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Academic education in the field of sport and physical therapy between totality and democracy: The example of Charles University in Prague

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The beginnings of higher education of physical education specialists, or the physical education teachers at secondary school, can be found in the year 1892, when the first training course for future teachers at secondary school was launched. A significant part of the course was devoted to teaching the importance of health and physical exercises and some of its graduates can be considered forerunners of today's physical therapists. However, a full training of physical education specialists was possible only after the Institute of Physical Education and Sport was established in 1953. In the late 1950s, the Institute of Physical Education and Sport has become one of the faculties of Charles University and since 1965 bears the name the Faculty of Physical Education and Sport. In 1982, the study of physical therapy was opened, at that time it was called rehabilitation. After the collapse of communist power, the Czechoslovak and Czech higher education system underwent important changes caused mainly by the Higher Education Act of 1990 and 1998 which both naturally had an impact on the form of educational process at the faculty of physical education and sport at Charles University in Prague.

Biography

Marek Waic has completed his PhD from Charles University and he has completed his Professor of History of Sport from the Faculty of Physical Education and Sport, Charles University. He is the Director of Department of Kinanthropology and Humanities. He has published more than 50 papers in reputed journals and 4 monographs.

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