

# STUDIES

## Student Motivation in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century – Slovak Experience

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DOI: 10.1515/atd-2015-0061

**Abstract:** One of the five primary objectives of the European Union within the framework of Europe 2020 is to increase the proportion of the tertiary educated population. The research task titled “The motivation of the student in the 21st century” is intended to address the factors that have both an impact on the decision of students to pursue higher studies and affect the choice of a specific field of study and a preferred form of study. The stimulus to the exploration was sparked by the mentioned EU initiative, interesting statistical data, the growing number of students studying in the external form compared to the daily option, and an increase of students from abroad. Therefore, it is necessary to identify the causes of these trends. Motivation of students is not researched in a systematic way in Slovakia, even though it is an important factor in a student’s decision-making process to study. Information was obtained by a questionnaire distributed to 105 students, evaluated using SPSS software and application of descriptive statistics.

**Key words:** student motivation, motivational aspects, level of aspiration, hierarchy of interests, information technology, forms of study, study programs, financial motives.

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## **Creation and Results of a Research Project with a Focus on School Management for Teachers**

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**Abstract:** The paper discusses the process of preparation, solution and the results of the research project titled “Content innovation of the course School Management”, followed by preparation of a modern university course book for an e-course situated in LMS Moodle environment for the field of study Education and for the purposes of the continuing education of teachers. The content of the paper includes a detailed characterization of the backgrounds of the solved research tasks, which have been validated by the undertaken researches and surveys not only in Slovakia, but also abroad. Based on the results, the main output of the project has been specified as well as its importance for the quality of undergraduate training of future teachers, for training of managing teaching staff, but also for contemporary headmasters.

**Key words:** project, research, teacher, university course book, e-course.

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## **Differences in the Value Orientation of Czech and Slovak Pupils**

*Helena Vomáčková\**

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**Abstract:** This contribution brings a selection from the results of a research carried out during the years 2013 and 2014 among Czech and Slovak pupils of middle school age (i.e. 4<sup>th</sup> to 6<sup>th</sup> forms of primary schools). This study focused on monitoring and evaluating the differences and similarities in the value-oriented responses of pupils, according to the criteria of their nationality and sex. The pupils were expressing their opinions by means of a questionnaire survey with respect to selected situations on a four-degree scale and they further stated their vision of the world and their position in it. This contribution analyses statistically significant deviations which were found out among the positions held by Czech and Slovak boys and girls. The contribution also gives rise to a number of questions concerning the shift in values among the population of pupils of the formerly unified state.

**Key words:** Czech and Slovak pupils, middle school age, value orientation, nationality.

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# ARTICLES

## Considerations on a Scientist's Academic Mission and Roles in a Higher Education School

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Ausra Rutkienė\**

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**Abstract:** Analysis of the scientific literature has shown that the mission of a scientist is inherent to an individual and is oriented towards institution and activity or performance being implemented in higher education. Every higher education school defines its mission and vision, thus the aim of a scientist is to act according to the provided institutional mission. Academic staff at higher education schools, according to the attributed roles, performs various activities which are associated with teaching and research, administration and human resources management, work in labour services. According to the roles and activities being distinguished and described, diverging concepts exist for handling the academic staff roles. The aim of conceptual research refers to consideration and description of a scientist's missions and roles in higher education generally and a higher education school specifically. The answers to the following research questions are provided in the article: What are the levels of a scientist missions in higher education? How the roles of a scientist could be defined in higher education referring to autonomy or interdependence? What competencies are attributed to the roles of a scientist in higher education? The research concludes that the mission of a scientist is related to the multi-layered concept covering the roles, context, organizational structure and values in a higher education institution. It is essential for a scientist to perceive and define their own mission(s), role(s), responsibilities and obligations to a higher education school, students, science, and society. The mission of a scientist in a higher education school rests in certain combination of diverse competencies being applied on both organizational

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and individual levels. In summary, academic staff roles are entwined and contrasting with each other. However, the roles of a researcher and a teacher are linked in general as the role of a teacher requires accomplishing academic staff activities such as planning learning activities, devoting time to consultations, meetings and discussions with students.

**Key words:** competence, higher education, mission, researcher, role, scientist, teacher.

## **Creativity in Organizational Environment**

*Eva Szobiová*\*

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**Abstract:** The contribution is focused on the conditions which allow the application of creativity in the context of an organization. The aim of the article is to reveal the work environment factors influencing the creativity of the employees. Another aim is to demonstrate how management style of an organization can affect the creativity of employees in order to successfully exploit their creative potential. The contribution also presents the manner how a manager can influence creativity of one's own employees. Moreover, the article deals with the process of innovation and transmission of creative ideas and solutions into practice.

**Key words:** family, upbringing, father's role, mother's role.

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## **Fields of Impact of Social Media on Youth – Methodological Implications**

*Stanisław Juszczyk*\*

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**Abstract:** Using social media Web sites is among the most common activities of today's children and adolescents. Such sites offer today's youth a portal for entertainment and communication, and have grown exponentially in recent years. Parents and teachers become aware of the nature of social media sites, thus they do not know that not all of them are healthy environments for children and adolescents. This field is important because pedagogists, psychologists and pediatrics need to understand how youth lives in a new, massive, and complex virtual universe, even as they carry on their lives in the real world. In the article I have presented a discussion of a few empirical research carried out by different authors to show various aspects of child and adolescent development in this virtual universe and to present the methodological implications of such types of studies.

**Key words:** Internet, social media, cyber-communication, youth, youth culture.

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