

Protocol

Of the defence of the doctoral dissertation of **Mr. Jiří Janáč**

Held on 10th December, 2012 at the Technical University of Eindhoven

Title of the dissertation: „ **European Coasts of Bohemia Negotiating the Danube-Oder-Elbe Canal in a Troubled Twentieth Century**“, 2012, p.???

Present are all members of the Committee (profs. A.W.M. Meijers, J.W. Schot, L. Klusáková, C.A. Davids, J. Rákosník, R. Oldenziel, H.W. Lintsen, and dr. E.B.A. van der Vleuten.)

The Committee members held a short meeting to coordinate questions for the examination of the Distinguished doctoral candidate.

The beadel of the TU Eindhoven has introduced the Committee members into the auditorium, and started the examination in the duration of one hour.

President of the committee prof. A.W.M. Meijers opened the defence, and introduced the Distinguished doctoral candidate to the audience.

The Distinguished doctoral candidate was invited to present his dissertation in a powerpointed presentation in the duration of ten minutes.

Prof. A.W.M. Meijers started the series of questions raised by the committee members which had to be answered without delay by the Distinguished doctoral candidate. Professor Rakosnik opened the debate with the question concerning the susceptibility of Czechoslovak hydraulic experts to the ideas of Sovietization, Nazification or Europeanization. Specifically, he asked the doctoral candidate to contextualize the ideological flexibility of Czechoslovak experts and compare it with the positions taken by their counterparts from other Eastern Central European countries. Professor Oldenziel approached the issue from different angle. She asked whether the engineers were collaborators with the Nazi German, or were they transnational mediators between various identities, and held multiple identities themselves?

Professor Lintsen addressed directly the use of the notion of expert in the dissertation thesis, noting that the distinction between experts and engineers is not sufficiently discussed there. Professor Klusáková inquired into the uniqueness of the DOE project in 20th century Europe and asked the candidate to elaborate on the canal project history from the comparative history perspective. Dr. van der Vleuten expressed interest in the development of the discourse on the environmental aspects of wet systems building in Eastern Central Europe throughout the covered period. Professor Davids raised three interrelated questions, which revolved around the position of the nation state authorities vis a vis the transnational network building efforts. The candidate answered the questions clearly and explained comprehensively the strategy of his research and decisions concerning its presentation in the book. He has shown excellent orientation in his field, and the Committee members were satisfied with his answers.

When the time of fifty minutes has been used, the beadel stopped the examination. The committee members left the auditorium to attend the closed meeting of the committee. The president of the committee opened the evaluation of the defence. The dissertation of Jiří Janáč was accepted by the four independent reviewers with appraisal, thus the question of *Cum Laude* was raised. The committee members expressed their position – the dissertation was with consensus evaluated as innovative and its author as accomplished independent researcher. The committee members expressed their opinion in a secret vote. *Cum Laude* was awarded unanimously.

When the committee meeting closed, the beadel opened the second part of the examination. The decision of the committee was officially announced to the auditorium. Jiří Janáč has successfully defended his dissertation *cum Laude*. Prof. Johan Schot read the *Laudatio*, prof. A.W.M. Meijers read the official sentence of the oath. The Distinguished doctoral candidate was delivered the diploma of PhD.

Zapsal:

Podpis členů komise za UK: