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## Words in the Pursuit of Pavol Štekauer

From the very beginning of its existence, since 2005, the name of the Department of British and American Studies in Košice has been quoted together with the name of professor Pavol Štekauer. The department under professor Štekauer's guidance was one of the constituting departments that laid the foundations for the newly re-established Faculty of Arts. Built on the traditions of the Department of Languages the Department of British and American Studies, it soon grew into such a dynamic and energetic body that long-term friends who know about the great variety of its activities abroad have called it an "octopus." The devoted hard work, numerous contacts and inner drive of professor Štekauer have placed the Department of British and American Studies and the Faculty of Arts in Košice on the map of Europe.

The name of professor Štekauer has been resonating with a powerful presence of a lecturer, researcher, supervisor, and manager – the scholar who is respected far beyond Slovak English studies academic territory. Those who did not know him were always overwhelmed by his pace of work and by his talent to produce books, textbooks, and articles of top academic quality. His young team soon realized that "the professor" as we started to call him, keeps opening to us the doors of the academic world, always sharing his own contacts with those of us who could benefit from them immensely. Soon the young and to the European academia unknown department in the eastern Slovakia became frequented by foreign visitors – guest lecturers and prestigious scholars – from all corners of Europe, all eager to contribute to the success of the department. Staff and students of the department got used to meeting researchers whose books they were using in their classes. What is more, thanks to professor Štekauer's support, our lecturers and doctoral students have started to travel abroad always using professor Štekauer's name as a password to login into the English studies academic realms at conferences and universities.