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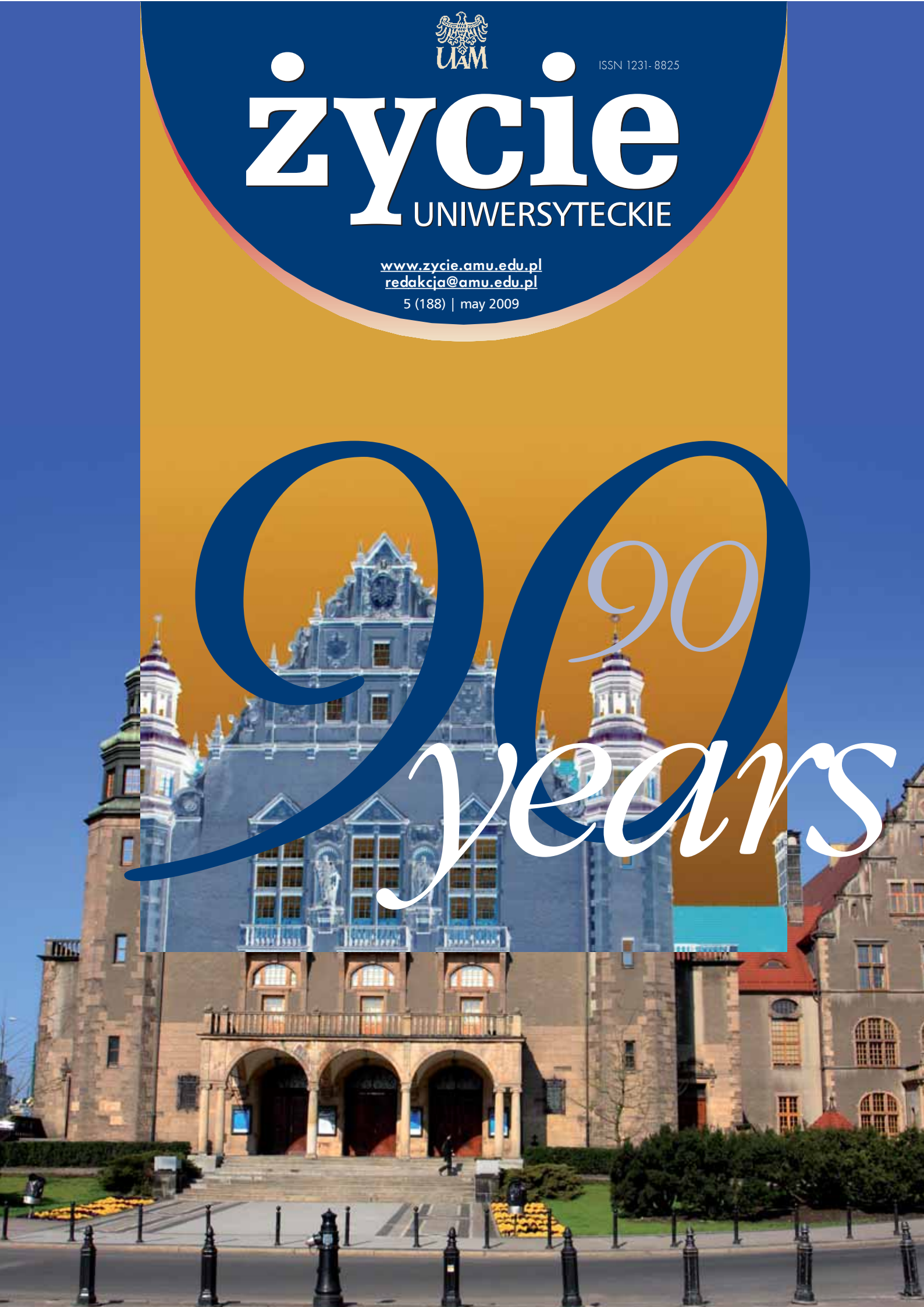
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90  
years





# *The dreams of the past generations will come true*



Adam Mickiewicz University traces its roots in the Lubrański Academy, founded in the 16th century, and the College of the Society of Jesus, that was elevated to the rank of a university by Polish monarchs' decrees of 1611 and 1678. The University's development was arrested during the periods of national captivity. It opened its gates on **7 May 1919**, soon after Poland regained its independence, on the initiative of the Poznań Society for the Advancement of the Arts and Sciences, whose foundation dates back to 1857, and with the support of local Polish authorities. Initially, it was called the Piast University, then renamed University of Poznań in 1920, and finally Adam Mickiewicz University in 1955.

The University is still pursuing the same goals as those lying in its groundwork and reflected in one of its founder's memorable words: "Today, as we can experience the political and national freedom that so many generations have dreamed of, we should pay particular heed to our fathers' message that to be free a nation has to be enlightened. Therefore, the reviving Poland's first task should be to provide the light for its nation".

The year 1919 marks the beginning of the modern history of the University that has become an integral part of the local community, contributing considerably to the development of the city of Poznań and the Wielkopolska region. Its relevance being recognised nation-wide, AMU is listed among the best Polish academic institutions.

How does the University combine its ninety-year tradition with modernity? How fast does it grow? How does it look like? What are our students' interests and concerns? What do we offer apart from education?

These questions will surely reoccur on the occasion of the 90<sup>th</sup> anniversary celebrations.

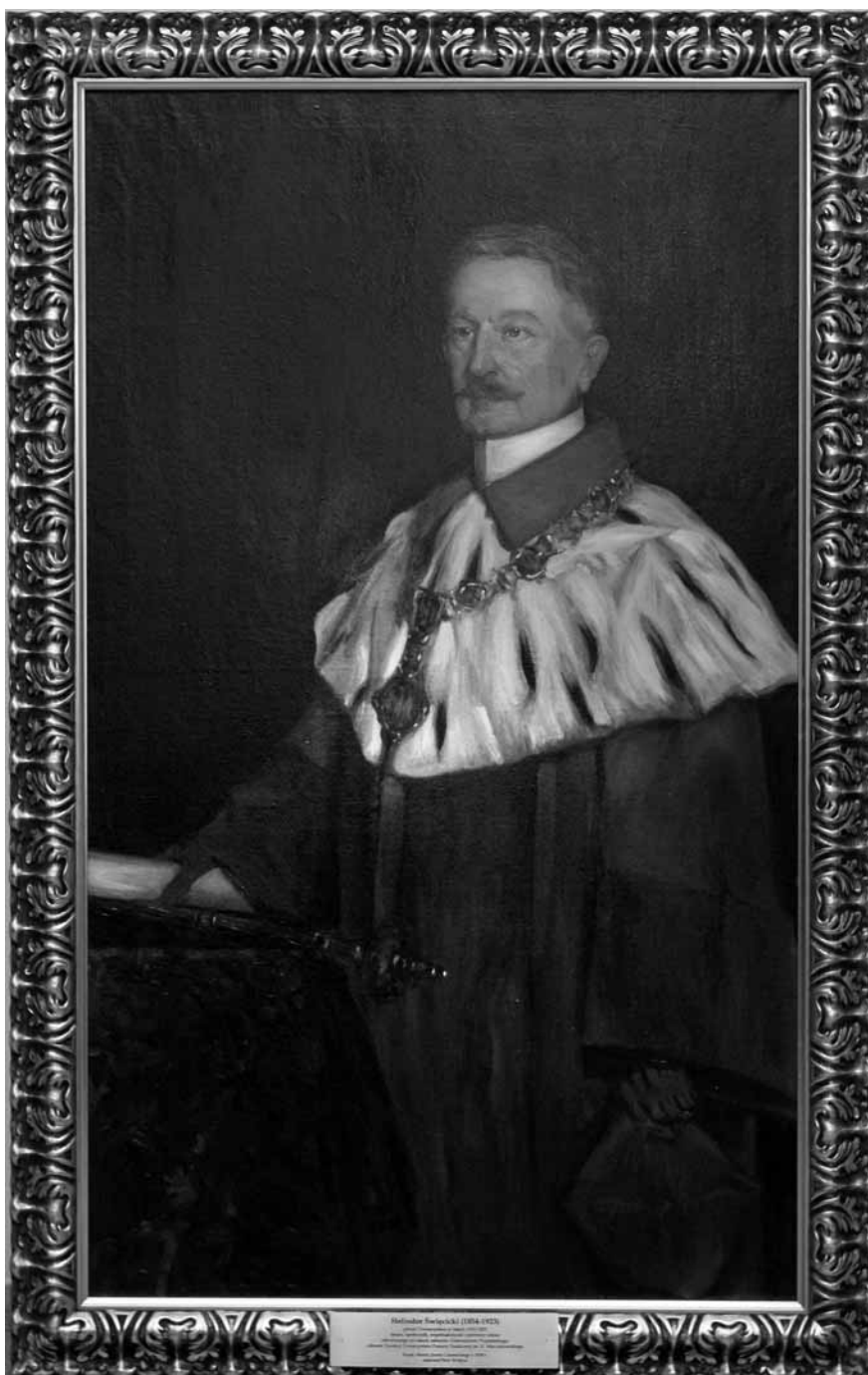
R e c t o r

Prof. dr hab. Bronisław Marciniak



# Heliodor Świącicki -

For 15 years preceding the outbreak of the war, students were given a day off on the date marking the anniversary of Heliodor Świącicki's funeral so that they could take part in a ceremonial church service gathering Poznań's elites. Świącicki was the founder and the first rector of the University. For many years, even after the war, rectors opening an academic year followed the tradition of reciting passages from his opening speech of 7 May 1919. Unquestionably, his merits for the University have never been matched.



He was both respected and beloved. He never left Poznań despite attractive offers from the Jagiellonian University. According to his biographers, he participated in or somehow influenced all the significant events that occurred in Poznań in the years surrounding the turn of the twentieth century. First as a doctor, the profession he chose following in his deceased father's footsteps. Having fini-

shed a secondary school in Śrem, he began his studies in Wrocław. Heliodor was a hard worker. At the age of 23 he obtained his doctor qualification and passed the state qualification exam with a very high grade. He wrote at that time: *those who live but for themselves, get stuck in their own concerns and sorrows, while it follows clearly from the development of social life that an individual's role is to become use-*

# first Rector

*ful for others.* He specialised in gynecology with achievements including development of an innovative device for birth anaesthesia, later applied throughout Europe. He set up his own clinic in the Działyńskich Palace, where he moved after his marriage to Helena Dąbwska, but at the same time (without publicity) took a regular care of some low-income families. His support was not limited to medical matters, but involved general assistance, particularly in financing education of talented poor children. He understood well that poverty cannot be eradicated with philanthropy but with the removal of its root causes. Some time later he introduced an innovative infant care system for disadvantaged mothers, with nurses visiting the women at their homes or seeking a substitute family, if necessary. It was him who united over 70 different charity associations of the Wielkopolska region to ensure that aid is provided in a more efficient way.

He believed that all doctors are obliged to develop their scientific skills. Świącicki endowed a room, microscopes and a library to be used for the purposes of the Medical Department of the Poznań Society for the Advancement of the Arts and Sciences (pol. PTPN). Some time later, while co-financing the construction of a new PTPN building, he made sure that adequate room is provided for doctors' research. During the partition period he maintained strong ties with doctors from all over Poland by organising medical congresses in Poznań. It was also him who established "Nowiny Lekarskie", a magazine that soon became the most important of all Polish medical periodicals.

In recognition of his scientific achievements, the Prussian authorities conferred him with the title of a professor (quite a rarity at that time) and the Jagiellonian University honoured him with the Doctorate Honoris Causa. In 1919 Świącicki was hastily appointed professor of the Poznań University medical department, which may seem strange as the department was not there yet. But such was the formal requirement for him to be elected rector. He was since elected five times in a row until his death.

Świącicki was a member of the Poznań Society for the Advancement of the Arts and Sciences. After becoming the chair of the organisation in 1915, he gave it a new impetus by appointing scientific committees and ensuring that their members are of high scientific level. He was one of the first to perceive PTPN as a seed of a real Polish university. Heading the Scientific Lecture Society, which was established on his initiative, he conducted regular university-type courses. Interestingly, they were given separately for men and women. He selected carefully his collaborators, not afraid to choose young people, to form the University Committee charged with a secret task of preparing the structure of the future university. The committee gathered openly on 9 November 1918, and on 30 January 1919 the Faculty of Philosophy was officially established. Intensive preparatory works, first of all to complete the teaching staff, began even before the frontiers of the free Polish State were set. It was crucial to find highly qualified teachers in spite of the competition from other institutions to prevent the University from lowering its level and to discourage all

those who might have hoped for the young University to set lower standards for its staff and students. On the opening day, 21 faculties were fully staffed with such prominent figures as Stanisław Pigoń, Roman Pollak, Jan Sajdak, Stanisław Bystrzyński, Zdzisław Krygowski, Alfred Denizot. Arranging for offices and classrooms was also a struggle. The first rector took this tremendous challenge with all his energy and passion, using his personal contacts and personal charm.

Wealthy as he was, Świącicki supported the University with his own money. In the Prussian-controlled part of Poland he was the only person to be classed (for voting purposes) in the highest income category. He multiplied his fortune with successful real estate investments. Making use of personal contacts he managed to purchase land cheaply. That would have not brought him much esteem but for the fact that he sold the land to Polish buyers only and was generous in supporting the needy, while himself living without luxury. There is a well known story of prof. Adam Wrzosek's complaining one day about the lack of funds to support one of the students. In response, Świącicki wrote a cheque. Wrzosek was sure it was for the sum needed, but much to his amazement he saw the amount of one million Polish marks, roughly a tenth of the whole Świącicki's wealth. In his last will he bequeathed all his property to the "Work and Study" Foundation established to support scientific research and provide assistance to talented students.

His last will is concluded with the following words: *May our beloved Poland live forever!* Indeed, he was a great patriot. As an eighteen-year-old boy he refused to go to the funeral of his sister, Ofelia, who died of poisoning in mysterious circumstances just two weeks after her wedding. He could not forgive her having got married to a German and a Protestant. He had his share of tragic experiences, too. Both his parents died the same year as Ofelia. His three brothers and sisters died in their childhood, while the only living sister, Wanda, cut off any contacts with him, disappointed with the distribution of their parents' property. Świącicki got married too late. He had no children and his wife, whom he loved very much, died suddenly after fifteen years of marriage. He was strongly religious. Among the writings preserved after his death is a moving prayer that of his authorship. He worked extremely hard. Despite all his administrative duties, he wrote over 200 articles. Some of them went beyond the area of medicine, e.g. texts on Maria Konopnicka, Eliza Orzeszkowa or Karol Marcinkowski. His first two, highly evaluated dissertations were published before he even finished his studies. One was on the physiology of frogs, the other related to the ancient podiatry and was based on the analysis of reference materials written in ancient Greek. He held this high spectrum of interest to the end of his life. Hence, his beautiful speeches or a surprising text on aesthetics in medicine where he argues that tidiness in hospital wards affect patients' health. *Some field hospitals and public health-care establishments look as shabby as if they wanted to communicate: this a place for the incurably sick.*

He died on 9 October 1923. Since 1946 he has rested in Skalka Poznańska in the vaults of St. Adalbert's Church.

**Maria Rybicka**

# Thee careers, one objective

# The founders

Out of the four founders of the University, Heliodor Świącicki was the only one to have the professor's degree in 1919. Philosopher Michał Sobeski (1877-1939) and archaeologist Józef Kostrzewski (1885-1969) had their doctorates, while linguist Stanisław Kozierowski (1874-1949) had not even obtained that degree. But what really mattered for the future rector while selecting his team, was patriotism and diligence, the traits that could be attributed to all his collaborators beyond any doubt. Within a couple of months the Organising Committee held as many as 26 meetings. The cooperation was smooth, with three of the members having already known one another from the Poznań Society for the Advancement of the Arts and Sciences (pol. PTPN). Let us have a look at the father founders' other achievements?

**Michał Sobeski**, is commonly associated with his books: "Thoughts and Marble" and "Exotic Art". Brought up in a landowners' family, he received the education of the kind typical for the Wielkopolska middle class. Having graduated from a secondary school he began his studies at German universities of Berlin, Munich and Leipzig. He also travelled to Italy, France and Egypt to pursue his scien-

tific purposes. In 1902 he completed his studies in chemistry (which he was not too enthusiastic about) and in 1903 defended his doctoral thesis in philosophy. Seven years later he obtained his post-doctorate degree. Sobeski became a dean of the Faculty of Philosophy at the newly opened Piast University. His research focused around the issues of aesthetics, history of philosophy and philosophy of art. He was a PTPN member, known also as a theatre reviewer and a poet publishing his works in national literary magazines. In 1939 Sobeski was interned by Germans in a transition camp in Ostrowiec Świętokrzyski, where he died.

**Stanisław Kozierowski** was born to a family of noble origin. To stress its high social status, his father, Florian, added a "von" before the surname. In 1899, after graduating from St. Mary Magdalene High School and taking his holy orders, Kozierowski began his clerical service among Polish emigrants in Westphalia. Back in Poland, he acquired an interest in archaeology, whereas his trip to the Holy Land and Syria made him reflect on the origins of languages. For the next fifty years he performed his clerical service in parishes all over the Wielkopolska

region (in 1929 he took up the parish of Winna Góra, where he died in 1949), all the time conducting his studies. His parishes knew him for the length of his sermons, which would take up to ninety minutes. Kozierowski's scientific interests concentrated on toponymy (geographical place-names), heraldry and history. Although PTPN had published many Kozierowski's works before 1919 and Heliodor Świącicki wanted him to become a head of the Faculty of Medieval History or the Faculty of Heraldry and Genealogy, his appointment was impossible for formal reasons, his academic degree being lower than required. Only in 1920 did he defend his post-doctoral thesis basing on his earlier publication concerning Lake Gopło. His best known study, developed at the request of prof. S. Pawłowski from the Faculty of Geography, was "Atlas of geographical names in Western Slavdom". The value of this monumental work may, however, be somewhat diminished by his arbitrary interpretation of the origins and forms of some, overly slavonicised, names. Kozierowski continued his work on the "Atlas" over the post-war period. Short before his death, he bestowed over 10,000 books on the Poznań-based National Archives.



University power insignia

## Religion and antiquity

The AMU insignia include the sceptre, the rector's chain (held in a glass cabinet in the rector's office) and the ring. In the early 1920s, Adam Wrzosek, one of the distinguished professors of Poznań University and its keen chronicler, made the following note in the "University Chronicle": "...Rector Świącicki put his righteous and fortunate hand to almost everything around, which included also the procurement of splendid, silver and gold-plated University insignia made by a first-class artist, professor Jan Wysocki, consisting of a sceptre, a rector's chain, and five deans' chains. He also saw to the purchase of University gowns, and a large seal also to be made by Jan Wysocki..."

In their symbols and appearance Poznań University insignia draw on the French tradition, often referred to by universities of Central Europe following the example of the Jagiellonian University. The tradition stems from the ancient and Christian roots of the European civilisation. The sceptre, an obvious symbol of power, is also associated with the medieval ritual of knighting. The one to which Wrzosek refers in his chronicle was destroyed, probably during the war. Therefore, a wooded, gold-plated copy was used in the following years. The ring of 29,61 grams, resembling bishop's jewellery, symbolises the commitment, in this case the commitment to the University. Engraved on it is an



Michał Sobeski



Stanisław Kozierowski



Józef Kostrzewski

Unlike his three sedate collaborators, Józef Kostrzewski's life, especially in his youth, was a boisterous kind of a story. He was born to a lower income family in Węglewo near Pobiedziska. In his early years there was little to promise a scientific career. He passed his final secondary exam only at the age of 22 as he had not been promoted to a higher form on five occasions (!) at schools in Ostrów Wielkopolski and Gniezno. The boy seemed to be distracted from learning by his involvement in patriotic organisations. The young Józef was also at conflict with his parents who wanted him to enter a clerical se-

minary. Instead, he started medical studies in Wrocław, recognising the utilitarian nature of the doctor's profession. Again, however, he spent most of his time on secret activities. Following his detainment at the Warsaw congress of the National Philomath Society, he decided to quit medicine to begin historical studies in Cracow. He defended his doctoral thesis in Berlin under the direction of prof. Gustav Kossina, whom he was soon to challenge in the famous scientific and ideological polemic. As a strong supporter of the indigenous theory, he promoted the view - which we now know to be wrong - that the an-

cient settlement of Biskupin, where he was conducting his archaeological studies, had been dwelled by proto-Slavic people. This opinion, then in line with public expectations, brought him widespread fame but also put him in great danger during the World War Two. Afraid of his life and officially qualified as a Third Reich enemy, Kostrzewski stayed in hiding under false name throughout the Occupation period outside Wielkopolska. Back in Poznań he continued his scientific activity to be granted Doctorate Honoris Causa in 1965.

**Ewa Woźnińska**

eagle on a shield with two maces crossed behind it.

The plates on the rector's chain depict the coat of arms of Poznań, linked with a styled plaque featuring the Piast eagle, and six shields with figures from antiquity. According to prof. dr. hab. Sylwester Dworacki, who took the effort of deciphering their identities, the ancient ladies are: Athena holding Nike, (Faculty of Humanities), Urania looking at the sky (Faculty of Life Sciences), Demeter with a sickle in her right hand and a sheaf of grain in the left one (Faculty of Agriculture and Forestry), Themis holding a sword and scales (Faculty of Law and Economics), and a female figure of uncertain identity with tablets of Dekalogue

and a crucifix (Faculty of Theology). Exceptional in this feminine company is the symbol of the Faculty of Medicine, that is Asclepius holding a staff with a snake twined around it.

In the first years following the war, the insignia were not applied. What the Communist authorities disliked most was the traditional setting of the academic year opening ceremonies, which was thought to bear too much resemblance to church services. The gowns being worn by rectors and deans were not approved of either. Therefore, until the "Thaw" of 1956, the University officials put on suits instead of gowns and ermine wraps.

At present, the insignia and gowns are held in the Rectorate.

**Ewa Woźnińska**



# They held the sceptre of the University

The AMU Rector's office is decorated with portraits of the University head officials. We are guided from one portrait to another by prof. Stanisław Lorenc, a former AMU rector himself, telling us the story of his predecessors.

Over the 90 years of its activity Adam Mickiewicz University has seen a round number 30 rectors. Historically, the position implied different scopes of responsibility. At first, rectors were elected for a period of one year, those stepping down from their office were appointed vice-rectors (prorektor). Notably exceptional in that context were prof. Heliodor Świącicki's five successive terms in office. As a matter of tradition, the rector's chair is handed over to a professor of a different faculty. For that reason, prof. Stanisław Pawłowski, a distinguished geographer (died in Fort VII, Nazi extermination camp, during the war), surrendered the office to Stanisław Runge on his second election, although his decision was also affected by strong political tensions of that time.

Meaningfully, the young University has been headed by relatively young rectors - men in their forties, except for Heliodor Świącicki. It was to them, notwithstanding other factors, that Poznań University came to be recognised at that time for its vitality, organisational muscle and innovation.

For all the prestige associated with the rector's position, most important decisions were taken by the Senate. Professors in charge of particular faculties also enjoyed a large degree of independence.

The last rector of the pre-war period was Stefan Dąbrowski, elected already for a three-year term. But his tenure never started, as the war broke out in September 1939. This very month saw the establishment of the Poznań University Council led by Bronisław Niklewski, professor of natural science. On 21 September the University was seized by Gestapo troops.

Next in line are the portraits of two professors who did not have a chance to wear their rector's insignia: educationalist Ludwik Jaxa-Bykowski and historian of Polish literature Roman Pollak. They wrote one of the most illustrious chapters in the history of the University in the times it had to go underground to become the Secret University of Western Lands, operating mostly in the Małopolska region where Poznań professors were displaced. Prof. Michał Sobieski, one of the four founders of that institution, got seriously sick suffering from asthma and the hardships of the transition camp where he was sent. He died in Ostrowiec Świętokrzyski far away from home. Regrettably, his burial place has never been found. Teaching and studying was prohibited and threatened by death. And yet many young people decided to study and take their exams, and many academic teachers gave lectures and continued their research.

Right after the war Stefan Dąbrowski was re-elected to become the first post-war rector, and the fifteenth altogether. During his term was not an easy one. On 13 May 1946 a group of students was arrested following a manifestation held against the authorities' decision to prohibit the celebration of the anniversary of the Constitution of May 3. The matter required utmost diplomacy. The rector needed to protect and calm down the students, he could not do it all expense, and he had to prevent the University from losing its moral authority and independence. Dąbrowski did not complete his term, he was forced to resign after having allowed a students' Catholic organisation to hold a meeting on the University premises.

The next two rectors were Kazimierz Ajdukiewicz, a renowned logician, and Jerzy Suszko, chemist. During Ajdukiewicz's tenure the University was divided to establish three new academies of agricultural sciences, economics and medicine. Suszko has become famous, among other things, for his comment on the introduction of compulsory Russian language: "You need to learn your enemy's language". It is during his rectorate that the University was named after Adam Mickiewicz.

Next to follow was a well-known constitutionalist, prof. Alfons Klafkowski, who mana-





ged to annex the building of Collegium Iuridicum back to the University. Then came the "historians' era" with Gerard Labuda, distinguished professor of medieval studies, now the oldest living professor of our University and prof. Czesław Łuczak, historian of economy. Both of them laid the groundwork of the College of Rectors of the City of Poznań, an institution of great importance, which was not particularly welcome by the authorities, as it united and strengthened the academic community.

In 1972-1981 the rector's office was held by prof. Benon Miśkiewicz, the longest presiding of all AMU rectors. It was him who first proposed to make a university campus on the city outskirts, the idea well received by the central authorities who wanted to move the rebellious academic youths away from the city centre where "a socialist university of Poznań" could be established.

The first rector to be elected in fully democratic elections was sociologist Janusz Ziółkowski. His nomination in 1981 was enthusiastically received by the academic community. He embarked on the struggle to re-establish the academia's autonomy, but retained his office only for several months, after which he was replaced by externally appointed professor of law Zbigniew Radwański. The winner of the 1984 elections was prof. Jerzy Fedorowski, paleozoologist and Solidarity activist, openly expressing his anti-government views. The authorities did not approve of that candidate and it was physicist prof. Franciszek Kaczmarek, who took the office. He is best known for his participation in the laser construction project at the Faculty of Physics. One year later anglicist prof. Jacek Fisiak, came to begin his rectorate after having been elected and politically approved. He contributed strongly to the high reputation of Poznań School of English but also came to be known for his controversial practice of dismissing academics of little scholarly achievement, which at that time was a problem of all higher education institutions. Following his nomination as Minister of Education, Fisiak was replaced by prof. Bogdan Marciniak, rector of the breakthrough period. It was during his term that Collegium Histori-

cum was moved to the former provincial headquarters of Polish United Workers' Party, of all places.

In 1990 Jerzy Fedorowski was elected again, this time to keep his office for next six years. His term saw the establishment of KRUP, the Conference of Rectors of Polish Universities. The idea was conceived in China, during his official journey with prof. Michał Seweryński, then Vice-Minister of Education. Fedorowski's challenge was to make the University less politically-oriented, to implement provisions of the new Higher Education Act, and to refocus the University's activity to match the new realities. He was also the father founder of Collegium Polonicum in Słubice, a fresh and pertinent initiative that played an important role in strengthening the Polish-German relationships which were then being redefined. Then, prof. Stefan Jurga, was elected to be the next AMU rector. During his six-year tenure he showed efficacy and extraordinary managerial skills in rais-

ing funds for the fast-growing Morasko Campus. He took a lot of effort to make the University even more modern and more closely associated with the Wielkopolska community. His achievements include the incorporation of the Faculty of Theology and the establishment of Collegium Europaeum Gnesense in Gniezno.

"There is no way to enumerate all the merits of every single rector, but each of them made his significant contribution to the development of the University", concludes Lorenc, UAM rector in 2002-2008. During his time in office the AMU recorded the largest number of 55,000 students. Due to numerous construction projects that were either being finished or begun in that period, Jurga used to say that rector's insignia, apart from the chain and sceptre, include a trowel and a safety helmet. On 1 October 2008 chemist prof. Bronisław Marciniak, started the new term of office as the 30<sup>th</sup> rector of Adam Mickiewicz University.

**Maria Rybicka**



# Anniversaries not always celebrated

In the past, our University has not been very lucky with its jubilees. It seems that whenever there was an anniversary approaching, some independent factors, be it war or a national exhibition, got in the way to prevent the celebration. Let us a look at the past jubilees, the ones that were actually held and those never celebrated.

## Before the war

**5<sup>th</sup> anniversary:** It was rather inappropriate to have fun on that day in view of Heliodor Święcicki's death. The funeral ceremony gathered thousands of people and became the opportunity to support the idea of the University.

**10<sup>th</sup> anniversary:** The occasion coincides with the 10<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Wielkopolska Uprising that caught most of Poznań's attention: "The University participated actively in a variety of public and church ceremonies, also those related to the arrival of the President and other prominent statesmen", wrote Edward Lubicz-Niezabitowski. On his initiative, the Provincial Council announced a money-raising campaign to finance the purchase of radium for the surgical clinic (the professors decided to appropriate 1% of their salaries to this purpose). Due to the General National Exhibition (that was being held in the city at that time attracting 4.5 million visitors within two weeks) the University closed the academic year on 30 April, that is one week before the date of the anniversary.

**15<sup>th</sup> anniversary:** "Poznań University has none of the old-time majesty of the Jagiellonian University in Cracow or the Jan Kazimierz University in Lviv, nor does it pride itself on the old patents of the Stefan Batory University in Vilnius or modern facilities of the Józef Piłsudski University in Warsaw. But despite its young age (...) it has a great ambition to participate in the noble competition of academic institutions", said one of the vice-rectors explaining partially why there was no jubilation on that occasion. The year 1934 was a difficult time for the University with ten of its faculties recently closed.

## The war

**20- i 25-lecie:** No anniversary celebrations were held.

## After the war

**40<sup>th</sup> anniversary:** Rector Alfons Klafkowski concluded shortly: "We do not treat this 40<sup>th</sup> anniversary as a jubilee but rather as an opportunity to look back at what we have done for all these years".

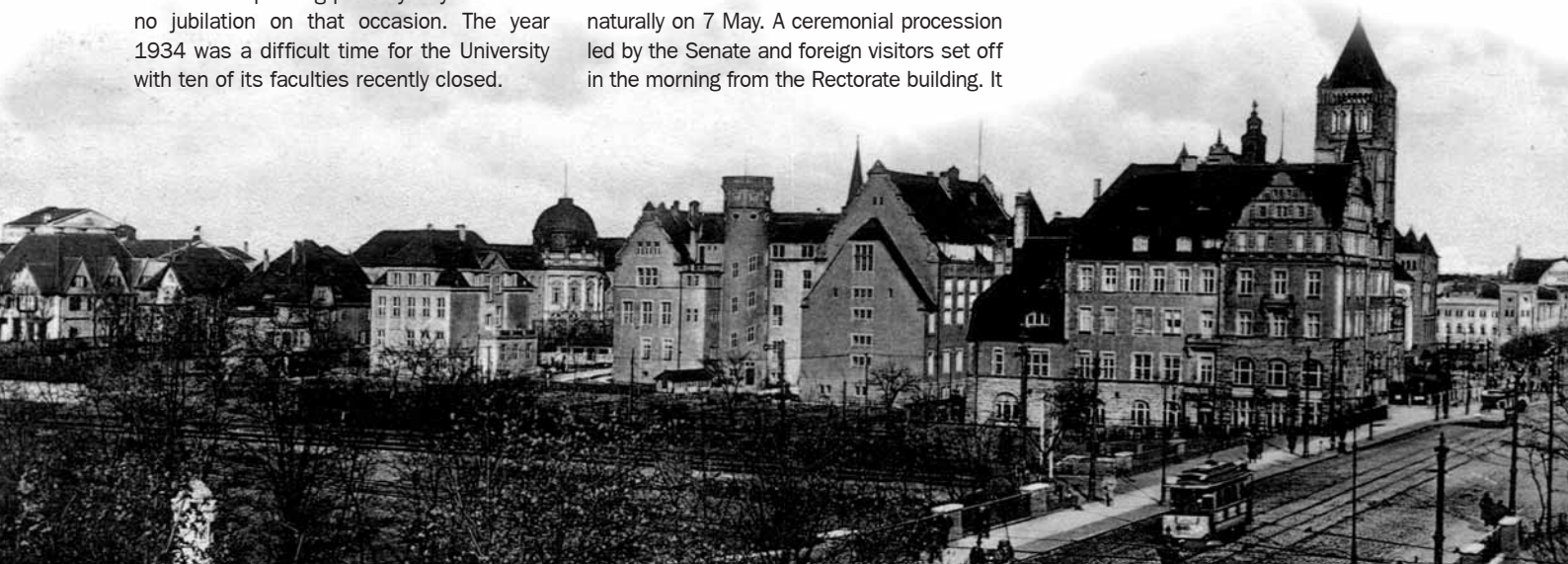
**45<sup>th</sup> anniversary:** In their occasional speeches the officials stressed mainly that the date referred also to the University's twentieth year in the People's Republic of Poland.

**50<sup>th</sup> anniversary:** A real jubilee at last! Already in March 1967, the Senate appointed a Jubilee Committee led by prof. Gerard Labuda. On its first meeting the Committee decided on dates for scientific sessions and other events, and convened the Executive Committee under direction of the rector, prof. Czesław Łuczak. In October, the Prime Minister Marian Spychalski accepted the position of the Chairman of the Honorary Jubilee Committee. Long before the actual celebrations a mobile exhibition called "50 years of the Poznań University" was displayed in Wielkopolska towns, e.g. Jarocin and Kalisz, reaching as far as Koszalin province. To raise the awareness of its crucial role in the development of the city, the University organised meetings with Poznań's working class.

The central celebrations in 1969 r. started naturally on 7 May. A ceremonial procession led by the Senate and foreign visitors set off in the morning from the Rectorate building. It

was accompanied by a military orchestra and crowds of watchers. Visitors included delegations from Kharkiv, Donetsk, Halle, Louvain, Liege, Moscow, Vienna, Sofia, Strasbuorg, Paris, Tibilisi, Wilnius and Heidelberg, and rectors of numerous local and national academic institutions. The procession goes down the Stalinigradzka avenue (now Świętego Marcina street) through the 27. Grudnia street, Wolności Square and Paderewskiego street up to the Old Town Square. Prof. Zbigniew Jasicki, Head of the College of Rectors (rector of the Poznań Technical University) gave a speech from the stairs of the City Hall. Then came the speeches of Marian Spychalski and Gerard Labuda, who stressed that the history of Poznań university goes back to 1519 and the Lubrański Academy.

In the afternoon the celebrations were moved to the University auditorium. The event was given a wide radio and TV coverage. Among honorary visitors were the last living founder of the University, prof. Kostrzewski, and the rector of the wartime secret University of the Western Lands, historian of literature prof. Roman Pollak. The occasion was also used to grant doctorates honoris causa. On the following day the awarded scholars gave lectures to different faculties. Occasional awards were also presented to prof. Roman Pollak and prof. Jerzy Suszko. The celebrations were complemented with a number of conferences and sport events. The University received a great number of official congratulations and small gifts, including Xawery Dunikowski's sculpture featuring Adam Mickiewicz.



When the ceremonies drew to a close, the rector expressed his thanks to the employees. The University authorities "sent also their thanks to the nice-looking, smiling, and polite academic youth", who participated in the celebrations, including by performing their duties in the Student Public-Order Service. "Of note is substantial assistance of the army, owing to which high quality telephone and radio communication was provided during the celebrations".

**60<sup>th</sup> anniversary:** Celebrations were modest and limited to a special AMU Senate meeting on 8 May 1979. Rector Benon Miśkiewicz explained that it was related to the economic downturn.

**70<sup>th</sup> anniversary:** "This was by all means an unusual year", commented rector Bogdan Marciniec on the political breakthrough of 1989. "The idea behind the AMU's 70th anniversary celebrations was to present its legacy and prospects for real development". The celebrations, opened with a concert of the "Amadeus" chamber orchestra, were held on 7-10 May. A general rectors' assembly of Poznań academic institutions took place on 8 May. Accompanying events included a wreath-laying ceremony to honour the merited University professors, an award ceremony, the establishment of the Graduate Association, some sport events, concerts, and the exhibition entitled "Poznań University 1919-1989".

### **85<sup>th</sup> anniversary "In tribute to our Ancestors"**

This time, in order to enhance its regional character, part of the celebrations were held in the home towns of four members of the Organising Committee of 1919. Apart from Poznań itself, the anniversary was celebrated in Trzemeszno, where Stanisław Kozierowski's memory was honoured on 7 May. The ceremony held next day in the village of Węglewo, where Józef Kostrzewski came from, was of a less formal nature. Along with an open-air party and the 1st AMU Friends' Cycling Rally, spoilt a little by bad weather conditions, a so called "scientific picnic" was organised by the Faculty of Chemistry and Physics. The May celebrations were crowned with a session devoted to Heliodor Święcicki, held in his home town of Śrem. In Poznań visitors were offered the chance to visit the part of the University where normally students have no access, for example the offices of the Rectorate. The last stage of the jubilee was the autumn meeting in Pleszew, Michał Sobieski's birthplace.

**Ewa Woźnińska**

# 300 years... inherited

A birthday is a special occasion, a perfect opportunity to take a family picture with close relatives, descendants and ancestors standing at the back... There it is: the University, a central figure in the Poznań academic family. Indeed, it all began with the University.

Until recently the formal beginning was believed to be marked by the opening ceremony of 1919 with Heliodor Święcicki's, University's first rector's, memorable message: "beware of the drabness of life deprived of the moments of great sunshine and great love". It turned out, however, not a long time ago, that the roots of the Poznań University go down much deeper and there are much more than 90 years to celebrate.

## New heritage

The University is 300 years older than previously believed! Thus, 2011 will see its 400 birthday. This follows from the findings of prof. Zygmunt Boras from the AMU Institute of History. Encouraged by Rector Stefan Jurga's intuition, Boras searched the archives the Vatican, the Jagiellonian University, the Archdiocese, and the Archives of Historical Records to find documents that proved to be crucial for establishing the origins of the University.

Zygmunt Boras, a modern history and historical methodology expert, used these sources to draw up a historical outline of Poznań's academic institutions, adopting an entirely new perspective. His work was not meant to demonstrate that the Jesuit College in Poznań was granted a university status, as this fact had already been proved in earlier studies based on archival research. What distinguished his study was a new approach to the hierarchy of events.

Boras discovered an original record of a royal privilege in Acta Episcopalia held in Poznań Archiepiscopal Archives, including the following passage:

*- We Sigismund by the Grace of God King of Poland, Grand Duke of Lithuania, Russia, Prussia, Masovia, Semigotia and Livonia; Hereditary King of the Swedes, Goths, and Vandals, make known by these presents... Hence, for the benefit of ourselves and our State, and above all for the glory of the Catholic faith, we promote the Poznań College of the Society of Jesus, with its happiness and auspiciousness in mind, to the status of Academy and University with privileges and powers equal to those exercised by the other Academies and Universities, in particular the Cracow Academy that was founded and supported*

*by our deceased ancestor Władysław Jagiełło. By way of this letter we confer such entitlements and authorisations as may be necessary for the professors of the Society of Jesus in this Academy, that we hereby found and establish, to avail themselves of the same rights and privileges as those granted by our ancestors to other professors in our Kingdom. Accordingly, bachelors, masters and doctors in all such arts and sciences as theology, metaphysics, physics, mathematics and logics (with the exception of the science of law and the art of medicine) should, in accordance with the principles and practice of other Academies, be appointed, promoted and assigned, after having been awarded a degree, by virtue of the same rights as those freely exercised in other Academies of our Kingdom, in particular that of Cracow...*

This royal privilege, which has never been officially withdrawn, conferred upon Poznań the authority similar to that granted some time earlier to Cracow (which claimed its rights to be exclusive). The University had the right to award academic degrees, was exempted of taxes and other duties.

Indeed, Poznań was an important centre of academic life at that time with a student population of 1,000. Jesuits compiled a huge library by the standards of that period. In the early 17th century it comprised around 10,000 volumes, with 90 new books added every year. The potential was sufficient to build a university exceeding in size that of Vilnius...

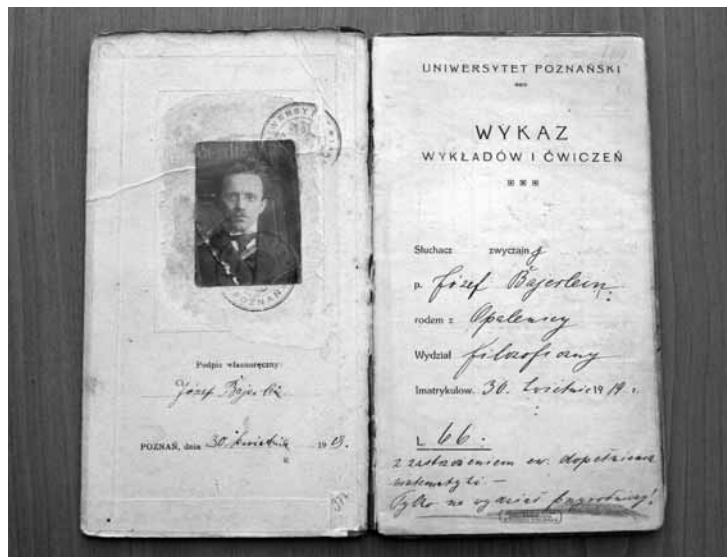
But that was not to be the case. The development of the University was put to an end following the suppression of the Jesuit Order. Efforts to re-establish the University of Wielkopolska basing on the former Jesuit estates (which used to include a quarter of the Old Town: from the College buildings through what is called today Garbary to the banks of the Warta River). The equipment was taken over by the Cracow Academy and Warsaw, some of it confiscated by Swedish invaders...

Nevertheless, the documentary record is there to testify that the history of Poznań University, perhaps not in terms of a formal institution, but certainly as a community of scientists, scholars and students is longer than previously believed. Longer by 300 years!

**Jolanta Lenartowicz**

# Past and Present

The oldest preserved University student-book belonged to Józef Bajerlein from Opalenica. It was issued on 30 April 1919. Józef Bajerlein enrolled for the Faculty of Mathematics and Life Sciences. The student-book contains signatures of such scientific celebrities as Józef Kostrzewski (archaeologist, one of the University founders), Zdzisław Krygowski (mathematician, teacher of the cryptoanalysts of the Enigma), or Stanisław Bystron (ethnographer). We find out from the document that Bajerlein took courses in Geology, Psychology, Theory of Physical Education, Anatomy, Ethnology, and Geography of the Baltic Region. We can also see the stamps proving that he paid his tuition, seminar fees, library access fee, medical and social insurance. He received his certificate of completion on 2 March 1926.



Currently, student-books are still in a paper form, but very soon they will be replaced by plastic cards. There are much more subjects than in Bajerlein's times and there are grades, earlier not entered into student-books so as to make universities different from lower-level schools in this respect. A modern student ID serves also as a library card, with many more functions to be added in the future.



The first directory of Poznań University academics was a thin booklet, although most of their names there included were of prominent representatives of Polish arts and sciences. In September 1920 the budding University had 2,000 students, 100 professors, 8 lecture rooms, and 94 seminar rooms.

Now, with the Adam Mickiewicz University being the largest employer in the region, the directory of its employees and departments has nearly 500 pages, while the number of students has risen twentyfold.





The old Zeiss telescope in the astronomical observatory at Słoneczna street is still operational. The University has been using it for 90 years, now for educational and promotional purposes only. It was brought from the Władysław Szaniawski observatory in Przegalin near Radzyń, where this amateur astronomer built a palace with an observatory tower. His modern equipment was later taken over by several universities. The discovery of the Posnania asteroid of 1946 was done by means of this very telescope.



In 1986, Gerd Binnig and Heinrich Rohrer were awarded Noble Prize for their design of a scanning tunnelling microscope. It employed an observation method that opened a new stage in research. The microscope generates an image of a surface with the resolution capacity of a single atom, with the accuracy of a fraction of a nanometre. It is an indispensable instrument of nanotechnology. This type of microscope (STM/AFM) is currently used by AMU researchers.



The University Library head's office has been preserved in its original form since 1919. The interior is impressive and majestic, with a double door and thick walls ensuring peace and quiet in the noisy city centre. The present head of the Library, Artur Jazdon, has purposefully given up using a PC. He switched to a laptop so that he can put it away in any time not to spoil the atmosphere of the historical room.



The dean's office in the Faculty of Political Sciences and Journalism strikes with its functionality. Spacious drawers are no longer needed with all the information stored in a computer. His chair is made to the requirements of ergonomics and work with a monitor rather than show prestige.

Done by Maria Rybicka

# Strategy for the University

"Difficult times are coming up", said rector Bronisław Marciniak at the beginning of the new academic year. "All the universities are facing hard challenges, including demographic depression, increased competitiveness in the educational and research market (both in Poland and abroad) or the need to enhance the international dimension of the educational process. Intuitive solutions are no longer sufficient. The management system is bound to be divided to reflect both the strategic and current objectives. Thus, the first essential task for the Rector's team is to develop the strategy for the University development in the period 2009-2019.

After several months of hard work the team has delivered some remarkable results:

- First, we developed a preliminary SWOT analysis containing an objective appraisal of the strengths and weaknesses of our University, as well as the chances and threats for our activity. Building on that report, we set four strategic objectives, including some key operating targets, and identified specific actions: who does what?; when?; how can we measure the results?; how can we finance the implementation? This document will be subject to broad public consultation. Its main goals are as follows:

## STRATEGIC GOAL 1 Top level RESEARCH

Specific measures to be taken in this area are meant to result in harmonised development of particular academic disciplines, based on the principle of academic freedom, as well as to support staff career development so that particular departments could achieve the highest academic levels and strengthen the interdisciplinary dimension of their research (e.g. by overcoming barriers between particular disciplines through identification of common grounds and establishment of research te-

ams, and development of interdisciplinary research centres).

These steps should lead to internationalisation of research activity by improved international exchange of researchers, better efficiency in acquisition of foreign financing, participation in global trouble-shooting process, and increase in the number of international publications.

Effective use of the University research infrastructure requires appropriate organisational measures, e.g. taking stock of and regular update of the available research facili-

## 90 years old but still full of vigour

Today, Adam Mickiewicz University is the joy and pride of nearly 2,800 academics, including 318 professors, 450 habilitated doctors (post-doctorate degree), and 1,518 doctors, as well as nearly 47,000 students of full-time and extramural studies. AMU comprises 14 faculties (including one in Kalisz), College of Foreign Languages in Poznań, Collegium Polonicum in Ślubice, Collegium Europaeum Gnesnense in Gniezno, and other external departments - in Kościan, Wągrowiec Śrem, Ostrów Wielkopolski and Piła. The Faculty of Theology, based in Poznań, has its branches in the towns of Bydgoszcz, Gniezno, Kalisz, Kazimierz Biskupi, Obra, Wronki.

### The University's teaching and research facilities include:

> 193,767 sq. metres of classrooms, lecture rooms and laboratories,

> 1,694 seats available in libraries encompassing the total of 4 million volumes, magazines and electronic archives excluded,

> 2,000 computers made available to students.

AMU is not only the source of innovative social initiatives in the Wielkopolska region and beyond, but also a starting point for the career of future social elites.

The 14 faculties and other departments offer 47 courses.

Students may choose between 180 possible professional specialisations. The University gathers one third of Poznań's academic staff and nearly half of Poznań's higher education students. With its versatile curriculum, it fulfils well its remit of *universitas magistrorum et scholarum*. In recent years the educational offer has become increasingly diverse. As social and economic conditions change, new courses and specialisations are being provided to meet the needs of both the University itself and the environment where it operates. New educational projects include: integrated studies in humanities, natural sciences, social sciences, and programmes carried out in cooperation with other institutions both in Poland and abroad.

The University is also an Alma Mater that gave birth to other academic institutions of Poznań:

- KAROL MARCINKOWSKI MEDICAL ACADEMY, now University of Medical Sciences,
- EUGENIUSZ PIASECKI ACADEMY OF PHYSICAL EDUCATION,
- AUGUST CIESZKOWSKI ACADEMY OF AGRICULTURE, now University of Life Sciences.

Jolanta Lenartowicz

ties, enlargement of the existing library and ICT systems, and creation of a database of physical and electronic resources for the social, cultural and research-related purposes. This should be accompanied by the implementation of a system for protection and use of intellectual property rights.

## STRATEGIC GOAL 2

### High quality EDUCATION

In this respect, it is necessary to put in place an internal quality control system, strengthen the rules of organisation and programming at the three levels of studies, raise teaching competences, diversify and widen of the range of courses offered by introduction of inter-faculty studies, interdisciplinary studies, macrocourses, unique courses, etc.

The strategy should also focus on promotion of life-long learning, new technologies, and adjustment of the education processes and conditions to the needs of the disabled.

These efforts will be accompanied by measures aimed at shaping the graduate's profile, understood as adapting graduates' skills and competences to the needs of the society and labour market, supporting student sport and cultural activities, and raising students' degree of independence by putting a stronger emphasis on the idea of self-stu-

dy and personalised teaching process. The way to achieve this objective is by development of students' associations.

The report also points at the need to internationalise the teaching process by increasing the number of courses in foreign languages, encouraging students' and teachers' mobility, and developing joint study programmes with foreign universities. This has to be coupled with modernisation of the teaching infrastructure, including ICT, sport and cultural activities and disabled-friendly facilities.

## STRATEGIC GOAL 3

### Opening of the AMU

This goal is meant to strengthen the University's culture-animating role in the region. The way to achieve this is through enhanced promotion of education, making the University infrastructure available for cultural, artistic and sport events, and providing patronage for artistic initiatives. The intended opening of the AMU to the needs and educational aspirations of the local and regional community is to be accomplished by interaction with the public educational system, stronger involvement of external branches, and closer cooperation with scientific, cultural and technical associations (including Poznań Society for the Advancement of the Arts and Sciences).

Transfer of knowledge to the economy, co-operation with companies and the labour market, and support for the enterprise are the requirements to be met in order to make the University more responsive to the needs of the knowledge-based economy.

The goals in this area also comprise strengthening ties with graduates and intensified cooperation with the municipal and regional authorities.

## STRATEGIC GOAL 4

### Professional MANAGEMENT

The above-listed numerous and wide-scale tasks may only be performed by a well managed organisation. Therefore, it is necessary to draw up and implement the AMU Development Strategy for 2009-2019. This has to go in pair with a more democratic management system, adaptation of the structure of particular departments to AMU statutory requirements, and efficient brand and image management.

Stronger stress has to be put on the central and departmental administration's work efficacy. The administration process should be restructured into HR management, which in turn requires improvement of the University financial management and infrastructure development.

Done by Jolanta Lenartowicz



# Morasko

## - University's new face

According to Jacek Buszkiewicz, a well known architect and designer of the Faculty of Chemistry building, the Morasko Campus is unique in its kind. It exceeds all other campuses in terms of size, growth rate and the number of science departments.



Initially, the University buildings were planned to be located in the city centre, along the Niepodległości avenue. But in the 1970s it was already clear that there was too little space there and the University officials came up with an idea of moving the whole facility to the outskirts of Poznań. The idea was welcome by the political authorities who, following the stormy spring of 1968, would rather see the disobedient University and its students away from the city centre.

Marcelin and Strzeszyn were then considered as possible locations, but Morasko proved to be the final choice. The original plans were very ambitious and included even the AMU Rectorate to be moved to the new location by 2000. But the reality proved very different. Money and building materials were hard to come by, as almost anything in those times. Nothing was done except for reinforcing the ground and laying foundations for the Faculty of Physics building. The year 1987 saw the construction of... a telephone

switchboard. Today, it is held in a single small room, but then it required a large building, which is now used to accommodate AMU archives. The Technical Service Office was also erected, later used as a hotel for the workers employed by the construction project.

This very building, said not to have a single straight-line wall, became a cornerstone of the campus. It is where the Institute of Geology was transferred to in 1990 after having been evicted from its former headquarters by a private landlord.

In the 1990s the construction project was accelerated, as a piece-by-piece strategy was adopted depending on availability of resources. Soon afterwards, much to the relief of the local authorities, the project was included into the national investment programme. All that considered, the buildings of the Faculty of Physics and the Faculty of Geographical and Geological Science were completed much later than originally planned. Another, and quite unexpected, obstacle was the

approach of the scholars themselves. Nobody - except for physicists - wanted to move to the new premises, which may seem surprising now, when all the staff cannot wait to move to the campus site.

A design of every single department was selected by competition. During the designing process, architects cooperated closely with the future users. All the buildings, varied as they are, have some common traits, yellow bricks of different proportion being their distinguishing feature.

Every faculty has its unique characteristics: Physics - Foucault's Pendulum and intriguing works of modern art in the halls; Mathematics - closed spaces where difficult mathematic problems can be solved in privacy; Biology - exotic plants in the halls, Geographical and Geological Sciences - a glass dome; Political Sciences and Journalism - a fountain in the backyard. The building of the Faculty of Mathematics designed by Jerzy Gurawski was awarded "for a disciplined composition into the surrounding landscape" at an architectural contest in 2003. The Morasko Campus comprises also a gym and a swimming pool, which is regarded as one of the best in Poznań.

There are six faculty buildings already in use and the sixth one - for the Faculty of Chemistry - growing. All included, the campus covers 116,000 square metres of indoor area surrounded by 200 ha of a beautiful park. The benefits of these impressive facilities may be demonstrated if only by the fact the Faculty of Physics, as the only one in Poland, does not have any problems recruiting students, whereas the Faculty of Biology in its new location has received more academic grants than any other AMU department.

The Campus attracts new investment; it is where the Wielkopolska Centre of Advanced Technologies and the Inter-University Nanobiomedical Centre are planned to be located. "Soon, it will simply become an academic district" says Stanisław Wachowiak, UAM chancellor, who knows only too well the turbulent history of the campus.

**Maria Rybicka**

# Active, fit and sporty

Just like the University, the Academic Sports Union (pol. AZS) is celebrating its 90<sup>th</sup> birthday. The organisation was founded on 5 November 1919. After the war it resumed its activity as one central union and a number of individual AZSs operating in all Poznań's academic institutions.

Before the war the Academic Sports Union, led by Adam Meissner, was well known for its sports facilities at Noskowskiego street. In winter water used to poured over the pitch to serve as a skating rink open to the public. Next to it, was an electrically lighted ice-hockey rink. In 1929 funds raised from entrance tickets were used to build eight high quality tennis courts. With the building materials imported from England, the courts soon became a country-wide attraction. At that time AZS operated the sections of ice hockey, basketball, athletics, skiing, fencing, football and water sports. However, all the facilities and heritage were ruined at the beginning of the World War Two. Following the Nazi authority directives, German troops destroyed all symbols of youth organisations (AZS included), such as flags, banners or sport rewards, e.g. cups and medals. The Union's facilities and equipment were all lost, except for a levee with a canoe fleet at the Warta River. Much more regrettable were tragic deaths of many Union members and athletes. The tragedy of those who survived was best described by prof. Witalis Ludwiczak, former AZS chairman, leading hockey player (and rower) of the post-war period: "After five and a half years of the Nazi occupation, in battlefields and captivity, the athletes lost their sport abilities" and had to finish their careers.

The University resumed its activity on 23 April 1945. In summer the very year AZS was reactivated much to the merit of prof. Eugeniusz Piasecki, today a patron of the Poznań Academy of Physical Education (AWF). Owing to his endeavours AZS received, for example, 1,100 pairs of skis, being part of the property left by the Nazis. Soon afterwards, AZS expanded its activities to the other Poznań's academic institutions. "The post-war history of AMU's AZS is basically about the history of particular sections within the AMU Division of Physical Education", says Stanisław Szafarkiewicz, an ever smiling trainer, who had coached AZS basketball teams for 37 years and retired at the age of 80. "When I started work in 1964, we were short of equipment and facilities. Actually, AMU had a single gym, the one at Szamarzewskiego street. The ceiling there was so low that we could not play volleyball. So we did was to dig out a lot soil from under the



floor to make it lower", relates Szafarkiewicz.

The history AZS, as of any other institutions, is first of all made by the people who belong to it. Worth noting among the University's athletes are the Olympians, including Witalis Ludwiczak, later AMU professor of law and vice-rector, and Wojciech Lipoński, once a great runner now professor of the School of English, distinguished ethnologist of sports and AWF lecturer. "There was one Olympian among my students. His name was Grzegorz Korcz", says Szafarkiewicz. "He was so talented that he made it to the national team, even though he had not practiced basketball before his studies". There is no way to name all the good trainers. "Some of them, like Czesław Koperski from the judo section, are still working at the AMU. Others, like dr Jerzy Preisler, are gone forever. Jurek was one hell of a trainer. He could run all sorts of activities and always achieved good results. If need be, he could even do aerobics with girls", says Szafarkiewicz laughing heartily. Another icon of the University's AZS was dr Włodzimierz Drygas, now president of the Wielkopolska Handball Union. He was a charismatic figure, but also a notorious smoker. They say he even took a shower with a cigarette in his mouth. "That may be true, but for me Drygas is first of all a genius organiser. One day the Chief Board of AZS introduced climbing as a new competition discipline. The problem was that formally we didn't have a single climber at the University but not a problem for Drygas. Within a day or two he made up a team who won a gold medal

at the Academic Championship of Poland. Nothing is impossible for him".

The club used to organise fitness and canoeing camps for its members. "I remember Drygas organised a canoeing trip down the River Bóbr. Our canoes got pierced at 36 places, a bag full of sausage dropped from one of them and this bag kept running with us down the river" recalls Szafarkiewicz amusingly. "Every year we had that party called 'Athlete's Ball'. It's hard to say though, if the athletes were better off those days. They didn't get any scholarships as they do now.

At present, the club gathers 37 sections (the male/female division not included) and around 13 hundred members. The greatest team success so far is the victory in the 21st Academic Championship of Poland in 2000-2002, when the Physical Education Division was headed by mgr Ryszard Pawlak. Last year AMU was 5th in the general ranking and 2nd in the university category (behind Warsaw University). For many years AMU has been strong in athletics, swimming, rowing, basketball (now especially female) and judo. The University's male volleyball team competes in Division II of the national league. "What really matters is the atmosphere and lifelong friendships. Only some of the AZS members will become top athletes, but all of them may keep nice memories, like that of playing cards with your team mates on the way back from a competition", adds Szafarkiewicz and smiles with a gleam in his eye.

**Ewa Woźnińska**

# University in graduates' memories

\* ...During my studies at the Faculty of Law there were many professors who were subjects of not as much legends as funny anecdotes. These included professors Lisowski, Silnicki, Znamierowski of our faculty and those "borrowed" from other institutions or faculties, like prof. Schilling-Siengalewicz from the Academy of Medicine or prof. Józef Czekalski from the Academy of Economics.

Prof. Zygmunt Lisowski was 67 at that time, but in my eyes he was a greybeard, an opinion which I now, being nearly 87, regard as highly improper of me. Lisowski taught us Roman Law in the first year. He was short and thin. Slow in his walk, he spoke at the speed of a machine gun. Actually, he didn't speak, he rattled which brought us to despair, because as beginners we tried obediently to write down all his invaluable teachings. In fact, it was impossible to record even a single sentence. But the truth is, he warned us about this quite honestly at his first lecture:

"Do not try to take notes of what I say. You won't follow. I know I speak too fast, but unfortunately I can't do it any slower, because then I lose my point. When you need to take notes of what you need to know, I will let you know. As slowly as I can, I will give you the essence of a matter. And this is what I will require from you at the exam..."

Indeed, just like he said, he always made it clear that he was dictating. The problem is that while talking slowly he got this ugly habit or, should I say, tiny idiosyncrasy of blowing his nose. Out of his pocket, instead of a handkerchief, he would

produce an old-fashioned foulard, the size of a small tablecloth, and serviced his nose with it as he talked making a terrible noise, as if he was blowing a trumpet. When he finally finished talking to his cloth, he would announce with satisfaction: "and this is what I will require you to know at the exam". The trouble is, we heard nothing...

(...) good, old "Lisek".

*Andrzej Bartkowski on prof. Zygmunt Lisowski*

(...)

\* Listen to the old professor's advice:

I warn you: most students are dropped in their first year. You know why? They either fail to adapt to the big change, to their freedom of study, or they cannot resist the excess of temptations every student is exposed to.

Let me mention just three of them:

> The temptation of the social and alcoholic nature - no comments on this one.

> Worthy temptations - oh, yes! There is such a sort. These include theatre, opera, concerts, art exhibitions, all sorts of balls organised for charity purposes, as well as student associations and clubs with ambitious objectives.

> Politics...

All the temptations are thieves that steal from you the time you need for learning...

*Andrzej Bartkowski on prof. Tadeusz Silnicki*

Profesor Andrzej Bartkowski won the first prize in the contest held on the occasion of the University's 90th anniversary. The organisers, the Poznań University Graduates' Association and the editorial staff of "Życie Uniwersyteckie" had invited all graduates to write down memories of their study days and

send them to the contest committee. Two more winners were selected out of more than ten competitors. These were:

- Mieczysław Skąpski,
- Anna Weronika Gala.

"Interestingly, the university days (the sample being small and unrepresentative)

are best remembered by lawyers and polonists", commented Natalia Chromińska, contest committee member.

For more information on the award ceremony and further excerpts from the memories, see next issues of "Życie Uniwersyteckie".

len

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## FRAMEWORK PROGRAMME AMU'S 90TH ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATIONS

### 5 MAY 2009 (TUESDAY)

#### •time: 4.00 pm

90<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Opening Ceremony, „Zamek” culture centre

### 6 MAY 2009 (WEDNESDAY)

#### •time: 9.30 am to 3.00 pm

Press conference „Traditions and graduates” (Faculty of Social Sciences, Faculty of Law and Administration, Faculty of Humanities, Academy of Fine Arts) - AMU Campus, 89 Szamarzewskiego street

#### •time: 3.00 pm

Scientific conference „Saint Bruno of Querfurt and his Epoch”, Collegium Europaeum, Gniezno

#### •time: 4.00 pm

Opening of the exhibition „Year 1919”, University Library

#### •time: 5.00 pm

Unveiling of the commemorative plaque in the headquarters of

the Poznań Society for the Advancement of the Arts and Sciences, 27/29 Mielżyńskiego street

•Anniversary celebrations in Węglewo

### 7 MAY 2009 (THURSDAY)

#### •time: 9.00 am to 3.00 pm

Church service at the Cathedral Poznań, procession through the city streets to the University Auditorium, and the Jubilee Assembly of the Senates of Poznań's Public Academic Institutions

#### •time: 6.00 pm

Unveiling of the commemorative plaque devoted to the University staff who died in World War Two, Collegium Minus

#### •time: 7.00

„Happy 90<sup>th</sup> Birthday, dear University!”, concert performed by the Poznań Philharmonic Orchestra,

the Boys' and Men's Choir of the Poznań Philharmonic „Poznańskie Słowiki”, the AMU Academic Choir, and the AMU Chamber Choir

### 8 MAY 2009 (FRIDAY)

#### •time: 10.30 am

Scientific conference „University of the 21<sup>st</sup> Century. Development Directions and Conditions”, Faculty of Political Sciences and Journalism, 89 Umultowska street, Morasko Campus

#### •time: 4.00 pm

Anniversary celebrations in Trzemeszno

#### •time: 5.00 pm

„A Night with Mickiewicz” in the University Library, as part of the „Library Night”

### 9 MAY 2009 (SATURDAY)

#### •time: 11.00 am to 10.00 pm

Jubilee Academic Picnic with Poznań's public academic institu-

tions, the University graduates' meeting, (small auditorium), Adam Mickiewicz Park and Adam Mickiewicz Square

#### •time: 12.00 am

unveiling of the memorial bench in honour of Heliodor Świącicki, Adam Mickiewicz Park

#### •time: 3.30 pm

Anniversary celebrations in Pleszew

#### •time: 8.00 pm

Jubilee Ball, Collegium Maius

### 10 MAY 2009 (SUNDAY)

#### •time: 8.00 am

Jubilee University Hike down the Heliodor Świącicki trail, starting point at A. Mickiewicz Square

#### •time: 3.00 pm

Anniversary celebrations in Śrem, official closing of the hike and the 90<sup>th</sup> anniversary ceremonies



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