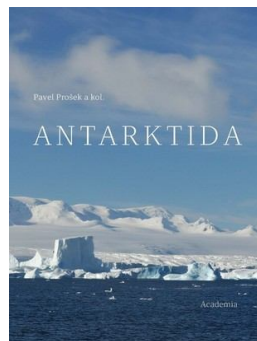


Festive event in the life of Czech Antarctic community

Editorial Note

On Thursday, March 14th, 2013, a festive introduction of *Antarktida*, a newly issued book, happened in Prague in the lecture room and Literary Cafe of the Academia bookstore, Prague. There were several professionals from the Czech Antarctic community who were invited speakers and patrons of the book introduction. They were prof. Martin Bareš (vice rector of the Masaryk university, Brno), Assoc. prof. Jaromírem Leichmann (dean of the Faculty of Science, Masaryk University, Brno), Dr. Zdeněk Venera (director of the Czech Geological Survey, Prague), prof. Bohumír Janský (head of the Department of Physical Geography, Charles University, Prague). At first, prof. Pavel Prošek, a leader of group of authors, introduced briefly the very beginning of the intention to publish such a comprehensive book. Then, he characterized four main components of the book, *i.e.* (1) general description of Antarctica as a white continent, (2) history of Antarctic explorations, and (3) establishment of Czech Antarctic station J. G. Mendel, and (4) summary of recent Czech research performed in Antarctica, James Ross Island in particular. He also overviewed the period of writing and expressed his thanks to all co-authors, contributors and people who helped with editorial work. Finally, he wished the book good luck and a large audience of readers.



Since many scientists who participated in writing the book were associated with Brno, Masaryk University, and South Moravian region in particular, there was another festive occasion that happened two weeks after the introduction. It was an official presentation of the book than happened in the Literary Cafe of the Academia Publishing House in Brno on March 28th, 2013. The authorities of the Masaryk University: Assoc. Prof. Ladislav Janiček (bursar of the Masaryk University), prof. Zuzana Došlá (vice dean of the Faculty of Science), and Assoc. Prof. Petr Dobrovolný (director of the Department of Geography) accepted the invitation to be patrons of the book presentation. Under the auspices of those patrons, the book was presented for the audience. Both the patrons and Czech Antarctic community members wished the book a great success and many readers. The authors of the book and participants of the presentation agreed that the book would serve for scientists, university students and general public with interests in Antarctica.

Both events met great success and were visited by numerous audience formed by professionals in the field of polar science as well as general public. There were also visitors and people interested in Antarctic and global issues including *e.g.* representatives of the Czech Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

Miloš Barták
 Editor-in-Chief,
 Czech Polar Reports



Fig. 1. Guests of Prof. Prošek and patrons of the book introduction (from left to right): prof. Martin Bareš, Assoc. prof. Jaromírem Leichmann, prof. Bohumír Janský, and Dr. Zdeněk Venera (Academia Bookstore and Literary Cafe, Prague, March 14th, 2013).



Fig. 2. Prof. Pavel Prošek presenting the book in the Literary Cafe of the Academia Publishing House in Brno on March 28th, 2013.