



EUSTORY in Slovakia – 4th Round 2006/2007

Jan Hus Educational Foundation as a national coordinator for Eustory programme in Slovakia launched in September 2007 the **fourth round** of Eustory history competition under the topic

The Inventions and Discoveries Change Our World: Search for Less-known or Unknown Inventions and Discoverers of 20th Century in Slovakia.

The main aim of researches has been searching for information and facts about inovators - authors of small inventions and discoveries, who still are or has been living in a local region. The discoverer could have been one person, a group of friends or even a team of experts. The entry should have been focused on a description and documentation of the invention (its origin, development, introducing into practice, patent refusals etc.) and the life story of its inventor: problems and obstacles, success and dissapointment and the use and value of the invention for people in surrounding society. One of the most important evaluation criteria was the innovative character of the entry – presenting new findings and facts.

As sources and references for researches regional registres, chronicles, newspapers and archives have been used as well as privat documentation, story telling and interviews with authors of inventions or other related persons.

The new competition topic was announced at the end of September to over 255 secondary schools in Slovakia via e-mail, newspapers for teachers, phone calls or personal visits, through the network of local partners and informational meeting of coordinator Olga Peštuková with history teachers at the Methodical and Pedagogical Centre of Bratislava. Promotional Eustory posters have been distributed to involved schools.

108 students from all over Slovakia have been participating in the competition with **76 entries** – **51 individual and 25 group researches**. This year also participants from schools for handicapped children took part in this competition - two boys from the Special Secondary School for handicapped students on Mokrohájska street in Bratislava.

The competition was running under the patronage of the minister of foreign affairs of the Slovak Republic Mr. Ján Kubiš. A few newspaper articles about Eustory competition have been published (e.g. in „Trend“ magazine, „História“ Journal of the Slovak Academy of Science, „Moderná škola“ (Modern School) newspaper for teachers, etc). Four interviews with the coordinator Olga Peštuková and competition winners about Eustory were broadcasted live on the date of the award ceremony and in June on different channels of the Slovak Radio.

The awarding ceremony for winners was held on **June 12, 2007** in the premises of the new exhibition pavilion “Podhradie” of the Slovak National Museum at the presence of patrons, sponsors, media, historians, awarded students and teachers from all over Slovakia. Opening speeches were presented by PhDr. Peter Maráky, general director of the Slovak National Museum, PhDr. Ivan Kamenec, CSc., historian from the Slovak Academy of Science and Ms. Meike Köhler

from Körber-Stiftung in Hamburg. The award ceremony was moderated by a famous Slovak actor and the official ceremony was followed by a short concert of the popular Bratislava Hot Serenaders Orchestra and a reception. The archeological exposition in the pavilion was freely available for all invited guests.

In total 32 students were awarded: 10 awards were given to individual researches and 10 to group works. Five winners shall participate at the Eustory Youth Academies in Germany, Norway and Russia.

Winners from first to third place in Group Researches:

1. place:

Juliana Benčová, Michaela Göblová and Barbora Klinčáková: Andrej Reiprich – Doyen of the Slovak Entomology

Gymnázium, Školská 7, Spišská Nová Ves, 2. class

Tutor: PhDr. Ružena Kormošová

2. place:

Zuzana Kološtová and Lenka Štrbková: Ivan Alexander Getting – Father of GPS

Gymnázium, Varšavská cesta 1, Žilina, septima

Tutor: PhDr. Alica Virdzeková

3. place:

Zuzana Jungerová and Tamara Vojtášová: Vojtech Alexander, Inovator of X-ray

Gymnázium, Školská 7, Spišská Nová Ves, 2. class

Tutor: PhDr. Ružena Kormošová

Category of Individual Entries:

1. place:

Ján Turský: Ján Bahýľ – the Forgotten Inventor

Gymnázium, Jána Kollára 2, Žiar nad Hronom, 1.class

Tutor: Mgr. Peter Sučanský

2. place:

Ivana Rosenzweigová: When the Doll Begins to Live

Gymnázium, Varšavská cesta 1, Žilina, septima

Tutor: PhDr. Alica Virdzeková

3. place:

Dominik Antolov: Aladár Zsélyi – the Man on Wings

Gymnázium A. H. Škultétyho, Veľký Krtíš, oktáva

Tutor: PaedDr. Pavel Antolov

During the whole round JHEF had a close cooperation with **Slovak Eustory National Partners Network** - Methodical and Pedagogical Center of Bratislava, UNESCO Center, Historical Institute of the Slovak Academy of Science, State Pedagogical Institution, City Institute for Monuments Preservation, Slovak National Museum, teachers from universities and secondary schools, etc.).

The total approved budget from Körber-Stiftung for the 4th round has been 10 500 EUR.

The winners and their tutors were awarded with Billa gift coupons and souvenir boxes financed from the budget obtained from Körber-Stiftung.

The other prizes - web cameras, PC Mouses, MP3, DVD navigators, multimedia encyclopedia Encarta 2007, multimedia library Encarta 2007, educational Langmaster multimedias „The Adventure of Cognition“, annual free prescriptions of „History“ magazine, PC games and books – were donated by local sponsors. Two companies Norco and Madein have supported the competition also financially.

Certificates with small present (pens) have been sent to all not awarded participating students together with thanks letter to their tutors.

Improvements in this round:

Higher quality of entries
Growing interest from the media side
Expanding network of local partners and sponsors

Bratislava, July 12, 2007

Submitted by: Olga Pestukova
Slovak Eustory Competition Coordinator