The long and fruitful life of a young woman

We warmly congratulate our dear colleague, associate and friend, whose age will, in October, be divisible by 3, 4, 5 and 6, though all of us who know her believe it to be divisible only by 2, 3, 5 and 6.

Marie is in the middle of a long and rather remarkable intellectual development. Firstly, she obtained her RNDr. at Masaryk University in Brno, specializing in theoretical cybernetics, mathematical informatics and systems theory. Secondly, her 1992 thesis was submitted at the Institute of Philosophy, Academy of Sciences of the Czech Republic, earning her the CSc. title. It was entitled *Logic and Data Semantics* and testifies to Marie's deep interest in logic. Thirdly, when working at VŠB-Technical University of Ostrava, she finished her *habilitace* thesis *Logical Foundations of Conceptual Modelling*. Fourthly, she is busy applying the finishing touches to a full-bodied, co-authored book on Transparent Intensional Logic (TIL). Fifthly, God knows what else is to come. But it surely looks promising.

Marie is one of the rare researchers capable of combining theoretical mathematics, logic, philosophy, and computer science into one overarching framework.

She has made considerable contributions to the development of TIL in a number of analytic papers, addressing issues such as propositional and notional attitudes, the de dicto/de re distinction, the non-triviality of analytic propositions, the exact interpretation of the mention/use distinction, anaphora, inferable knowledge and epistemic closure. She has co-authored many remarkable papers devoted to, inter alia, logical form, the Parmenides principle, a procedural theory of concepts, and synthetic concepts a priori. Today's TIL would have been a lesser theory without her theoretical contribution.

Although Marie never formally studied philosophy, she is gifted with an extraordinary talent for subtle analysis of philosophical problems. Marie is a remarkable person to discuss with and a selfless colleague, who is always willing to help, read studies by her fellow researchers, and analyse them thoroughly. Anyone who sends her an email in the evening containing some problem or a draft has to be aware that she is more likely than not to stay up, because Marie at once sits down to read it and compose a response, which the author receives next morning in his or her inbox.

We know Marie as an exceptionally hard-working researcher, administrator and teacher. The courses she teaches involve introductory logic, logic programming, logical analysis, (hyper-) intensional logic, theory of concepts, formal languages, and Automata. Her teaching is underpinned by her research, which has been supported by a string of grants over the years. Furthermore, she goes

abroad several times a year to read invited lectures in, e.g., Italy, Ireland, Finland, Slovakia, Germany, the Netherlands, Austria, and Japan. She has also served on the programme committee of VLDB, in 1993, and on the European-Japanese Conference on Information Modelling and Knowledge Bases since 1999. This level of activity would appear to rule out an equally intense level of publication, and yet her number of papers in English and Czech is impressive.

Intensity is also characteristic of her pursuit of truth. Shoddy arguments get shot down, and when she bites into a bone of contention she doesn't let go until her appetite for logical analysis is stilled.

Your many friends wish you many more years of creative work and good health, Marie!

With love

Pavel Materna	*Pavel Cmorej*	*František Gahér*
Bjørn Jespersen	*Vojtěch Kolman*	*Jaroslav Peregrin*
Jaroslav Pokorný	*Vladimír Svoboda*	*Marián Zouhar*