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ZPRÁVY/NEWS

LECTURES BY FOREIGN MUSEOLOGISTS AT THE FACULTY OF ARTS, MASARYK UNIVERSITY IN 2016

OTAKAR KIRSCH

Like previous years, the year 2016 saw a series of lectures by selected foreign experts in the field of museology, held under the auspices of the *Centre of Museology of the Department of Archaeology and Museology of the Faculty of Arts, Masaryk University*, and the *UNESCO Chair of Museology and World Heritage*. With financial support from the internal development project “Improving the Conditions for the Engagement of Leading International Academics at Masaryk University,” new findings and information about the current affairs in museum studies and museology could be again presented to students of museology within courses for both regular and distance learners entitled *Special Topics of Museology I* and *Special Topics of Museology II*, as well as to the growing number of the specialist public.

In contrast to the past years, the organisation of the event involved several major shifts. Although the number of participants was limited by the financial means available, this did not affect the quality of the lecturers. The guests included many prominent international figures, as well as budding researchers. Masaryk University witnessed lectures given by Delia Tzortzaki (Det norske institutt i Athen/ Norwegian Institute at Athens), Darko Babić (Sveučilište u Zagrebu/University of Zagreb), Ceciel Brouwer (University of Leicester), Alexandra Bounia (ΠΑΝΕΠΙΣΤΗΜΙΟ ΑΙΓΑΙΟΥ/ University of the Aegean), Miroslav Palárik (Univerzita Konštantína

Filozofa v Nitre/Constantine the Philosopher University in Nitra) and Peter van Mensch (freelance lecturer). A wide range of subjects comprising collection-building activities, museum ethics, history of museum studies and the relationship between museum institutions and the public, as well as other areas of cultural heritage, often triggered heated debates between the lecturers and the audience.

This special project that introduces the Czech museum and museology community to the latest trends abroad is set to continue in 2017. We believe that the university will again host interesting protagonists in the field of museology, who will present the results of their research and arouse the interest of Czech experts, and we also hope that their contributions will appear on the pages of this journal.

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