



ISSN 1231- 8825

# życie

## UNIWERSYTECKIE

[www.zycie.amu.edu.pl](http://www.zycie.amu.edu.pl)

nr 12 (207)  
December 2010



## Library awarded

The Polish and Classical Philology library at the Adam Mickiewicz University in Poznań has been recognized with the prestigious Union of Polish Architects Award for the best public architectural project completed in 2009. Erected between the Collegium Maius and the Wielkopolska Provincial Office to the design of Jacek Butań's team, the building gained nationwide appreciation, after having been honoured locally with the Jan Baptysta Quadro Award.

The library was distinguished for being perfectly integrated into the historical setting and highly evaluated for its modernity, functionality and materials used.

The award was granted in Warsaw on 11 December 2010.

**SPECIAL  
EDITION**





**New College Iuridicum**



**New College of Morasko Chemicum**



**Faculty of Pedagogy and Art in Kalisz**



**Art restorer Edyta working at conservation of College Iuridicum**



**Athletic Hall of Morasko**



**Campus Educational Centre in Pila**

# Happy with every bang of a hammer

Jolanta Lenartowicz speaking with Stanisław Wachowiak, AMU Administrative Director



PHOTO MACIEJ MECZYŃSKI

**Recent years have seen a fast or even spontaneous growth of the university: beautiful modern facilities, new addresses, spacious lecture rooms, laboratories... It's almost hard to believe now that a shortage of space was a such a big headache for the University authorities, for you, for the staff...**

- It's true. The university has been developing fast, but not at all spontaneous; it's all been very well planned. The Adam Mickiewicz University development strategy has been implemented with utmost consistency.

**OK, let's call it a dynamic growth then.**

- Yes, that sounds better. Speaking of new developments, one has to look at both the city of Poznań itself (5 departments in Morasko; teaching rooms for the Faculty of Law and Administration; the research and teaching pavilion in the Botanic Garden; the Novum and the Polish and Classical Philology libraries) and the external branches of Ślubice, Gnieźno, Kalisz and Piła. Add to it the Morasko sport facilities, the gym in Gnieźno and the new student hostels in Ślubice, Gnieźno and Kalisz.

Overall, in the recent eleven years the University has expanded its floor area by amazing 186,282 sq. metres and 21 new locations.

To have all those facilities built required a tremendous effort on the part of all the University's administrative services, particularly those responsible for technical matters, investment and finance.

Our main investment efforts, as can easily be seen, are focused on Morasko. With two EU-funded R&D centres that are soon to be built here, the site has by all means become a scientific zone of Poznań. No wonder then, that all University departments, perhaps with the sole exception of the History of Arts, would gladly see themselves resettled there.

**Funny to recall how reluctant they were to be moved to Morsko at the beginning. It was like being exiled to the woods.**

- The strongest opposition came from those academics and staff members who had never seen similar solutions abroad. In this context, a major perception breakthrough was marked by the recognition of the Campus as a significant part of the University.

**And a very attractive one, too.**

- Yes, indeed. Modern buildings, large space, green areas, peace and quiet, all these are great assets of this part of the city. We are proud of it. But we also realise that such excellent conditions are not yet available to all.

**You mean the gap between the rich Morasko and poor Szamarszewo.**

- Right. One of the candidates for the Rector's office referred to it as a disproportion between the rich north and the poor south. No doubt, there are many faculties and departments looking forward to an improvement of their working conditions. This applies primarily to all the units located in the city centre, including the Faculty of Law and Administration, which keeps on struggling with poor working conditions even though it took over new teaching facilities with the capacity for 2,700 students (officially transferred a few days ago). These units definitely require a major improvement of the conditions

to work and study. The Programme for Improvement of Working and Studying Conditions, which is now being implemented by the Rector's Office, comprises all fourteen of the University's faculties. We see a great chance for it to be completed within six years.

**With current development plans fulfilled, will the University be sufficiently expanded for the investment spree to terminate?**

To the contrary. Along with prestige and prominent professors, universities will increasing use studying conditions and leisure time opportunities to appeal to prospective students. Even now, the AMU is often chosen for its convenient location and sporting facilities in Morasko. Besides, it's difficult to foresee now what will be the demands of the future, especially in terms of academic infrastructure. That is why, so much effort has been put into ensuring continuous development of the Campus. The point is that the University once placed in the Morasko region may develop in this location even in a hundred years' time! To make it possible, we have been urging local authorities to adopt a local development plan to form a legal framework for using this area as the University Campus.

**You give a piece of your life and a great deal of emotion to every single project you manage... But there must be certainly some that you feel stronger about. If you were to point at the most beautiful building, the most waited for and needed, and the most difficult one to build, what would they be...**

- Every single brick laid in Morasko. Also, the network of twelve libraries, including nine for local faculties and three for external branches, holding over 2.2 million volumes and accommodating over 1,100 users. At present, the role of the University Library is limited to coordinating functions, IT, maintenance of the old book resources and that of a museum. Sometimes it takes a small but a beautiful thing to make you happy. Take the Polish and Classical Philology Library, the winner of the Jan Baptysta Quadro Award granted on 8 November 2010, Poznań's most prestigious architectural award, and the Annual Union of Polish Architects Award for the the best public architectural project of 2009, granted in Warsaw on 11 December 2010. The building has already been mentioned in manuals of architecture for being a beautifully blended combination of modernity and tradition. The project was very challenging. Suffice to say it required a ten-metre ditch to be made just two metres away from the monumental structure of Collegium Maius, on one side, and four metres away from the southern wall of the multi-floor headquarters of Wielkopolska Regional Government, on the other. The library charms with its beauty, while being highly modern: it is one of Poland's first libraries to be equipped with the automated borrowing system. It is special to me.

**That's about new buildings, but you take care of the old ones as well. Which of them is particularly dear to you.**

- When I wish to call back a nice picture before falling asleep, I think of our old buildings turning beautiful: first the University auditorium, then Collegium Maius, Collegium Minus, the library. I am happy with every bang of a hammer I hear there. For it is a sign of their returning to the glamour of the past.



# University under review



PHOTO MACIEJ NIECZYNSKI

Jolanta Lenartowicz speaking  
with Jacek Witkoś, AMU vice-rector

**In the period around the opening of a new academic year, the University habitually presents its achievements of the preceding year and directions for future development. Among topics discussed this time was parametrisation. This sounds pretty technical. What does it actually mean and what is the role of the process for the University?**

- To cut a long story short, parametrisation is aimed to assess the quality of research work in units which actually conduct research activity, a condition to be strongly emphasised, as there are many higher education institutions in Poland that are occupied exclusively with teaching.

**It must be a difficult task, considering the subject matter to be evaluated, the multitude of courses, diversity of research methods, programmes...**

- The Ministry of Science and Higher Education has proposed special tools in this respect. And specific rules to follow. And so, the process was applied to research units, mostly faculties, rather than universities as a whole. It was at the faculty level that extensive and detailed questionnaires were completed to provide input data for score calculation based on a highly complex formula. This way, a research efficacy ratio was established as a final rating of research work done by an evaluated, or should I say 'parametrised' faculty. However, before the process began, scientists and their WORKS had to be subjected to specific procedures, common to all public universities.

**Any examples?**

- All academics involved in research activity, that is subject to evaluation, formed a 'magical' group N, while the triple of that value (3N) denoted the number of research projects and studies to be assessed.

**So everyone reported their best three achievements of recent years?**

- Not exactly. Rather than individual researchers, the evaluation covered the best achievements of a faculty, their number being the triple of the number of research staff. In practice then, if one scientist published six highly rated studies within the reference period, works of another scientist of the same faculty might not have been included at all. The pool of projects to be rated was compiled automatically, based on the questionnaires sent by evaluated units.

## LINEE - multilingualism under investigation

LINEE (Languages in a Network of European Excellence) project is funded by the European Commission under the 6th Framework Programme aimed to investigate language diversity in Europe.

The project involved 80 researchers from nine European universities.

It addressed linguistic diversity in four thematic areas: Language, Identity and Culture, Language Policy and Planning, Multilingualism and Education, Language and Economy. The thematic structure of the programme was divided into Work Packages dealing with detailed issues regarding particular subject matters. The aim of the project was also to exchange knowledge and experience as well as to initiate and intensify contacts between partners in order to form a durable scientific network. For five years project members met at scientific workshops, conferences and summer schools for Ph.D. students.

The scientific team of the AMU's Institute of Applied Linguistics (ILS) consisting of: Prof. W. Pfeiffer - ILS research team coordinator, Prof. C. Badstübner-Kizik, A. Błażek, M. Dążyńska-Deja, M. Dudzińska and M. Koper took part in studies on such areas as the impact of culture Europeanisation on cultural tourism in three

**What kind of projects were taken into account?**

- Three groups were distinguished: the highest rating was given to articles published in prestigious international journals, then monographs and articles in recognised collective studies, and innovative solutions that had been implemented into the economy.

**All faculties are unique. How can you possibly compare research in Humanities with that in Chemistry, Political Studies, Physics or Engineering for that matter...**

- Actually, such comparisons were not made. Types, kinds and, most of all, homogeneous groups have been identified, for example within the areas of chemistry, physics or political studies so as to make them parallel and comparable.

**Does it make a ground for universities to compete with one another?**

- Well, on one hand, as I said before, it was not universities but faculties that were compared, but on the other hand, it is the quality of particular faculties that determines a university's position in the country's academic rankings.

**How was our University scored?**

- Nine faculties, that is 64 percent, were classified into Category A. Three of them, into Category B. One, into Category C and one, into Category D.

**Are these results surprising?**

- In a way, they are. Personally, I was surprised to see our Faculties of History, Educational Studies, and Geographical and Geological Science in Category B. The Faculty of Theology was ranked in Category C and the Faculty of Pedagogy and Fine Arts in Kalisz in Category D. All these faculties have updated their questionnaires and requested the Ministry to re-evaluate their work.

**Does it mean anything, apart from satisfaction for some and disappointment for others?**

- It means a lot, because government financing of university faculties will, at least to a certain degree, depend on their place in the ranking. Faculties classed under Category A will certainly gain the most, Category B much less. The weakest units will have to put forward a restructuring scheme.

**The comparison being nationwide, one can identify the best universities, with largest proportion of A-rated faculties. What are the leaders then?**

- No great surprises here. Traditionally, the top three consists of the Jagiellonian University (80 percent of A-rated units); Warsaw University (75 of A ratings); and the Adam Mickiewicz University (64 percent). It needs to be added though that units of the Polish Academy of Sciences were also taken into consideration in the making of the parametrised image of Polish research activity.

**How do you assess this nationwide parametrisation process?****Has it met the expectations of the academic community? What do you think are the benefits and drawbacks of the system?**

- I think the very idea of subjecting Polish scientific centres to a well organised review and evaluation process is good. It allows to categorise universities and identify those that deserve funding to further develop and continue their research activity. Universities, on the other hand, are encouraged to reflection, self-evaluation and efficiency improvement. I would call it a thorough airing of academic corridors. It is a big challenge to face. However, the current, wide-scaled edition of the standardisation procedure had also some flaws and methodological shortcomings, not to say errors. I mean, for example, the thing I mentioned a while ago: treating Polish Academy of Sciences units on par with universities. All right, they can be or even should be compared - but with due consideration given, for instance in the scoring system, of the fact that universities have to divide their time and resources between research and education. The issue of publications calls for a proper solution, too. We all know that publications in prestigious international and foreign magazines and books are scored the highest. They require a lot of effort, requirements are tough, double independent revision, etc. It's a real challenge. But everyday life is full of extraordinary circumstances that defy standard rules. Should the same rules be applied, for instance, to studies by the prominent scholar Prof. Gerard Labuda, the scoring would not reflect their real value, as colleagues from the History Faculty rightly point out.

**But there is always some room for improvement, isn't there. On the other hand 'publications' tend to be confused with post-conference materials issued in occasional bulletins. What is your view on that?**

- I don't have a definite view. After all, if significant results are presented at a conference, then elaborated and published separately, it is like a natural course of things. But if a publication is limited to contents of a twenty-minute lecture, the final product may turn out to be far from complete.

Finally, I'd like to say a few words about the implementation of research results which is highly scored, too. Again, detailed criteria need to be developed. For it is much easier to commercialise results concerning chemistry, plant cultivation or electronics than it is in other disciplines. Studies in philosophy, theology, or fundamental mathematics for that matter are definitely much more difficult to be turned into practical applications, regardless of how excellent they are. Concluding: I want to stress that parametrisation in itself is well received by the scientific community. The point is to ensure that the applied rules and procedures take account of the specificity of the academic community and be known to all stakeholders soon enough and not later than the beginning of the period under evaluation.

European cities (Pula, Gdańsk and Poznań) and the role of a language in cultural tourism as an indicator of Europeanisation. The study included analysis of interviews with museum employees and city guides, as well as websites, and promotional and informational materials on the cities concerned. Basing on that analysis, a strategy was identified to build European identity in the local context. The study showed that a cohesive linguistic policy should be put in place in the area of cultural tourism accompanied by high quality translation.

M. Dudzińska and M. Koper participated in a research project involving Croatia, Cyprus and Poland. The issues under study comprised strategies applied to promote national identity abroad and stereotypes related to national identity. The Poznań team joined their Croatian and British colleagues in May 2009. The empirical material included two English language guides to Poland and data gathered during the research works.

A Ph.D. student from the AMU ILS, Cecylia Barłóg, took part in field studies on the impact of migration on linguistic policy in multilingual regions of Europe. The studies were conducted in Valencia, Spain, in Grisons, Switzerland, and in Wales, UK, between October 2008 and March 2009. The empirical material consisted of interviews held with local authority representatives and immigrants, as well as documents, articles and web-based publications. The investigation results indicate that the process of migration is of increasingly temporary nature and therefore many immigrants do not decide to learn the language of the receiving country. National and local government policies, however, remain oriented towards long-lasting migration despite the awareness of the 'new' migration trends.

The LINEE project was completed in November 2010. Results of the studies were published, among other sources, in scholarly periodicals Forum Akademickie 5/2010 and Glottodidactica XXXV.

Cecylia Barłóg, Magdalena Dudzińska, Magdalena Koper

# How is it like to stay here?



**Akademik 'Jagienka'**



**Breakfast in the akademik, 'Zbyszko'**

In Polish, a 'student hostel' is called 'akademik', a word derived from the proper name given to the first ever facility of that kind in Poland. It was a student hostel of the present Warsaw University of Technology, built in the 1920s. How does a modern akademik look like?

Our University offers 5,000 places in six student hostels: Babilon, Jagienka, Jowita, Zbyszko, Nieszawska and Hanka.

- The best known, yet not the oldest one is Jowita. The building was converted into a student hostel in 1968. At present, we have 407 rooms - says Agnieszka Krajewska-Jopek, Jowita manager. - We accommodate many foreign students, mainly from Spain and Eastern European.

We are asking Ewa, a student of tourism, of her impression from staying in this multicultural environment. - Jowita is a good place to stay in. The charges are reasonable. It's not brand new all right, but there are good points to it.

I don't have to worry about being charged high costs whenever I happen to make a scratch on the wall. As for the inmates, I have to admit that the Spaniards, and there are many of them living in Jowita, make a very closed community. They can be a nuisance, too, as they often party until long hours. The great asset of Jowita is its location near Poznań's key transport junction. It's very convenient this way.

Jowita offers a laundry, fitness gym, Internet and six studying rooms made available this academic year. Its residents' opinions on the University web forum are mixed: Some are happy with the accommodation; others complain about tiny rooms, bathrooms that call for redecoration, and kitchens. Emilia, a student of Polish Philology,

mentions another benefit of the place: a permissive attitude towards visitors who wish to stay for the night after having sat up too long.

Many students applying for accommodation dream of being assigned to Zbyszko, which is known to offer the highest standards. In the survey available at [www.akademikiuam.info](http://www.akademikiuam.info) students were asked to name the best of University hostels. As many as 42% of them selected Zbyszko.

Does this reflect the truth? On my entering the place I was welcomed by a smiling gentleman. The first impression is very good. I'm asking Marta, a student of International Relations, about living conditions. The girl is delighted. - I like staying here a lot - she says - I pay 400 zloties a month, which is, I think, a reasonable price, considering the standard. I have a bathroom with a shower, a fridge in the room and certainly an access to Internet.

Opposite Zbyszko, there is a twin building of Jagienka. Again, the first impression is very good. Everything smells new. However, some students are sitting on the hall floor with notebooks on their laps. They make a little strange view. Paulina, a student of Administration, is explaining the situation - I have lived in Jagienka since October and still I don't have an access to the web - she says - It's really annoying because the service is included in my rent, but it's never been provided and nobody knows when it will. The hall I'm sitting in is the only place where





Akademik 'Zbyszko'



Akademik 'Jowita'

you can connect to the network, and even that with interruptions. The lack of access to the Internet have made Jagienka residents more integrated, but that's about the only good point about it. Apart from that, Jagienka is a good place to stay. What I miss though, are typical ovens where you could bake cake or something. Compared to Zbyszko, where I lived before, Jagienka was redecorated much earlier and unfortunately there are many faults. Every now and then you see some guys fixing this or that. On the strengths side, Paulina points at a nice staff, and little noise. Parties are scarce, and not a big trouble anyway.

To conclude my tour I am dropping in Hanka, the oldest of all student hostels. It is in this beautiful building that Jan Nowak-Jeziorański, the famous Courier from Warsaw, spent his student's years. He was truly moved to see his room while staying in Poznań one of these days. The students who are occupying it now do not seem to be moved at all. - I don't know if all the rooms look the same, but mine has chipped cupboards and a wardrobe whose door has kind of sunk, so I think I'd need a crow-bar to open it, 'cause there's no handle, either. The fridge seems to work when plugged in, looks busted though. The floor squeaks. The beds are busted, too. A trademark or what? I bet they remember the good old communist days. I have to bring my own pillow; this one has weird stains on it. I haven't examined the sheets yet - says one of the residents.

As it seems then, our student hostels show varied standards. Every year, however, one of them undergoes a thorough redecoration. Now it is time for the hostel at Nieszawska street to follow the example of Zbyszko and Jagienka. The standard is going up year by year, keeping abreast with the rising expectations of students.

Marcin Krupka

## I PREFER *PIEROGI*

Life on Erasmus is not as easy as it seems to be. Different lifestyle, different culture and different people.

Short interview with Carlos Fernandez Barral, a student from Coruña, Spain, held by Anna Zielińska.

**Hi Carlos! How are you today?**

I'm fine thank you, it is nice to meet you.

**First, I would like you to ask you about the name of your hometown and the name of your university?**

I live in Coruña, in the north-west of Spain, and the name of the university is the same: Universidad de A Coruña.

**Why have you decided to study in Poland?**

I think that it's a cheap country compared with the rest of my possible destinations and I thought that here I could improve my English....(but now I don't think so :))

**How do you feel here?**

Fine, I'm meeting new people from other countries and I'm having a nice time here. But the winter here is horrible??? I have to wear very warm clothes. In Spain the weather is different. It is warmer, so I have a problem with getting used to.

**What do you think about studying in Poland?**

It's not bad...but I had some problems with finding my teachers due to the organizational mess.

**What is your speciality?**

Psychopedagogy. It doesn't exist at this university, really.

**Does Poznań appeal to you? What do you like the most?**

What is the most difficult thing for you to deal with (except the language :)?

Yes... It's a big city, big enough for me. I like Stary Browar and the Old Market the best. The worst thing is of course the weather.

**What would you like to introduce at your university when you are back?**

Actually, I don't know. My experience in my subject I guess.

**How do you spend your free time in Poznań? What are your favourite clubs and pubs?**

It depends. Today for example I was playing the guitar and singing for blind people. I like going to the gym. I played football a few times, when the weather wasn't so horrible. I like going to the parties at night. My favourite clubs are SQ, Proletariat, Terytorium. They have amazing decor and the music is always is great!

**What is your favourite Polish dish? Schabowy or pyry :)?**

I prefer only Pierogi.

**What do you think about Polish university system and professors? Are they strict or lenient?**

To be honest, I don't know. I had only tutorial hours, so I don't know the professors too much. But the first impression was quite good.

**If there is a possibility to come to Poland in the future, will you decide to come?**

Yes, obviously! But definitely in summer (laughing).

# Visitors from world over

A modern university boasts its staff of scholars and scientists. But that is not enough any more. Today, the rank of a university is also marked by international visitors it receives (students, lecturers and professors), proving its extended international contacts and participation in common research projects or, to put it more generally, its involvement in international science.

One of the priorities of the AMU development strategy is internationalisation, meaning that foreign visitors are more than welcome. Most of them arrive to take part in joint research projects, give a lecture or to meet a group of students. Some of those visits arise from exchange agreements with universities from around the world; other result from personal contacts and scientific friendships. The Faculty of Biology alone has received more than 20 guests over last year, while the Faculty of Chemistry was visited by the Nobel Prize Winner Robert Grubbs.

Faculties can also appoint foreign academics as visiting professors. This year, there are 16 of them employed in the AMU, mostly part time, as they also continue working for their home universities. Since educational systems in other countries are a little different, a formal problem arises with visiting professors who - recognised scholars and scientists as they are - have not been awarded with the Polish title of 'doktor habilitowany' or academic degree of 'profesor' required to hold a post of professor at a Polish university. Therefore, in such cases, an approval of the University Senate is given, based on achievements of a candidate.

The visitors come from all around the world: the USA, Italy, Germany, the Czech Republic, Spain and Far East. Half of them, quite naturally, are employed by the Faculty of Modern Languages and Literature, the others by the Faculties of Geographical and Geological Science, Social Sciences, Physics or Chemistry. A separate group is

made by our compatriots who left Poland in the 1970s and 1980s, made a rapid scientific career abroad, and now maintain their ties with Poland as visiting professors. Some visitors wish to settle the required formalities to pursue their scientific careers in Poland and have applied for the professor degree. The procedure may sometimes be complicated. To be initiated, it requires a prior approval of the Central Commission for Degrees and Titles.

Visiting professors are primarily expected to run a scientific or scholarly activity, their teaching duties limited. Contrary to other foreigners, over a hundred of them, who have been employed as teachers. The majority of them are native speakers from around the world working for the Faculty of Modern Languages and Literature which offers more language courses than any other university in Poland. A group of foreign teachers can also be found at the Faculty of Polish and Classical Philology. Part of them are experts seconded under intergovernmental agreements. All persons that join our University as language teachers are entitled, by Rector's regulation, to receive housing allowance for a period of two years, meant to help them in covering the resettlement costs. - Yet it is not financial benefits that encourage them to come - says Prof. Andrzej Lesicki, AMU vice-rector for staff and development - but the possibility to pursue an academic career, the chance to meet interesting people and last but not least - our Polish hospitality.

MAJ

Best International Student in Poland Competition

## InterSTUDENT 2010

The Perspektywy Educational Foundation organises the second edition of the BEST INTERNATIONAL STUDENT IN POLAND COMPETITION InterSTUDENT 2010.

The InterSTUDENT competition is directed to foreign students taking pre-graduate, graduate and Ph.D. courses at Polish universities. To be eligible, students must be foreign or hold double nationality.

More and more young people from abroad choose to study in Poland, their number now exceeding 16,000. On top of this, there are nearly 10,000 Erasmus students and participants of other student exchange programmes. Foreign students have become an integral, though not always fully appreciated part of the Polish academic community. The InterSTUDENT competition is the first initiative of that kind directed to students from abroad.

Candidates are evaluated for their cultural, social, environmental or sporting activities relating to the idea of multiculturalism; they have to

show good academic results (no conditional passes nor repeated courses) but also an action-inspiring attitude and a contribution to the activity of local civil communities.

The result of the competition and prize awarding in three categories (pre-graduate studies, graduate studies, Ph.D. studies) will take place at the official ceremony to be held in January 2011 under the conference "International Students in Poland 2011".

The InterSTUDENT competition is organised under the honorary patronage of Prof. Katarzyna Chałasińska-Macukow, President of the Conference of Rectors of Academic Schools in Poland (CRASP).

For more information contact: Karolina Chróstna, e-mail: [k.chrostna@perspektywy.pl](mailto:k.chrostna@perspektywy.pl)

tel. 22 628 58 62, fax 22 629 16 17 [www.studyinpoland.pl/interstudent/](http://www.studyinpoland.pl/interstudent/)



UAM POZNAŃ  
12 (207) | December 2010

Uniwersytet im. Adama Mickiewicza  
Rektorat, 67-712 Poznań,  
ul. Wieniawskiego 1

[redakcja@amu.edu.pl](mailto:redakcja@amu.edu.pl)

**Editor in Chief**  
Jolanta Lenartowicz  
[jolenmedia@gmail.com](mailto:jolenmedia@gmail.com)  
**Photo** Maciej Męczyński  
**Translation** Krzysztof Nalepa

**Address** 61-701 Poznań, ul. Fredry 10  
**Office** Marta Dzionek  
**Design editor** Agata Rząsa  
**Print** Drukarnia GEOKART  
36-007 Krasne 178a



# 20,000 visits to AMUR

In March 2010, the Adam Mickiewicz University Library launched Poland's first institutional repository, a digital archive where University research resources are gathered and published online. How does AMUR work after a few months?



FOT. MACIEJ MĘCZYŃSKI

AMUR is at its budding stage, but one can already see an increase in the number of studies deposited. Since its opening, the repository has seen a regular inflow of new items. Most of them are Ph.D. theses, which have been stored obligatorily since 2010, following the AMU Rector's regulation. 317 studies were deposited in the repository by October, including 137 Ph.D. theses written in 2010, of which 100 are of restricted access and 33 widely available online; 138 publications; 29 book chapters; 11 conference materials; 3 presentations; and 5 other documents. So far, only eight journal titles have been registered in the repository, four of them regularly added to the archives. The number of users is also growing, with 135 Adam Mickiewicz University staff members and Ph.D. students registered.

Currently, the most crucial issue is to acquire new resources for the repository. The initiators of the project, and AMUR editors at the same time, are now beginning to implement a strategy to promote the service. - We are now making contacts with heads of institutes and departments. We plan to organize brief presentations to promote our repository - says Emilia Karwasińska and Małgorzata Rychlik. - We want to encourage as many scholars and scientists as possible to contribute to the project with their studies. It is important not only for the very idea of Open Access, but also in the light of the objectives set by the Ministry of Science and Higher Education, which is endeavouring to develop an openness policy and might in the near future establish guidelines for sharing the output of research supported by public funds. A proposed amendment to higher education laws prepared by the Ministry includes a provision requiring all Ph.D. theses and their reviews to be published on university websites.

Artur Jazdon, University Chief Librarian, notes that it is essential for the concept of open knowledge to be strongly supported by the University's authorities, who in this way set an example for others. Jazdon believes that the storage obligation should be introduced gradually. Currently, only Ph.D. theses are required to be archived in AMUR. To move on to further stages, a legal basis and a widely accepted government policy have to be put in place. We can see that everything seems to be going in the right direction, e.g. a set of recommendations issued by the Conference of Rectors of Academic Schools in Poland

(CRASP), including the one to develop a national OA strategy for publicly funded research and establish a legal framework to ensure conditions for OA implementation in Poland. The example of Liège University shows how important it is for resource archiving to be made obligatory: the number of studies stored since the introduction of the requirement has grown from 1,000 to 14,000.

The AMUR service editorial staff works towards popularising the repository resources. They say: - We have registered our repository with the DART - Europe E-theses Portal (<http://www.dart-europe.eu/basic-search.php>) which gathers information on European Ph.D. theses and offers links to repository resources.

AMUR has also been registered with the following services:

- the OpenDOAR repository directory (<http://www.opendoar.org/>),
- the ROAR repositories registry (<http://roar.eprints.org/>),
- the DSpace registry (<http://www.dspace.org/>),
- the PIONIER Network Digital Libraries Federation.

Moreover, the policy of obligatory submission of Ph.D. theses to the AMUR repository was registered with ROARMAP (<http://www.eprints.org/openaccess/policy/signup/>).

Director Jazdon believes that AMUR has clear benefits, particularly for young academics - especially those who are most involved in providing the repository with their research papers. Their own publications, book chapters, and presentations are available in one site; they can use them wherever they are and monitor statistics showing how popular a given research paper is. The repository allows them to disseminate their work around the world and facilitates the exchange of scientific thought. The possibility to arrange and gather all one's scientific achievements in one venue seems to be an interesting option for researchers and academics. - Besides, AMUR is a way to raise the University's prestige. The Adam Mickiewicz University is often mentioned at various conferences and symposia as the first Polish university to have launched its own repository, adds director Jazdon. - Other universities, drawing on our experience, start to work on establishing their own repositories. Initial statistics show that 317 documents published in AMUR were downloaded over 20,000 times by users from all around world.

Danuta Chodera-Lewandowicz

# Business and science make a good couple

AMU Poznań Science and Technology Park (PPNT) is the oldest of the kind in Poland. It was set up 15 years ago and has served ever since to promote the process of incorporating scientific results into the economy and stimulating the economic development of the region of Wielkopolska.



PHOTO MACIEJ MECZYŃSKI

This year's anniversary marked the beginning of a project called "INNO(MOTI)VATIONS. Promotion of an open approach towards knowledge commercialisation". Under that initiative, Poznań hosted the jubilee conference "INNO(MOTI)VATIONS. From invention to innovation." Recognised experts from Poland and abroad discussed the role of technology parks in the construction of knowledge-based economy. The following were among the issues raised: "Are science and technology parks needed in the 21st century?", "Is there a chemistry between science and business?" and "European patents for knowledge transfer". It was at that conference that Prof. **Bogdan Marciniak**, long fascinated with the idea of science and technology parks around the world, initiator of the undertaking, recalled its beginnings.

It was not an accident that the Poznań's Park is organisationally attached to the AMU, but rather an effect of a series of daring initiatives taken by the University. Prof. Marciniak mentioned both the creation of knowledge-based enterprises and the establishment of Graduates' Association and foundations aimed to link the University with its external environment.

- The image of such a park was conceived in my mind long before. - he said - I was building the vision basing on the experiences and observations I from my internships and journeys to the US. I was fascinated by what I saw there: this necessarily strong relationship between research and concrete, practical application. Nearly 40 years of my experience in fundamental and technological study in the area of organometallic chemistry and catalysis, and in the transfer of research results into the economic practice, as well as numerous functions I performed in the organisation of scientific research in Poland, inspired me to initiate in our country a European model of co-operation between science and economy. I dreamed of this to happen in Poznań. But the circumstances were far from favourable: there was neither location nor money to start with.

And then we learned that the Park project was bestowed with... the old gasworks site of all places. A flicker of hope appeared, although few people seemed to understand at that time why the University might need a facility like that. The Foundation received the gift enthusiastically, although, apparently, it was not a very attractive property, with three hectares of land and a huge, long-unused gasholder. A real giant of a tank it was, 44 metres in diameter and 80 metres in height.

It was not at all easy to disassemble and remove. After several attempts it turned out, however, that explosives could do the job... The area thus cleaned became a good starting ground for the project, a chance to realise the dream of a science and technology park where technologies and knowledge-based enterprises could develop. The PPNT groups specialists from a variety of disciplines of exact and natural sciences, as well as companies active in the areas of chemistry, biotechnology, physics, computer science, archaeology and acoustics. The main objective of the undertaking is to streamline the transfer between science and business, but also, owing to the cooperation with France, to support young scientists by offering them scholarships, internships, participation in conferences.

- Poznań's Park - says Prof. Marciniak - focuses on the search for scientific ideas. We work on them until they can be sold. We do not deal with production. Every year the park generates a number of original projects: technologies, publications, patents. We are leading the way in Poland in diversity and volume of added services, with regard to research, technology transfer and promotion initiatives for regional innovation. The Park research departments cater to orders from small and medium enterprises from the region, but also from global corporations and a variety of scientific institutes from around the world.

PPNT participates in many European initiatives and projects, including those aimed to promote innovation. Its youngest child is the Inqbar. It's been in operation for four years and has provided support to 80 firms. It is a project directed to young entrepreneurs who believe their ideas could be transformed into a product or service. They are offered a location within the Park, IT equipment and technical support.

- Building on the extraordinary R&D potential of Poznań's centre in natural, exact and technical sciences, I undertook to initiate the foundation of the Wielkopolska Centre for Advanced Technologies - adds Marciniak - the project is being implemented by twelve Poznań institutions: 5 universities, 4 Polish Academy of Sciences institutes, 1 ministerial institute, the Poznań Science and Technology Park and the Municipal Office.

- **Are science and technology parks needed in the 21st century?** We addressed this question, which was raised at the conference, to Prof. **Jacek Guliński**

Science and technology parks were first founded in the middle of the 20th century, but it was not until the 1970s that first ones were set up in Europe. The AMU Foundation's Poznań Science and Technology Park was founded in 1995, which makes it the oldest project of the kind in Poland. It was my great pleasure and honour to fork for the development of the Park in the years 1995-2008. All relevant studies indicate that science and technology parks still have a mission to accomplish. Now we are talking of 3rd generation parks with whole regions centred around them, operating as hearts of growth based on the science-business-region relationship. Our Park has to grow up to it.

15 years may be a good time to make another quality leap. Nobody writes of parks being out of date. But organisations of that sort require a vision, governance, time, tremendous effort and a lot of luck. The number of park initiatives being undertaken in Poland is several times larger than the number of existing parks. Science and technology parks are needed in Wielkopolska of the 21st century. It seems to me that Poznań can hold 2-3 of them. I am a bit worried to see science and technology parks being initiated away from scientific centres (examples can be found in Wielkopolska region, too). I would like to believe that public funds will not be wasted...

Jolanta Lenartowicz



# New sporting arena opened

The new academic year marked the opening of a new sporting arena in Morasko

Many of us surely remember the exciting volleyball games with the University team struggling in the gym at Młyńska street to win a promotion to a higher division. The games attracted crowds of volleyball fans. Unfortunately, the conditions for the players to practice and compete were far from good. But this trouble is definitely over beginning with the academic year 2010/2011. Now the cramped gym at Młyńska with make-shift stands is going to be replaced with the state-of-the-art and fully functional Morasko arena, opened 1 October this year.

- For many years, the AMU has been ranked among the top three most sporting universities in Poland. I hope the new facility will reinforce our strong position in university sports and significantly improve the conditions for the Physical Education and Sport Department - said



PHOTO: Z. MACIEJ MĘCZYŃSKI

AMU rector, Prof. Bronisław Marciniak, while officially opening the new sports hall.

The central part of the facility is a 1,500 sq-metre indoor pitch, but it includes also a 350 sq-metre fitness gym, aerobics rooms, physical therapy centre, and a conference room. The hall will accommodate offices of the Physical Education and Sport Department and the AZS University sports club. It has the capacity for 700 spectators that can further be extended by extra 300 folded seats. The total cost of the facility, including tennis courts, of PLN 24 million was financed by the University's own budget and the multi-annual programme "Adam Mickiewicz University, Poznań, 2004-2011".

Marcin Krupka

## Opening competitions

The new arena's opening day witnessed the first friendly game of volleyball. The team led by the AMU Rector, Prof. Bronisław Marciniak, and the University of Economics Rector, Prof. Marian Gorynia, was challenged by the squad representing Poznań Municipal Office, with Mayor Ryszard Grobelny and City Council President Grzegorz Ganowicz in the line-up. The Rector's team scored a comfort-

able 2:0 win over their opponents. Both teams left the field to the loud applause from the crowd, giving the floor to professionals who ran in a moment later. The Tomasz Zajęczkowski memorial competition was won by Krzysztof Września followed by AZS UAM Poznań. Other participating teams were AZS Uniwersytet Warszawski and AZS UZ Zielona Góra, ranked third and fourth, respectively. The new

arena opening completion was a 'final rehearsal' for our players before the forthcoming season. - They showed a strong commitment in the game. If we keep on playing like that all throughout the season, I'm not worried about the results. Both myself and my players are very happy with the opening of the new hall - says trainer Lisiecki.





*Season's Greetings*

*Happy New Year  
to all our Readers and Supporters:  
AMU Staff, Students and Friends.  
Best wishes of health, happiness, success,  
fulfilment and love in the New Year*

*from  
"Życie Uniwersyteckie"  
editorial staff*