VISIT OF EMINENT HYDROGEOLOGISTS TO THE CKH

After successfully completed the International Course and Field Seminar „Characterization and Engineering of Karst Aquifers“, which was held in Trebinje, Bosnia & Herzegovina between May 31 and June 06, 2016, Centre for Karst Hydrogeology of the Faculty of Mining and Geology organized a visit to the CKH and the Faculty premises of distinguish guests Professor Dr Abraham Springer, from School of Earth Sciences and Environmental Sustainability, Northern Arizona University, Flagstaff, and Dr. Hermann Stadler, Senior Scientist, from Joanneum Research – Institute for Water, Energy and Sustainability, Water Resources Management, Graz – Austria. Welcome meeting is organised in Dean Office and attended by Vice Dean Dr. Jelena Milivojević, Assistant Professor, responsible for teaching and teaching activities, Dr. Zoran Stevanović, Professor and the Head of the Centre for Karst Hydrogeology, Dr. Vesna Ristić-Vakanjac, Associate Professor, Dr. Saša Milanović, Scientific Researcher, Ljiljana Vasić, Research Assistant, Marina Čokorilo-Iljić, Research Assistant, Branislav Petrović, Research Assistant and Veljko Marinović, Junior Researcher.

At the beginning of the meeting, Dr. Jelena Milivojević introduced University of Belgrade, history of the Faculty of Mining and Geology, its organization and Departments’ curriculums to Dr. Springer and Dr. Stadler.

Afterwards, Dr. Springer gave a brief presentation about his School of Earth Sciences and Environmental Sustainability, speaking about Departments on Northern Arizona University, while Dr. Stadler presented in brief his Joanneum Research – Institute for Water, Energy and Sustainability, Water Resources Management. Finally, at the end of this part of the meeting, Dr. Saša Milanović and Dr. Zoran Stevanović presented Department of Hydrogeology in more details and some current activities and projects of the CKH.
After reception in the Dean Office, the meeting was continued at Laboratory room of the Centre for Karst Hydrogeology, where Dr. Saša Milanović and Ljiljana Vasić showed some of equipment that members of the CKH use in their research (such as field chemical laboratory, equipment for borehole video logging, diver dataloggers and other) and facilities and class rooms of the Department of Hydrogeology, as well.
After, Dr. Zoran Stevanović took guests to the premises of the Serbian Geological Society where Dr. Neven Krešić joined the meeting. After introductory note about Serbian Geological Society, Dr. Zoran Stevanović presented some ideas for possible cooperation between University of Belgrade and Centre for Karst Hydrogeology and Northern Arizona University, mostly considering the future of the International Course and Field Seminar „Characterization and Engineering of Karst Aquifers“. Dr. Stevanović and Dr. Krešić presented in brief next steps that have to be taken to improve quality of the course and possibly a slightly different concept of the course in following years. Also, Dr. Springer talked about possibility on his University to organize abroad a course in karst hydrogeology, and expressed interest for organizing it in a classical karst region such as Trebinje. Dr. Stevanović, Dr. Krešić and Dr. Springer have agreed about next steps that should be undertaken to make this idea possible.

Dr. Stadler invited Dr. Zoran Stevanović and his team to visit Joanneum Research – Institute for Water, Energy and Sustainability, Water Resources Management in Austria. This trip would include visits to karst springs tapped for water supply of Vienna and field spots where systematic qualitative and quantitative monitoring have been established and an automated monitoring system works. It has been agreed that the visit should be organized in springtime (April or May) of 2017.

Dr. Stevanović closed the meeting by expressing gratitude to Dr. Springer and Dr. Stadler and hope that
the ideas will be realized in coming period.

At the end of the day, after successfully completing the meeting, all participants went for a walk to Kalemegdan.

Report prepared by
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