

THE FIFTEENTH ANNIVERSARY OF THE ORIGIN OF THE INSTITUTE OF BANKING EDUCATION OF THE NBS



On 3rd October 2006, a special meeting was held at the National Bank of Slovakia to celebrate the fifteenth anniversary of the origin of the Institute of Banking Education of the NBS and the official completion of external study for the “European basic certificate in banking”.

The governor of the NBS Ivan Šramko greeted the participants. His special address emphasized the contribution of the Institute of Banking Education in the area of improving the professional level of employees in the banking sector, and shaping the level and culture of banking activity.

From the address of the Governor of the National Bank of Slovakia Ivan Šramko

In the present turbulent world of demanding changes, the passing of fifteen years of activity of the institute is a good reason to look at its beginnings and the route to the present activity of this not very large, but continually active part of the development of the banking sector in the area of the human factor.

The professional preparedness and level of qualifications of bank staff was always one of the basic conditions for the development of the Slovak banking sector.

The origin of the Institute for Banking Education in 1991 was, therefore, a natural response to the urgent demand for the professional preparation of bank staff, in harmony with the objective demands of the development of the banking sector.

From the beginning of its activity, the National Bank of Slovakia attributed great importance to the area of education, not only from the point of view of the professional training of its own staff, but also in the context of the whole banking sector.

Therefore, the National Bank of Slovakia always supported the Institute of Banking Education as a part of its organization, during its extensive educational activities intended not only for its own staff, but also for the staff of the commercial banks and other financial institutions.

It is possible to say that during the last fifteen years, the institute was an active, reliable partner in the development of the banking sector with an undoubtedly positive and supporting influence for the further professional growth of the staff of the whole banking sector.

The transfer of developed banking know-how, which

the institute brought about in cooperation with renown foreign institutions and experts, in a continual and highly qualified way, and in harmony with the needs of a rapidly developing banking sector, was also an extraordinary contribution.

I am convinced that the fifteen years of activity of the institute of banking education was an unambiguous contribution to improving the professional level of the staff of the banking sector, as well as to the formation of the level and culture of banking activity.

The stage of transfer of developed banking know-how and experience through intensive cooperation with foreign experts was gradually succeeded by the stage of creating its own body of teachers from the ranks of the educated and capable experts of the Slovak banking sector, many of whom gained their first deeper knowledge from the educational activities of the institute.

The professional level achieved by the institute in the past period still confirms the importance of its position and activity in the banking sector.

The successful course and route of the professional development of the institute was not simple, because its activity was prepared in the conditions of a dynamically changing environment with the unavoidable degree of content-innovative advance during the simultaneous formation of the staff, the teaching body, foreign relations and setting of the strategy for achieving the institute's aims.

The institute now operates as a regular member of the European network of banking educational institutions and is certified according to the international and European norm system of quality control ISO 9001:2000. It is actively involved in international projects for financial



activity of the institute, to which it may respond with a further widening of its activity in the framework of the objective possibilities.

The National Bank of Slovakia will, therefore, continue to seek possibilities for the creation of favourable conditions to support education in the framework of the banking and financial sectors by means of the Institute of Banking Education.

On this occasion, allow me to thank the staff of the institute for their excellent work and contribution to the

education, as well as in the accreditation system in the area of financial education in the framework of the European Union.

The numerous current educational activities of the institute are regularly accredited by the Ministry of Education of the Slovak Republic and enjoy the continued interest of banks and of individuals from the wider expert public.

In modern economics and in the competitive global environment, high quality education has become the most precious commodity. This is especially visible in the field of financial services.

Technological innovations are gradually but completely changing the character of the original classic banking. However, in spite of this development, the choice of the appropriate approaches and practices in the banking business will be conditioned by a permanently high level of expert preparedness.

The current development of the banking and financial business represents important challenges for the further



development of the banking sector in the field of professional preparation of the staff of banks and other financial institutions, and to wish them much creative power for their further work.

I would also like to congratulate the successful graduates, who are receiving their certificates today, after completing external study for the European basic certificate in banking, which is one of the important projects of the Institute of Banking Education.

The international cooperation of the Institute of Banking Education in the field of education

On 3rd October 2006, the Institute of Banking Education of the NBS concluded a Protocol on Cooperation with the Institute of Banking Education of Portugal with an orientation to technical cooperation in education, exchange of participants, teachers and consultants, as well as information about educational activities and experiences.



of the NBS by its director Ing. Dušan Garay, CSc.

The cooperation between the two institutions already has a long tradition, and from 1996 it was originally oriented towards the preparation of external forms of study for the Slovak banking sector.

Both partner institutes are active members of the European Bank Training Network and participate in preparation

The Protocol on Cooperation with the Institute of Banking Education of Portugal was signed by its director Luís Vilhena da Cunha and for the Institute of Banking Edu-

of the European accreditation system for the field of financial education.

Photos: Ivan Paška, Pavel Kochan