Internal Research Projects (IRP): a program for supporting students at the Institute of Geology and Paleontology, Charles University, Prague

[1] Rationale
The main goal of the Internal Research Project (IRP) program is to support highly motivated undergraduate (Mgr.) and Ph.D. students at the Institute of Geology and Paleontology, Charles University, Prague. The program is primarily designed as a targeted distribution of funding received from the University resources (e.g., SVV), but will also be enhanced from other Institute’s financial resources.

[2] Types of project
(1) "U-project" for undergraduate (Mgr.) students
(2) "G-project" for Ph.D. students

[3] Who is eligible to apply
All undergraduate (Mgr.) and Ph.D. students enrolled at the Institute of Geology and Paleontology, Charles University, Prague are eligible to apply, but the priority will be given to:
(1) students in the full-time (internal) study programs,
(2) students in the first to third year of the Ph.D. study,
(3) undergraduate students with excellent study results and Ph.D. students evaluated as excellent by the subject-area board (Geology),
(4) students participating actively in the academic life of the Institute.

[4] Project proposal
(1) Project proposals should be clearly and concisely written in English, project goals clearly defined.
(2) Projects should be primarily aimed at acquiring new data; conference presentation, if planned, should be a talk.
(3) Budget: plan a very conservative budget, amounting to approximately 2,000–5,000 CZK for the U-projects, 7,000–15,000 CZK for the G-projects; each item of the proposed budget must be specified. Financial support may be used to cover any relevant research expenses (e.g., consumables, field and travel expenses, services, presentations at conferences), in line with all relevant regulations of the Faculty of Science, Charles University. If the Applicant has submitted or received any other grant (e.g., GAUK, GAČR), the proposal must contain an explanation why additional support is required.
(4) Projects must be consulted with and approved by the thesis advisor.
(5) After completion, a short report summarizing key outcomes of the project must be submitted and results of the project will also be presented at the Institute’s proseminars.

[5] Project evaluation
The evaluation and final decision will be made by an advisory board of 2–5 faculty members. The key parameters in evaluation are scientific quality of the project and its potential for publication in highly ranked international journals.

[6] Important deadlines, timeline
Maximum project duration is from the submission/approval date to the end of the year. Projects may be submitted twice a year, one applicant may submit only one project per year. Deadline for submitting applications are (1) end of February and (2) end of September. Application forms should be sent electronically via email to: jirizak@natur.cuni.cz. Evaluation of the proposals will be completed within 2 weeks after the deadline.

Approved: prof. RNDr. Jiří Žák, Ph.D.
Head of the Institute
Prague, January, 31st, 2020