

Volunteer activities 2009.-2010.

- **Volunteers and Students at the Centre for Volunteering and Humanitarian Work FOI Receive the Rector's Award** - The Rector's Award Ceremony, which is awarded for the best student work from the scientific facilities that encourages scientific and artistic work and promotes student creativity, was held on Friday (17th June). This year an award was given for community service work in the academic and wider community. On this occasion, seven students from the Centre for Volunteering and Humanitarian Work at FOI received the Rector's Award and mentors were Assoc.Prof.dr.sc. Sandra Lovrenčić and Assoc.Prof.dr.sc. Violeta Vidaček Hainš. Students and volunteers were nominated on criteria which placed an emphasis on the organisation and promotion of volunteerism and community service, or if they contributed more than 25 volunteer hours and attended training for volunteers. The Rector's Award was received by: Antonija Milak, Tadija Bagarić, Ivana Pomper, Marija Ivurin, Valentina Ricijaš, Martina Kušer and Karlo Nadoveza. During the 2014/2015 academic year, these volunteers were involved in several volunteer activities in collaboration with various partners, students, teachers and volunteers outside the Institution. They volunteered at the National Table Tennis Championships for People with Disabilities, the 2015 Night of the Pool, the Humanitarian Action 'Swimming for Children's Smiles', the 'St. Anthony's Bread' Supermarket, the Athletic State Championships for People with Disabilities and the 2015 European Para Youth Games, mowed grassy areas of the McNair University Campus and driveways at the University of Central Florida and worked on introducing international voluntary activities in sport within the DIVERSE (*Dual International Volunteering Exchange / Research and Sport Education*) Erasmus + Project. These Projects were realised in cooperation with the Croatian Paralympic Committee, Athletic Club Sloboda, the Varaždin Table Tennis Club for People with Disabilities, the Varaždin Public Swimming Pool, Varaždin County, the Secular Franciscan Order 'St. Anthony's Bread' and partner universities from the United States and the United Kingdom. Congratulations to all participating students and volunteers on their Rector's Award.
- Project "Assistance in learning" in cooperation with the Family Centre of Varaždin County at the 5th Primary School in Varaždin. The project was implemented in school year 2009/10 and 2010/11, and was attended by about 10 volunteers, students, faculty and citizens. It consisted of about 50 students of 5th Primary School Varaždin.
- Agricultural works at the University of Central Florida, Orlando, USA (March 2010), which was attended by six students from the Faculty of Organization and Informatics.
- Project "Paralympic School Day" in cooperation with the Croatian Paralympic Committee, with a main goal of better understanding people with disabilities, identifying individual

differences, the correct perception of the needs of persons with disabilities and highlighting the importance of Paralympic sport. The project included several hundred primary school pupils: Donji Martijanec, Novi Marof, Second Primary School Varaždin, 6th Primary School Varaždin, Primary School Sveti Đurđ, School Ljubešćica, School Bednja& Project is continuously conducted since 2010.

- Popularization of higher education with the use of didactic materials "Graduate Pursuit Mystery Cards" in cooperation with Canadian Post-Secondary Access Partnership, YMCA of Greater Toronto, Canada. The project was implemented in cooperation with students and teachers of several third-grade class at First Gymnasium and Electromechanical School (started in the 2012.).
- Comenius project "Intercom Learning: Basic Skills" in cooperation with the Varaždin County Primary School Petrijanec, Local School Nova Ves and partners from the United Kingdom. The aim of the project is to encourage children for learning foreign languages and to motivate them for developing communication competences. More than 50 volunteers help in this process. With a large number of volunteers from FOI, project includes more and more citizens and students. The project is carried out continuously from spring 2012. with participation of approximately 80 students of 2.-7. grade of grammar school in Petrijanec and Nova Ves.
- Fair of volunteering - activities of food preparation for the homeless as part of the Fair of volunteering at the University of Central Florida, Orlando, FL, USA (March 2013.)
- Computer Workshop - Project is being implemented in collaboration with the Centre for the elderly and disabled persons Varaždin. Volunteers provided support to users in the use of computers. The emphasis is on education in computer-mediated communication and the possibilities of using social networks. The activities started with the initiative group of students in the spring 2013. and there are conducting workshops during the academic year 2013./2014.
- Sports competitions for athletes with a disability (Croatian championship for persons with disabilities in 2013. and 2014., the Croatian Championship for juniors 2013. and 2014., CRO Open meeting for people with disabilities 2013. and 2014.). Projects are implemented in cooperation with the Croatian Paralympic Committee and AK Sloboda Varaždin.
- Social supermarket - The project aims to encourage social sensitivity and support citizens in the local community. Volunteer activities are organized in a way to collect food in stores and then distribute to users based on criteria of low-income status. This voluntary action organized by Secular Franciscan Order OFS, and in the realization were included volunteers of Centre for Volunteering and charity work FOI.

Humanitarian activities encouraged and organized by the Faculty Student Council

- Student Council of FOI induced and organized making of the Christmas decorations, with fund were raised to help family of 3 year-old boy who suffers from spina bifida. The operation was

conducted in a Varaždin Kindergarten facilities in King Tomislav Alley, Kozarčeva street, Gortanova street and Koprivnička street. The implementation of the project to involved about 30 students and faculty staff and about 200 participants preschools institutions along with instructors. (Christmas 2010)

- Socializing and making angels, organized by the Student Council of FOI with support of students and faculty staff. Activities are conducted in collaboration with the students of the Centre for Education "Tomislav Špoljar". With collected donations picture books and books were purchased for the library of the Center Tomislav Špoljar. (Christmas 2011)
- Student Council of FOI induced and organized making of the Easter cards with the students of 1st, 2nd and 4th Grammar School in Varaždin. The project, with the students and staff of the Faculty included about 200 grammar school pupils and their teachers. Selling greeting cards are collected funds intended to help in the treatment of 14 year-old boy suffering from cancer. (Easter 2011) We thank all the students and teachers who took their time to participate in these activities and the Student Council and Faculty Management.