopted at the Faculty Council meeting on 9 October 2010), and they both participated in preparations of the *Ethical Codex for Students* (place on School's web pages for public discussion).

I. Sorta-Bilajac Turina became the president of Croatian Society for Clinical Bioethics (the Society has been active within the Department since 2006), and **M. Brkljačić Žagrović** its secretary.

A. Muzur participated at the coordination meeting of partners in project of establishing the International MA Study of Integrative Bioethics (Eichstätt, April-May 2010). He was appointed mentor to Jozo Vidović, M.Sc. for his Ph.D. thesis (Historical and Medical Aspects of the Development of Croatian Medical Terminology" (September 2010).

He presided over the work of several boards for defending theses, defending of one M.A. and Ph.D. theses at the Universities of Zagreb and Osijek.

He initiated and is one of three people preparing a proposal of the Postgraduate Interdisciplinary Specialist Study of Health Tourism (holder is University of Rijeka).

He drafted the Action Plan of systematic building, holding and promoting the tradition and reputation of University of Rijeka School of Medicine (placed on School's Web pages for public discussion).

He was co-opted as an editorial board member of *Suščka Revija*.

He was the president of the Organizing Committee of the Days of School of Medicine in Rijeka (December 2010) and the editor-in-chief of the Addition to the Monography of the School (December 2010).

He was appointed a member of the Committee for Association of the University of Rijeka. (December 2010). He was appointed an authorized person for the occupational safety (5 February 2010) (succeeding N. Gosić)

Department members were mentors for three diploma theses.

Amir Muzur, M.D., Ph.D., Associate Professor
Head of the Department