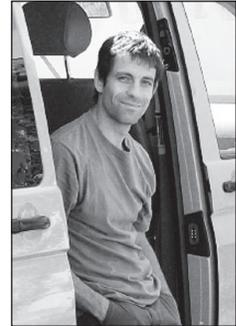


## FOR JANA TEMELOVÁ AND JAKUB NOVÁK



On May 3, exactly a year will have passed since we lost our dear colleagues and friends Jana Temelová, Ph.D. and Jakub Novák, Ph.D. from the Department of Social Geography and Regional Development at the Faculty of Science of the Charles University in Prague. In their memory, colleagues associated through an informal research network called Cities After Transition have decided to create this



monothematic issue, which is dedicated to the topic of gentrification, since both Jana and Jakub geographers were particularly involved in the research of contemporary inner cities. Allow us to remember here their contribution to our Department and our research team.

Jana and Jakub were both founding members of the Urban and Regional Laboratory research team. This team owes much of its success to several grants both geographers managed to obtain, and to their ability to create a young team of mostly post-gradual and magisterial students. Jana proved to be an excellent leader due to her organisational abilities and diligence, while Jakub provided the team with inventiveness and creativity associated with his technical and statistical expertise. Within a rather short amount of time, both soon emerged as leading urban geographers in Czechia. Their contributions, however, also extended to the international research community, especially through the aforementioned Cities after Transition network.

Jana concluded her Master of Social Geography and Regional Development at the Faculty of Science (Charles University) in 2001. She obtained her Ph.D. in 2005, after successfully defending her dissertation titled “The role of high profile buildings in physical revitalization of inner city: The case of Golden Angel in Prague”. Since then, Jana has held the position of a research assistant at the same department. Over the course of her career, she conducted a range of study trips abroad of either shorter or longer duration, such as in Helsinki, Budapest, Urbino, Cracow or Berlin. As an urban geographer, Jana’s research mostly focused on socio-spatial differentiation of urban space, while paying particular attention to the transformation of social and physical environments of the inner cities, physical revitalization of neighbourhoods, residential satisfaction, social deprivation and urban criminality. Jana acted as lead investigator in several research projects while she participated as researcher in many others, financed by both domestic and international institutions. Her publication activity was equally rich: She was a co-editor of three books and authored or co-authored over 50 academic or educational articles, 15 of which can be found

on the Web of Science. Out of her most recent activities, a special mention goes to her Czech Science Foundation research project titled “Social Deprivation in Urban Space: Objective and Subjective Dimensions”, editorial work on the books “Social Changes in Prague neighbourhoods” (Academia 2012) and “Atlas of Socio-spatial Differentiation of the Czech Republic” (Karolinum 2011) and on the monothematic issue of *Sociologický časopis / Czech Sociological Review* titled “New socio-spatial inequalities, local development and quality of life” (4/2001). On Google Scholar, searches according to Jana’s chosen keywords “urban studies, inner city, revitalization, quality of life and crime” return 331 citations of her works.

Jakub had also done his studies in Social Geography and Regional Development at the relevant Department in Prague, which he completed in 2004. He finished his doctoral studies six years later with an innovative dissertation “Mobile phone localization data: Application in geographic research”. Since 2006, he has worked as a researcher at the Department of Social Geography and Regional Development, where he focused on issues of spatial mobility (daily mobility, migration), time geography, and everyday life and transformation of urban and regional structures. In Czechia, he became a pioneer in the use of mobile phone data as a progressive source of information on people’s mobility and in their utilization for both pure and applied research. He authored or co-authored almost 30 academic texts, 8 of which can be found on the Web of Science and acted as co-editor for the book “Sub Urbs: Landscape, Settlements, and People” (Academia 2013). Jakub was also among the initiators and later editors of the website *suburbanizace.cz* and the web portal *atlasobyvatelstva.cz*. Most recently, he participated on the new delimitation of the Prague Metropolitan Area for the Institute for Planning and Development on the basis of data collected from mobile service providers, which represented a significant break in the approaches to geographic regionalization. On Google Scholar, searches according to Jakub’s chosen keywords “geography, urban studies, spatial mobility and mobile phone” offer 251 citations of his works.

Aside from research activities, Jana and Jakub also devoted their time to teaching. They delivered lectures as part of several courses focused on urban geography both at the Charles University in Prague and at the University of Tart (Urban Social Geography I and II, Research Methods in Social Geography, Social Geography of Prague, Socio-spatial Changes in Cities in Transition, Cities in Eastern Europe etc.). The both frequently supervised bachelor and master theses. Jana also successfully supervised one dissertation while several others are close to completion. Both geographers were very popular among the students for their academic qualities and friendly dispositions. This friendly attitude made Jana and Jakub more than just excellent researchers, but also very good friends to us all, as they were ever forthcoming and amicable. Their cheerfulness and humour have breathed greater life into our workspace and their relationships with their colleagues went far beyond professional necessity.

This monothematic issue honours their memory through the efforts of the international research community they had previously so quickly found their way into. This will be further extended through the hosting of the 6<sup>th</sup> edition of the Urban Geographies of Post-communist States Conference: 25 years of urban change (so called CATference), which will take place at the grounds

of their home Department between the 23 and 26 of September 2015. Sadly, we will have to do without their presence this time. However, it has already become quite apparent that their professional and personal legacy will continue to influence not only their students and colleagues, but all readers of their research and academic texts. This legacy will survive not only through new publications and citations, but mostly through the memories of their closest colleagues, students, and friends.

*Martin Ouředníček, Dušan Drbohlav*