



Assisting Charles University Students with Special Needs

Charles University in Prague has been trying to provide all students, including the students with disabilities, with equal conditions.

The students with impaired mobility (especially the wheelchair users), have to struggle with various barriers preventing them from entering buildings and lecture halls of the university campus, problems with transportation, limited possibilities of accommodation and catering, but sometimes they even have to cope with human ignorance. Removing architectural barriers often encounters various restrictions (e.g. those imposed by institutions for preservation of monuments, lack of financial support, etc). In spite of this, Charles University has been trying hard to improve the current situation.

Personal assistance represents great help for immobile students (as well as for the vision and hearing impaired students). Providing assistance services to CU disabled students (personal assistance, assistance during their study stays abroad, assistance in their university studies, e.g. in obtaining specialized literature for their studies, providing them with Sign language interpreting at lectures, seminars, etc.) is financially supported through the project called *Improving the Study Conditions for Disabled CU Students*. The organizational backup is provided by the staff member of the Faculty of Mathematics and Physics in cooperation with the *Useful Life* Civic Association. Personal assistants to the disabled students are given preference in getting accommodation at CU halls of residence. Further information can be obtained via e-mail asist@karlin.mff.cuni.cz or handicap@ruk.cuni.cz.

The biggest problem the **vision impaired students** struggle with is obtaining study literature in a form which meets their requirements (enlarged study texts, study literature converted into Braille, audio books, and mainly electronic literature). Vision impaired students can ask for help a number of specialized centres and institutes, some of which are located within Charles University premises:

Carolina Lab, Faculty of Mathematics and Physics, CU
Malostranské nám. 25, Prague 1, tel.: +420 221 914 321
E-mail: carolina@braille.mff.cuni.cz
Web: <http://carolina.mff.cuni.cz>

Institute for Rehabilitation of the Vision Impaired

Faculty of Humanities, CU

J. Martího 31, Prague 6, tel.: +420 220 563 111

E-mail: wiener@fhs.cuni.cz

Web: <http://www.fhs.cuni.cz>

The Counselling Centre for Students with Special Needs

within the Department of Special Education at the Faculty of Education, CU

M.D. Rettigové 4, Prague 1, tel.: +420 221 900 070

Web: <http://www.pedf.cuni.cz/ksppg/cz/menu3.htm#32>

You may also contact specially equipped centres within certain multimedia libraries:

The Faculty of Arts Language Resource Centre, CU

Nám. J. Palacha 2, Prague 1, tel.: +420 221 619 238

E-mail: daniela.janakova@ff.cuni.cz

Web: http://jc.ff.cuni.cz/mmp/E_mmp.htm

The Central Library of the Faculty of Education, CU

M. D. Rettigové 4, Prague 1, tel.: +420 221 900 134

E-mail: feil@pedf.cuni.cz, web: <http://beta.pedf.cuni.cz>

The Library of the Faculty of Law, CU

Nám. Curieových 7, Prague 1, tel.: + 420 222 311 374

E-mail: knihovna@prf.cuni.cz

Web: <http://knihovna.prf.cuni.cz>

The Library of the Protestant Theological Faculty, CU

Černá 9, Prague 1, tel.: + 420 221 988 603, e-mail: knihovna@etf.cuni.cz

Web: <http://www.etf.cuni.cz/~library>

The Electronic Library within the Department of Czech Language and Literature at the Faculty of Arts, CU

Nám. J. Palacha 2, Prague 1, tel.: + 420 221 619 232

E-mail: ceslit@ff.cuni.cz, web: <http://cl.ff.cuni.cz>

For easier orientation of the vision impaired there have gradually been installed sound signal systems (so far at the Carolinum entrance from Ovocný trh and from Celetná Street, Charles University Information and Advisory Centre and Counselling Offices in Celetná and Školská Streets, Jinonice University Campus, the Faculty of Arts - main building, the Faculty of Law, the Faculty of Mathematics and Physics at Malostranské Square). There have also been Braille signs installed in several Charles University buildings (Carolinum, Jinonice).

Hearing impaired students have to struggle with information barriers, too. Most of the deaf and hard-of-hearing students study the program *Czech in the Communication of the Deaf* at the Faculty of Arts. This faculty has been providing them with optimum study

conditions. Specialized centres are at their disposal, but they serve other CU hearing impaired students as well:

The Faculty of Arts Language Resource Centre, CU

Nám. J. Palacha 2, Prague 1, tel.: + 420 221 619 238

E-mail: daniela.janakova@ff.cuni.cz

Web: http://jc.ff.cuni.cz/mmp/E_mmp.htm

The Counselling Centre for Students with Special Needs within the Department of Special Education at the Faculty of Education, CU

M. D. Rettigové 4, Prague 1, tel.: + 420 221 900 070

Web: <http://www.pedf.cuni.cz/ksppg/cz/menu3.htm#32>

The Counselling Centre for Students with Speech and Hearing Disorders within the Department of Psycho-Social Sciences at Hussite Theological Faculty, CU

Pacovská 4/350, Prague 4, tel.: + 420 241 733 131

E-mail: krahulcovab@htf.cuni.cz

Web: http://www.htf.cuni.cz/zakladni_informace/poradenske_centrum/index.html

All students with special needs (and other students, too) can attend and participate in sporting events organized by:

The Sports Centre for Charles University Students with Disabilities

Podolské nábřeží 4, Prague 4 (Regata shipyard), tel. +420 777 299 988 (dr. Hruša)

E-mail: hruša@ftvs.cuni.cz

Web: <http://www.cuni.cz/UK-1657.html>

The students with disabilities face a lot of specific problems during their university studies. When trying to solve them, they can contact the above mentioned centres as well as the heads of study departments, or Academic Senate (particularly the members of the Board for Social Affairs). Disabled students can also ask for help the coordinators at the faculties:

Catholic Theological Faculty

Mgr. Jan Rückl

220 181 394

pomoc@ktf.cuni.cz

Hussite Theological Faculty

Prof. PhDr. Beáta Krahulcová, CSc.

241 733 122

krahulcovab@htf.cuni.cz

1st Faculty of Medicine

Doc. MUDr. Jiří Votava, CSc.

224 917 898

jiri.votava@lf1.cuni.cz

Protestant Theological Faculty

ThDr. Ladislav Beneš

221 988 415

benes@etf.cuni.cz

Faculty of Law

JUDr. Kristina Koldinská, Ph.D.

221 005 448

koldinsk@prf.cuni.cz

2nd Faculty of Medicine

Doc. PaedDr. Pavel Kolář

224 439 201

pavel.kolar@lfmotol.cuni.cz

3rd Faculty of Medicine

Doc. MUDr. Daniela Janovská, CSc.
267 102 337
daniela.janovska@lf3.cuni.cz

**Faculty of Medicine in Hradec
Králové**

PhDr. Marie Rybářová
495 816 145
rybarovam@lfhk.cuni.cz

Faculty of Arts

JUDr. Jarmila Handzelová
221 619 325
jarmila.handzelova@ff.cuni.cz

Faculty of Mathematics and Physics

Mgr. Lukáš Krump, Ph.D.
221 913 204
krump@karlin.mff.cuni.cz

Faculty of Social Sciences

Doc. PhDr. Jan Jiráček
222 112 261
jirak@mbox.fsv.cuni.cz

Faculty of Humanities

PhDr. Miloslava Turková, CSc.
251 080 396
turkova@fhs.cuni.cz

Faculty of Medicine in Pilsen

Doc. MUDr. Jitka Kočová, CSc.
377 593 321
kocova@lfp.cuni.cz

Faculty of Pharmacy

Prof. RNDr. Karel Waisser, DrSc.
495 067 276
waisser@faf.cuni.cz

Faculty of Natural Sciences

RNDr. Blanka Vacková, CSc.
221 951 613
vackova@natur.cuni.cz

Faculty of Education

Doc. PaedDr. Radka Wildová, CSc.
221 900 228
radka.wildova@pedf.cuni.cz

Faculty of Physical Educ. and Sport

Doc. MUDr. Staša Bartůňková, CSc.
220 172 344
bartunkova@ftvs.cuni.cz

Disabled students as well as all other disabled persons interested in studies at CU have the **Office for Students with Special Needs** at their disposal. This office helps them to solve problems concerning their university studies, access to university buildings, their catering and accommodation, study stays abroad, arranging assistance services, etc. The office cooperates with specialized centres located either on Charles University campus or outside of it, with coordinators for disabled students at respective faculties and with the heads of study departments. The office is headed by CU Vice-Rector for Social Affairs.

Contacts:

Charles University Information and Advisory Centre

Celetná 13, Prague 1 – the ground floor (accessible), tel.: +420 224 491 850

E-mail: ipc@ruk.cuni.cz or handicap@ruk.cuni.cz or helena.rounova@ruk.cuni.cz

Office hours:

Mondays: 9:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m., 2:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m.

Tuesdays: 9:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m., 2:00 p.m. – 5:00 p.m.

Thursdays and Fridays: 9:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.