

An Interview with Mgr. Miroslav Slowik, Ph.D., the Author of Didactic Workshop

For our workshop about the city of the future we interviewed Miroslav Slowik, mathematics professor, who was supervising students working on the project of building the city model itself using mainly paper and other school supplies.



What are the students doing? What is the task?

The task is to work in a cooperative spirit. To work on teamwork in a communicative environment, on a problematic assignment given for a longer period of time. When you look around, you will see everyone is working and they could not function one without another. That suggests the teamwork is very clearly visible.

How are they doing so far? Are they cooperating and communicating well?

I think everyone is working well. They are all cooperating, and everyone is working on something. They all put their heads together.

Is everyone working equally or are some working harder than others?

There's no one who is just sitting around. They divided the work well among themselves.

Is the task difficult in your opinion? I see that you are also taking part in the work process.

The task is difficult. We are trying out many ideas and ways of building the city. It isn't important that the city is perfect. It is essential that we learn how to cooperate, communicate and be creative.

In your view, is this workshop beneficial for our students?

It is decisively beneficial for the whole school. Based on the results of this workshop, we will decide whether to realize the new subject for the next school year.

Have the other students from our group distracted the modelers here?

For sure, but we will have to prepare for the distractions in the working environment. There will be always something that will make the task harder. The funding could change, or some other contract becomes more urgent.

Would you change anything about the workshop? For example, the environment, the task or the work procedure?

When we do the final evaluation, we will actually know what the students liked or didn't like. I will listen to their wishes and needs for the next workshop so we can avoid some of the mistakes made and prepare better for the next time. Personally, I wouldn't change anything.

Do you have any favorite structure among the ones being made here?

I'm really fond of the observatory that is being made here.

And to the final question, what is your favorite mathematical function?

The quadratic function is my favorite. It is one of the easier ones. The graphs remind me of mountain ranges.

Thank you for the interview.