

A Word from the Editor



In 2012, I was approached by Kateřina Romaševská (now Lah), who at the time was a doctoral student in Czech Studies. She asked if I would be the managing editor of the journal that was to succeed *Czech at Home and Abroad*, which had been published by the Czech Department of Charles University's Faculty of Arts from 1993 until 2008, when its managing editor, Professor Oldřich Uličný, retired. (But he continued his academic work — he returned to his beloved Olomouc, where he passed on his knowledge and experience to new students there.) It was then that the department established a new theoretical journal, *Studies in Applied Linguistics*.

Two members of the original journal, the aforementioned Kateřina Romaševská and Jana Janoušková, decided to revive the journal and continue its publication with practically the same focus, gradually focusing on the topic of teaching Czech as a non-native language in the Czech Republic and abroad. *The New Czech at Home and Abroad* has stuck to this goal, and the unbelievable became a reality. The journal has been run by a new generation of students and celebrates twelve years of its existence. The second generation of editors has been replaced, the editorial board has expanded considerably, and a wide range of Czech scholars from various departments, as well as foreign Bohemists, have become involved. The journal has become a faculty periodical, has started to publish electronically as a peer-reviewed non-impact journal, and is gaining momentum. One of our goals is to provide young scholars with quality feedback on their work, while at the same time engaging young people in the techniques, ethics, and strategies of publishing a scholarly journal and working on an editorial staff. The texts are accompanied by English abstracts and English has become an official language of the journal. We have tried a number of modern ways to popularize Czech linguistics: we started a Facebook page; we made video clips with important figures in the field; we made a Czech studies calendar; we have collaborated with notable actors in the field, such as the Association of Teachers of Czech as a Foreign Language and the Summer School of Slavonic Studies.

These twelve years with the journal have been a joyous time for me to work with ambitious, enthusiastic, and creative young people. But I am also getting older and having a harder time keeping up with their pace and energy. I am very happy to pass the mantle of chair of the editorial board over to Associate Professor Ivana Bozděchová, CSc., who needs no introduction to the audience of this journal. Not



only is she a leading expert in Czech as a foreign language, but she has taught Czech abroad, and has published articles in this very journal. She also has years of experience mentoring young Czech scholars. I cannot imagine a more suitable chair. Iva, good luck and enjoy *The New Czech at Home and Abroad!*

prof. PhDr. Hana Gladkova, CSc.