

CHRONICLE

Personalia

Dr. ERZSÉBET MIHALIK (Department of Botany), Dr. MARGIT SZABÓ (Department of Plant Physiology) and Dr. KATALIN HALASY (Department of Zoology) have been appointed to Associate Professor by the Rector of the József Attila University.

Associate Prof. Dr. LAJOS ERDÉLYI has been appointed to the head of Department of Comparative Physiology.

Associate Prof. Dr. LAJOS ERDÉLYI has been appointed to the head and Associate Prof. Dr. ERZSÉBET MIHALIK to the secretary of the Group of Biological Department by the Rector of József Attila University.

Associate Prof. Dr. LÁSZLÓ GALLÉ has been appointed to deputy of dean of the Faculty of Natural Sciences of József Attila University.

Awards

Associate Prof. Dr. SÁNDOR GULYÁS (Department of Botany) was awarded the „Jávorka Sándor” award.

Associate Prof. Dr. ANTÓNIA MARCSIK (Department of Anthropology) was awarded the „For the Hungarian Nation Medallion”.

Aspirant GYÖRGY PÁLFI (Department of Anthropology) was awarded the „Pro Scientia Medallion” of Hungarian Academy of Sciences.

Scientific degree

The degree of candidate in biological science was obtained by:

Dr. MARGIT SZABÓ (Department of Plant Physiology) with her dissertation: Auxin habitation of tobacco callus cultures.

Foundation of Department

The Department of Ecology has been founded of the József Attila University by the Ministry of Education in 1991 and Associate Prof. Dr. LÁSZLÓ GALLÉ has been appointed to the head.

Foundation of Laboratory

The Cell Biological and Evolutionary Micropaleontological Laboratory of the Department of Botany of the József Attila University has been founded and Prof. Dr. MIKLÓS KEDVES has been appointed to the head. The journal of this laboratory is: Plant cell Biology and Development.

Retiring

Prof. Dr. LÁSZLÓ SZALAI (Department of Biophysics) and Associate Prof. Dr. ERZSÉBET K. SIROKMÁN (Department of Plant Physiology) retired.

Varia

The Department of Biophysics has belonged to the Group of the Departments of Physics since 1991.

Anthropological Scientific Session

An Anthropological Scientific Session was organized with 50 participants on the occasion of the 50th anniversary of the foundation of the Department of Anthropology, József Attila University in Szeged, from 1 to 3 October 1990. Besides Hungarian researchers 15 foreign researchers from 7 countries took part in the scientific session: G. HAUSER (Austria), R. STOEV (Bulgaria), U. CREUTZ, H. DANKER-HOPFE, H. SCHMIDT, R. SCHMIDT, V. SCHMIDT, K. SOMMER and H. WALTER (Germany), Ž. GAVRILOVIĆ and G. CZÉKUS (Yugoslavia), R. JANKAUSKAS (Lithuania), T. BIELICKI (Poland), B. KAUFMANN and Gy. SKULTÉTY (Switzerland).

Lectures were given from growth and development, historical anthropology, paleopatology, constitution, sportanthropology and history of anthropology. Papers presented at the scientific session were published in 324 pages in „Papers of the Scientific Session in Szeged (Hungary) 1990” in August 1991.

On the occasion of the anniversary Prof. Dr. BÉLA CSÁKÁNY, the Rector of the József Attila University awarded the „Bartucz Lajos Medallion” to Prof. Dr. HUBERT WALTER (Bremen, Germany) and Prof. Dr. GYULA L. FARKAS (Szeged, Hungary).

Book review

MEADOWS, D. H. (1989): *Harvesting One Hundredfold. Key Concepts and Case Studies in Environmental Education.* — United Nations Environmental Programme, vii + 62 pp.

According to the author's intention, the book is devoted to conceptual introduction to environmental education. In my opinion, the main problem of the book is the mere conception itself. This book was written under the spell of the idea of the 'sustainable development'. „Nature is not only beautiful to the eye but economically essential and irreplaceable...”, can be found the sentence in the Foreword by M. K. TOLBA (Executive Director of the UNEP). It is true, but the motivation of nature conservation in the book is usually limited to emphasis at the fact that the biosphere is a kind of resource for the development and survival of the human race. This atti-

tude may be issued from that the book was written for those involved in every kind of education or education planning: that is for government leaders, teachers, ..., journalists, broadcasters, politicians, parents, all of whom are educators. None of them can be expected to be able to think about nature on an ethical — emotional basis; very often the protection of the biosphere means not more than the service of the incubator in which we are living (the metaphor was borrowed from SEBEÖK). It would be fruitful to understand that nature exists not for us, it exists for itself.

The main chapters have the following titles: What is Environmental Education and Why it is Important?, The Key Concepts of Environmental Education, Some Case Studies in Different Educational Contexts, Reading Lists, Appendix — Environmental Education in the United Nations: A Short History.

Chapter IV. (The Key Concepts of Environmental Education), which is very didactical, (and suggesting), consists of further parts: Levels of Being, Cycles, Complex Systems, Populations Growth and Carrying Capacity, Ecologically Sustainable Development, Socially Sustainable Development, Knowledge and Uncertainty, Sacredness. The economic development and care for the environment are compatible, interdependent and necessary, this also can be exemplified, though not too well, by the following: „In Hungary soft coal is strip-mined from under prime agricultural fields. The topsoil is saved and returned to the site, drainage patterns are restored, soil fertility is carefully rebuilt. A few years after the mining is finished, the area is growing wheat again.” It sounds nice, but any similar story very rarely occurs in Hungary; there are quite a number of examples for the ecologically not sustainable development.

In spite of this, due to the exemplary arrangement of the environmental information and the appropriate construction of the methodology, and, because the definitions of the environmental concepts are adequate to the aims, the book is highly recommended to use in practical fields of environmental education. Although the effectual arguments well emphasize the judgement of the environmental dependency of mankind, the environmental philosophy reflects to a too anthropocentric ethos. — And this conception is more assailable than we would have belived it.

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Recensio

EIBEN, OTTÓ (Ed.) (1989): European publication in past, present and future. — *Humanbiologia Budapestiensis* 19., Budapest, 1989.; 224 pp., photos 19, figures 52, tables 79.

Volume 19 of *Humanbiologia Budapestiensis* includes selected essays of the VI. Congress of the European Anthropological Assosiation held in Budapest in 1988.

211 researchers of 21 European countries and the experts of Israel, Morocco, Nigeria, the USA and Venezuela took part on it.

This publication were published 2 years after the congress. It contains 42 papers of the 154 dissertations and posters shown on the three-day event.

The editor intends to issue the other publications in the Anthropological Communications (Journal of the Anthropological Section of Hungarian Biological Association).

The papers are divided into three parts according to its topic.

In the first section there are 3 articles about the Hominid and other 13 dealing with Paleoanthropology. This part includes the Paleodemographic, Paleopathologic even Paleobiochemic essays.

The second section gathers 9 Humangenetic and Populationgenetic papers.

In the third section there are 17 dissertations about Body Composition, Growth and Development and Secular Trend.

It is a very simple but nice publication which give us an insight into the divergent research-field of European anthropologists. Hopefully, other papers will be published in the Anthropological Communications.

ZSUZSA JUST

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