

## Day 13

### Résumé of Erasmus IP „Soil and Water“



The morning of Day 13 began with a summary of the Erasmus IP ‘Soil and Water’ by Prof. Kazda. In this summary he repeated the lecture topics (soil science, plant ecology, microbiology, degradation, nature protection) and the associated excursions, in which we discussed the human impact, nature protection and their relation to climate change.

The aim of the alteration of lectures and excursions was to give the students experience with nature and not just theoretical knowledge. This was definitely a success, because in this way we didn’t just discuss but also see the aftermath of human impact and the drift from natural landscape to cultural landscape.

The topics and aims of the lectures were these:

- Interactions between soils, plants and soil organisms
- Interdisciplinary insight into soil processes
- Effects of drought and flooding on plants and soil organisms
- Plant stress and ecosystem response
- Soil degradation and its mitigation
- Environmental problems on European level
- Link between soil functions, economy and society

After this introduction by Prof. Kazda, all the teachers came to the front for a résumé of the whole two weeks.



The students told each teacher what they found most interesting and important of their lectures and what they missed or rather would have liked more detailed. One of the improvements the students asked for was for example more practical work regarding to soil organisms and better guidance for the students' presentations.

### Tour through the faculty



After these two hours of conclusion the students were divided into three groups for a guided tour by the Czech teachers through the biological faculty. We visited the biological and molecular biological laboratories and were shown some methods especially used for soil biology. The highlight of the tour was the mass spectrometer whose functions were explained properly.

### Presentations by the students

In the afternoon, after some ERASMUS information about studying and working in foreign countries by Dr. Wrangell, Dimitri presented his self-made video of the Sumava-mountains/Bavarian forest. After that students from Estonia, France, Germany and Czech Republic presented slideshows about their hometowns and why one should come to there for an ERASMUS semester.

In the evening all teachers and students met in the restaurant Budarka to celebrate their last common evening with Czech food and drinks.