

EDITORIAL

This *Phonetica Pragensia* issue of *Acta Universitatis Carolinae – Philologica* involves several landmarks for the Institute of Phonetics in Prague, as well as for the journal itself. It is the 15th issue of the journal which focuses on spoken communication and it is published at the occasion of the 100th anniversary of the Institute. It brings me great pleasure to be able to say that one hundred years after its foundation, our Institute is thriving, with a remarkable team of researchers active in a number of subdisciplines within the speech sciences.

The centenary of phonetics in Prague is commemorated with the opening paper of this issue. Written by Pavel Šturm, it examines the Institute's beginnings under its founder, Josef Chlumský, and his student and successor, Bohuslav Hála.

In the past, *Phonetica Pragensia* was regarded mostly as an in-house journal of our Institute. It is my hope that this issue marks a new beginning in this respect. We are honoured to present three papers by contributors from abroad. The first two are authored by top researchers in their fields, which enabled them to take a broader perspective at their respective topics. The paper by Jan Michalsky and Oliver Niebuhr considers the myths associated with charisma and charismatic speech and confronts them with current research. The paper by Volker Dellwo and his team examines indexical information and specifically how speakers are able to control it to be more recognizable.

The following papers by members of the Prague team address two large areas. It is not surprising that our team continues to examine the sound patterns of the Czech language. Nikola Paillereau and Kateřina Chládková study spectral and temporal characteristics of Czech vowels in spontaneous speech. Eliška Churaňová explores the relationship between the phonotactic structure of Czech stress groups and perceived rhythm. The second area concerns foreign-accentedness in Czech speakers of English, as well as Anglophone speakers of Czech. The study by Radek Skarnitzl and Jana Rumlová examines multiple segmental and prosodic features in the pronunciation of speakers with a strong Czech accent in their English. Pavel Šturm and Lea Tylečková look at one specific aspect, assimilation of voicing, in Czech speakers of Moravian origin. Finally, Jan Volín studies Anglophone speakers of Czech and compares their prosodic phrasing with native Czech and English speakers.

The issue is concluded by a paper by Maral Asiaee, Mandana Nourbakhsh and Saeed Rahandaz from Iran. Their study investigates linguo-palatal patterns of coronal stops in Persian.

I sincerely hope that this issue of *Phonetica Pragensia* will be successful and will contribute to the rising profile of *Acta Universitatis Carolinae – Philologica*. Most importantly, I hope readers will find the results interesting and the discussions stimulating!

Radek Skarnitzl