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In the year 2006, the Jagiellonian University had 328 conferrals of doctoral promotions at its faculties:

- Biochemistry, Biophysics and Biotechnology – 11
- Biology and Earth Sciences – 31
- Chemistry – 49
- Philology – 17
- Philosophy – 38
- History – 27
- Mathematics and Computer Science – 6
- Polish Studies – 10
- International and Political Studies – 14
- Law and Administration – 22
- Physics, Astronomy and Applied Computer Science – 12
- Management and Social Communication – 23
- Medicine with the Division of Dentistry – 60
- Health Care – 8

Doctoral promotions refer directly to the oldest custom at the Jagiellonian University. It is known that solemn promotions were held in the 15th century. Some early 16th century statutes and notes have been preserved, which allowed historians to reconstruct the ceremony of doctoral promotions. First of all, the custom was a unique phenomenon in the life of the university and of the town. On the day preceding the ceremony musicians playing the tubes announced to all the professors and to the whole town that the dispute (vesperiae) would be held at a given faculty. The next day a big procession of professors and students of the University marched along the streets of Krakow to one of the churches (most frequently to All Saints’ Church), where the doctor knelt and took the solemn doctoral oath and then delivered a lecture.

At present, the ceremony is held in Collegium Novum. Referring to the old tradition doctors should take the oath in Latin.

Maria Kantor
In the academic year 2006/2007 the School of Medicine in English at the Jagiellonian University has 438 students. Over 200 of them come from Norway. The first group of 25 Norwegian students came in 1995. Currently, the UJ enrols ca. 60 Norwegian students every year.

The Norwegian students celebrate their national holiday, Day of Norway, on 17 May. Traditionally, they have breakfast together, which they make themselves. The School invites them to a gala reception in the evening. The students wear national costumes and at the beginning of the party they sing the Norwegian anthem.

Norwegian students like Krakow very much and enjoy their stay here. One can often see them riding their bikes through the main market square or sitting in cafes. They are also eager to take part in sports events organised at the Jagiellonian University: swimming, cycling and obviously skiing.

After graduation they go back to Norway and work as medical practitioners. Their graduation ceremony takes place in the aula of Collegium Novum. The students speak highly of their professors. After the official ceremony the alumni and their families are invited for a reception. In the evening they go to one of Kraków’s restaurants for a farewell dinner.

Many of them visit Krakow again. This time they take their spouses and families to show them the place, where they completed their medical studies and spent their unforgettable student years.

Magdalena Stepniak
School of Medicine in English

There are 95 American students enrolled at the Jagiellonian University in 2006/2007. The largest group (76) studies medicine. The rest pursue European studies, English philology, biology, history, political sciences, philosophy and Russian philology.

Once a year in November they gather on Thanksgiving Day and traditionally eat turkey. In 2006 the thanksgiving party was organised in the hall of Palac pod Baranami at the main market square in Kraków by the JU School of Medicine in English. All the students of medicine were invited, but naturally this was to be a special day for the Americans (76) and Canadians (81 students). The party was opened by the Dean of the Medical Faculty Prof. Wojciech Nowak and Vice-Dean for international co-operation Prof. Piotr Laidler. This event, which gathered about 300 people, was as usual a special occasion to get together, enjoy good food and other students’ company.

M. Kantor

Mr. Espen Langeland, 3rd year student
On 29 November – 2 December 2006 the Second International Congress on Colposcopy and Pathophysiology of Lower Female Genital Tract for the Central and Eastern European Countries was organized in Kraków by the Chair of Gynaecology and Obstetrics of the Medical College of the Jagiellonian University in co-operation with the Polish Society of Colposcopy and Cervical Pathology. The Congress was preceded by the Course of Colposcopy under the auspices of the European Federation for Colposcopy and Pathology of Lower Female Genital Tract. 600 gynaecologists from Poland, Europe, the U.S.A., Canada and India participated in the Congress and about 400 gynaecologists took part in the course.

The Honorary Committee of the Congress included Prof. S. Dexeus, President Elect of the European Society for Colposcopy and Pathology of LFGT, Prof. J. Hendrich, President of the German Society for Colposcopy and Cervical Pathology, Prof. J. Kotarski, President of the Polish Gynaecological Society, Dr A. Kulig, Director of University Hospital, Prof. W. Pawlik, JU Vice-Rector, Prof. T. Popiela, Chairman of the Scientific Board of the Polish Oncological Union and Prof. A. Singer, Director of the Gynaecology and Obstetrics Hospital in Whittington.

The Scientific Committee embraced 84 outstanding scientists.

The opening of the Congress was highlighted by KROKE playing Jewish tunes in original arrangements. The first inaugural lecture entitled ‘Prophylaxis of the uterine cervical cancer’ was given by Prof. Antoni Basta, MD, PhD, President of Polish Society of Colposcopy and Cervical Pathophysiology. The second one was delivered by Dr. Anne Szarewski, from the Cancer Research UK Centre for Epidemiology, Mathematics and Statistics in London.

The first session was dedicated to techniques in gynaecology and the second one to prophylaxis of the uterine cervical cancer. The next sessions focused on hormonal therapy and lower genital tract lesions as well as the management of ASCUS, AGUS and LGSIL. The speakers of the second day of the congress concentrated on VIN and early vulvar cancer as well as the early invasive cervical cancer. During the two-day congress presentations were given by 46 lectures from Poland and Europe. The discussions after the talks were occasions to exchange experiences and views concerning new trends and aspects in diagnostics, prophylaxis and treatment.

The topics of the First European Colposcopy Course included the possibilities and limitations of colposcopy, IFCPC classification-analysis of terminology, ASC, AGC – colposcopic pictures, colposcopy in pregnancy, atypical colposcopic pictures, vascular pattern of cervical neoplasia as well as squamous metaplasia of the cervix and colposcopic pictures of adenocarcinoma. The participants of the course took a final exam: theoretical and practical skills in colposcopy.

The year 2006 was an extremely important year to all women in Poland and to all practitioners dealing with women’s illnesses since the First National Programme of Prophylaxis of Cervical Cancer was launched that year. The main objective of the Programme is to reach all Polish women at the age of 25-59. They will be invited to cytological examinations. The Programme also aims at educating women about cervical cancer prevention and providing complex medical care in case of abnormalities.

The Chair of Gynaecology and Obstetrics of the Jagiellonian University is the most known Polish medical centre and the cradle of the Polish School of Colposcopy created by Professor Jan Madej.

Inga Ludwin
For the 7th consecutive time the New Frontiers in Interventional Cardiology Workshop NFIC 2006 took place in Kraków on 30 November – 4 December 2006. The workshop was organised by the Institute of Cardiology of the Jagiellonian University. The International Scientific Committee of the Workshop included some outstanding cardiologists who determine the directions of development in interventional cardiology in Europe and the U.S.A: Prof. Carlo Di Mario (President of the European Association of Percutaneous Cardiovascular Interventions [EAPCI]), Giancarlo Biamino, Jean Marco (director of the course PCR in Paris), Gregg Stone (director of the TCT course in Washington). Their participation in the Krakow Workshop can be seen as acknowledgement of the high position and level of Polish cardiology, including the activities on the European arena. Associate Professor Dariusz Dudek from the Institute of Cardiology, one of the directors of the course and at the same time member of the Executive Board of the European Society of Interventional Cardiology.

The scientific meeting gathered 1086 participants, including 198 cardiologists from 18 European countries and the U.S.A. During the 4-day course state of the art lectures, 17 live cases and up-to-date innovations in fields of imaging, devices and invasive procedures were presented. The subjects included all leading and present problems in interventional cardiology. The debate concerns problems of security and effectiveness of stent placement (DSA). It was the first stand of interventional cardiologists after the controversies presented in Barcelona.

The debates on angioplasty and effectiveness of methods of pre-hospital pharmacotherapy are worth mentioning since the experiences of the Krakow centre have been applied in other European countries and in the U.S.A. ‘We have come to you as partners and not as experts’, stressed Prof. Gregg Stone (U.S.A.) and Dr. N. Danchin (France).

Summing up, it is worth quoting short opinions sent to Prof. Dariusz Dudka:

Congratulations on a spectacular meeting. Krakow is a wonderful city. I see why you are so proud of your City and University (I. Margolis, U.S.A).

Congratulations on a wonderful course… Your Friend (Rob Galino, U.S.A).

I would like to thank you wholeheartedly for having been invited at the Krakow meeting. Thank you so much! (Bernard De Bruyne, Belgium).

Thanks again for the kind invitation, it was a very well organised symposium of top quality! (Glenn Van Langenhove, Antwerp, Belgium).

The workshop has been counted among the three most important events in interventional cardiology in Europe and included in the calendar of congresses. Thus the Jagiellonian University is going to host the leading cardiologists on 7-9 December 2007.
On the 67th anniversary of Sonderaktion Krakau at the Jagiellonian University, 6 November 2006, the academic community commemorated the professors and workers of three schools of higher education in Kraków, who were arrested by the Nazis and transported to German concentration camps. The annual Day of Remembrance gathered university rectors, representatives of the local authorities and church hierarchy, ambassadors and families of the arrested professors. The special guests of the celebration were Prof. Józef Wolski (96), the last living witness of Sonderaktion Krakau, Prof. Peter Hommelhoff, Rector of the University of Heidelberg and Mr Manfred Lautenschläger, sponsor of the Stanislaw Kutrzeba Award. All of the participants met in the historical lecture hall no. 56 on the second floor of Collegium Novum.

In his speech Prof. Karol Musiol, Rector of the Jagiellonian University, emphasized that ‘preserving the memory of the outstanding JU professors and students is our privilege and duty’ and the annual meeting in room 56 ‘is to express our solidarity with the victims of Sonderaktion Krakau, to oppose the ideologies that lead to similar crimes and to commemorate this event from generation to generation’. He continued that ‘we should not only remember the sorrowful events of our history but we should build reconciliation and understanding among people. An example of such action is the visit of Prof. Hommelhoff, Rector of the University of Heidelberg, who has come here for the fourth time, to take part in the University Remembrance Day and to present the Stanislaw Kutrzeba Award to one of our academics. This year we are also pleased to host Mr Manfred Lautenschläger, the sponsor of the Award.’

In order to pay tribute to the professors of the Jagiellonian University, who on 6 November 1939 within the framework of Sonderaktion Krakau, were arrested and taken to the concentration camps in Sachsenhausen and Dachau, where many of them died, the Ruprecht-Karl University of Heidelberg, the Max Planck Institute of Public Comparative Law and International Public Law founded the Stanislaw Kutrzeba Award in the field of human rights protection in Europe, in the hope of strengthening, reviving and developing understanding between Poland and Germany. The award in 2006 the award was granted for the fourth time and presented by both Prof. Hommelhoff and Mr Lautenschläger. The award was granted to Mr Wojciech Burek, a doctoral student at the Institute of European Studies, Jagiellonian University. He also completed the School of American Law, organized by the Faculty of Law and Administration in co-operation with The Catholic University of America. Mr Burek wrote 10 articles on the defence of human rights. Currently, he is writing his doctoral dissertation on treaties concerning human rights under the supervision of Prof. Dr. Kazimierz Lankosz.

Maria Kantor

‘Aktion gegen Universitätsprofessoren’ in November 1939 and the actions undertaken to free them from camps

‘Aktion gegen Universitätsprofessoren’ was the name the Nazi police gave to the operation on 6 November 1939 in room 56 of Collegium Novum. The Nazi action was of political-terrorist character and belonged to the activities of Einsatzgruppen, within the framework of ‘political cleansing of the conquered territory’.

After the ‘lecture’ of SS-Sturmbannführer Bruno Müller, all the men, members of the JU academic community, were arrested (three women were released). The Nazis also arrested 21 scientists of the Academy of Mining and Metallurgy, who had their meeting in another lecture hall, as well as some men who happened to be in the building. Thus the number of the arrested UJ workers included: 6 honorary professors, 2 retired professors, 72 professors, 1 deputy professor, 28 associate professors, 8 adjuncts, 17 assistants, 8 language teachers and 2 administration officers. They were transported to prison in Wroclaw. Several scientists were released after a few days and 169 were transported to the camp Sachsenhausen near Berlin.

The families of the arrested realized that they should expose that action in Western Europe and the U.S.A. and exert pressure through the diplomatic institutions accredited in

Maria Kantor
Berlin. They counted on Italy and the Apostolic See as well as international scientific institutions. The news about the arrest of the scientists was spread in French and English newspapers as well as the press in the neutral countries. The activities of the Polish diplomatic institutions were effective in mobilising academic circles. The Polish Ambassador in London managed to have 16 British universities and several scientific societies express their opinions. The Polish consulates in Ottawa and Montreal mobilised 17 Canadian universities. The Polish Ambassador to the Vatican sent the Vatican Secretary of State a number of notes concerning the situation in Poland. The branches of the Polish Academy of Sciences and Letters in Paris and Rome played an important role in freeing those arrested. All the efforts led to the release of 102 people from the camp in Sachsenhausen on 8 February 1940. One of the released A. Hoborski was very ill and he died the next day. 54 people remained in the camp. L. Sternbach died in February and J. Metallmann was transported to Buchenwald, where he died in August 1942. In March 1940, 43 prisoners were taken to Dachau and one of them, W. Ormicki who was Jewish, was transported to Mauthausen-Gusen, where he was killed in September 1941. Then several scientists were gradually released in April, August and December 1940, and in January 1941 twenty scientists were freed.

Summing up, 15 academics died in the camps, five died after their return to Kraków and eleven died before the end of the occupation. Four were arrested and died in Auschwitz. However, the majority of those arrested on 6 November 1939 were rescued thanks to the persistent actions of the families as well as diplomatic and academic institutions all over the world.

The speech delivered by
Prof. Dr. Peter Hommelhoff,
Rector of the University in Heidelberg

Magnificence,
Dear Professor Wolski,
Distinguished representatives of the municipality of Kraków, Małopolska, the Catholic Church in Kraków and representatives of the diplomatic institutions,
Dear families of the Victims,
Spectabiles, collegae, assistentes et studentes,
Ladies and Gentlemen,

During today’s ceremony of the Remembrance Day the Jagiellonian University confers the Stanisław Kutrzeba Award for the fourth time. As Rector of Karol Ruprecht University in Heidelberg I am very pleased to take part in this celebration because I would like to emphasize the uniqueness and significance of this event. The founders of this award, Karol Ruprecht University and Max Planck Institute for Comparative Public Law and International Law in Heidelberg, want to honour the day of 6 November 1939, which relates back to the destruction of Polish intelligentsia, the leading elite of the country, including first of all the professors, when the threatening sound of the drums began the process of chaining Poland up and then its extermination on a large scale.

We, people in Germany, cannot forget this fact.

And it is us, the academic community of the University of Heidelberg, that will preserve in eternal memory the arrest and transport of the Kraków professors, this criminal attempt on the state foundations of Poland and the foundations of our partner University in Kraków. One can read about this event, the sufferings and deaths of the professors in the concentration camps of Sachsenhausen, Dachau, Mauthausen, Buchenwald, and the attempts to release them, what can be attributed to the contemporary Vice-Ambassador of Yugoslavia Ivo Abdirić, later winner of the Nobel Prize, in his book, translated into German, in almost every university library in Germany.

In our relationships the Stanislaw Kutrzeba Award serves to remind us of this event. Every year it will remind people of this event so fraught with consequences, the Day of Remembrance of the Jagiellonian University professors and the symbol of suffering of many other Polish people. The award will also remind the University of Heidelberg and its community of the guilt that every scientist, actively involved in our partner relationships, is aware of.

Thus we should pay special attention to the future that lies ahead. I stressed that previously but it is still valid, or even gains in actuality that we should continue our common efforts to reach consent and good understanding between Poles and Germans. There were events on both sides of the Oder that irritate each partner. That’s why we, members of the universities in Kraków, Heidelberg and Mainz, should always have hope that our governments show good will and right attitudes in the process of further unity and we should encourage that whenever we can, both in Germany and Poland.

We cannot erase what people in Poland and in Germany achieved by various meetings and common enterprises in previous years; we cannot risk what was realized, thanks to wise politics, after the political breakthrough in 1989. For in the European Community, where Poland and Germany obviously represent their own, and many a time contradictory, interests, this unique agreement between our countries and nations has not been achieved yet. The road that lies ahead is even more difficult since it has become steep and rocky. I wish Poles and Germans went together, hand in hand, in spite of the difficulties. In Germany we do not want to get rid of our special responsibility. We will continue to make people aware and remember that under German occupation in World War II not only millions of Jews were killed but also millions of non-Jewish citizens in Central-Eastern Europe, Eastern Europe and Southern-Eastern Europe. Suffice it to mention the latest exhibition entitled ‘With all ruthlessness...’ in Heidelberg. It provides documentation for the crimes of Werhmacht in Poland during the German invasion in September 1939. We, Germans, are and will remain debtors to the Polish victims and owe them our respect.

Therefore, the Universities in Kraków and Heidelberg play a key role: both universities must develop and deepen their relationships, especially on the level of working contacts. So I was very pleased and satisfied to hear from You, Your Magnificence, that the Jagiellonian University wants to develop our scientific contacts.

The Stanislaw Kutrzeba Award testifies to our common hope for peace, reconciliation and friendship in the most wonderful way. Therefore, I want to congratulate the winner Wojciech Burek, on behalf of Karol Ruprecht University and the Max Planck Institute as well as on behalf of the founder who is the honorary Senator of the City of Heidelberg Mr Manfred Lautenschläger and I invite you to come to Germany to continue your research.

Translated by M. Kantor
On March 5th 2007, the third year anniversary of Jesuit Father Stanislaw Musiał’s death, Prof. Susannah Heschel of Dartmouth College, New Hampshire, U.S.A, held a lecture entitled The Inspiration of Polish Judaism and the Legacy of my Father Abraham Heschel in the aula of Collegium Novum, Jagiellonian University. This event was organized jointly with Prof. Zdzisław Mach and Jolanta Ambrosecwicz-Jacobs of the European Studies Institute, Director of the Research Group for Holocaust Studies, at the Jagiellonian University, the Cardinal Bernardin Center at the Catholic Theological Union, Chicago and the Cardinal Suenens Center at John Caroll University, Cleveland.

The Inspiration of Polish Judaism and the Legacy of My Father Abraham Heschel

Prof. Susannah Heschel holds the Eli Black Chair in Jewish Studies at Dartmouth. She is the editor of On Being a Jewish Feminist, which first appeared in 1983, and Moral Grandeur and Spiritual Audacity as well as an anthology of essays by her father, Abraham Joshua Heschel who was considered by many to be one of the most significant Jewish theologians of the 20th century.

Prof. Heschel began her speech by quoting the Zohar, ‘Our ancestors are present with us’. She was confident of the presence of her father Abraham Heschel (this year falls 100th anniversary of his birth) and Fr Stanislaw Musiał.

Abraham Heschel was a descendant of pre-eminent rabbinic families of Europe. He was born in Warsaw, Poland (1907) where he lived with his family until moving to Germany to continue his studies. However, his doctoral dissertation was published in Krakow after it had been refused for publication in Berlin. He escaped the Holocaust in 1939, ‘rescued like a brand from a fire.’ Abraham Heschel never returned to Poland but he is remembered as having inspired a new Christian-Jewish dialogue.

Heschel explicated many facets of Jewish thought including studies on medieval Jewish philosophy, the Kabbalah, and Hasidism. He had a special interest in the prophets, and in the proper way for Jews to incorporate religion into their lives. His books contain civil but pointed rejoinders towards those in Reform Judaism who no longer held that Jewish law was normative, and also towards those in Orthodox Judaism, who Heschel held valued legalism over the spirit of the law.

Prof. Heschel said how his father understood religion, ‘Religion is not a force to calm fears. Religion must afflict the comfortable. Religion begins with uncertainty and evokes obligation. It begins with a sense of mystery. It begins with a feeling of absolute dependence. A religious person is never satisfied. We judge religion by beliefs and actions.’ Abraham Heschel saw religious beliefs in all aspects of life and he saw God as ‘the most moved mover.’ Therefore, he joined the march of Martin Luther King at Selma, prayed together with him in protest at Arlington National Cemetery, and stood side by side in the pulpit of Riverside Church.

The relationship between the two men began in January 1963, and was a genuine friendship of affection as well as a relationship of two colleagues working together in political causes. As King encouraged Heschel’s involvement in the Civil Rights movement, Heschel encouraged King to take a public stance against the war in Vietnam. When the Conservative rabbis of America gathered in 1968 to celebrate Heschel’s sixtieth birthday, the keynote speaker they invited was King. When King was assassinated, Heschel was the rabbi Mrs. King invited to speak at his funeral. Heschel, like King, used Exodus imagery when writing about civil rights, and he used the imagery to rebuke white audiences for their racism. American Jews, too, were Egyptians, in Heschel’s retelling.

Before Abraham Heschel’s known trip to the Vatican, where he was to have a private meeting with Pope Paul VI he was asked ‘why not let the Pope come to us?’ He responded by saying that if going to see the Pope meant saving one Jewish life, and then of course he would go. In his journals, A. Heschel noted that Pope Paul VI was familiar with his books and urged him to keep writing especially to reach young readers, praising him for his positive influence on young people.

This meeting changed Catholic-Jewish relations for many years to come. Pope Paul VI deleted the paragraph that dealt with the converting of Jews to Christianity in the landmark ‘Nostra Aetate’ Declaration, during the Second Vatican Council in Rome.

One of the many lessons to be learned from Abraham Heschel is not to live vicariously through other people’s kindness or long ago action (‘look, what we did for them’), not to sit back comfortably letting others do the praying, not to despair – for to despair is to lose God. ‘There is no vicarious prayer. Take up the challenge and try to do likewise. It is not enough to romanticize, we need to demythologize.’

What is the future of Catholic-Jewish relations? Prof. Susannah Heschel admitted that she is not the person to answer that particular question for she has a character flaw: she is a pessimist. But the legacies of Father Musiał, as well as of her father Abraham Heschel and the very fact that individuals and organizations such as the distinguished Prof. Heschel, Prof. Donnelly, organized this event together paints a very optimistic picture.

Perhaps, in her father’s words, Prof. Heschel has already given us the answer. ‘There’s nothing more crooked than a straight ladder, more whole than a broken heart. A whole person is a person with a broken heart.’

In the afternoon Prof. Susannah Heschel gave another lecture entitled ‘From Jesus to Shylock: Jews and the Christian Imagination’ at the Jewish Culture Centre ‘Judaica’ in the district of Kazimierz, Kraków.
The 10th Annual Conference of the European Society of Surgery was held on 9-11 November 2006 in Cyprus and gathered about 300 surgeons. Professor Jan Kulig, M.D., PhD, Head of the First Department of General Surgery and the Clinic of Gastroenterological Surgery, Collegium Medicum of the Jagiellonian University in Krakow, was elected ESS President for 2007. His team received the first award for the presentation of the stomach cancer treatment results.

The European Society of Surgery, being a relatively young medical society, was founded in 1993 by a group of leading European surgeons. The goals of the Society are to maintain an international forum for general surgery and to offer an international forum for clinical and surgical research, but mostly to act as a bridge between former Eastern and Western Europe and to create a kind of surgical league that could serve as a standard of quality and achievement in surgical fields.

A new primary mission and new objectives were formulated, focusing on creating a uniform system of acquiring surgical specialties, increasing the qualifications of surgeons from Central-Eastern Europe by means of certificates, organising clinical workshops, surgical presentation contests and supporting research.

Prof. Kulig has been connected with the ESS since its beginning. He received the ESS Prize twice for the best presentations at the congresses. He organized many workshops on laparoscopic operations, techniques of modern hernia repair, combined treatment of stomach cancer and liver resection.

On 29th November - 1st December 2007 Prof. Kulig’s Department will host the 11th Annual Conference of European Society of Surgery in Krakow, its main topics being new technologies in surgery, progress in minimally invasive surgery, adjuvant therapy in surgery and modern hernia repair.

Prof. Jan Kulig studied medicine at the Medical Academy of Krakow in 1966-1972. During his studies he was actively involved in students’ social and scientific associations. He was President of the Polish Students’ Association. Since his graduation he has worked at Medical College of the Jagiellonian University. His main fields of interests are: general surgery, gastroenterology, ultrasonography, endoscopic surgery and oncology. Prof. Kulig is a member of numerous medical and scientific organizations. He is the author of seven monographs and 803 scientific publications as well as speeches delivered at national and international congresses. He won the Polish Ministry of Health Award. The Department of Surgery directed by Prof. Kulig received the title of the Best General Surgery Department in Poland in the last years (Newsweek ranking in 2003, 2004 and 2006) and in 2004 the weekly Wprost awarded it the Best Specialized Surgery Clinic in Poland.

Prof. JAN KULIG was elected President of the European Society of Surgery

Prof. Kulig has been member of various Polish (Society of Polish Surgeons, Polish Medical Association, Ultrasonographic Society) and international societies, including the International Society of Surgery, American Gastroenterological Association, European Society of Surgery, European Association for Endoscopic Surgery, International Gastric Cancer Association, and European Surgical Association at the Royal College of Surgeons in Ireland. Membership of this prestigious surgical association is by invitation and prof. Kulig has been congratulated on receiving this ‘well-deserved honour’ by Prof. P.-A. Clavien, Secretary General of the ESA and prof. A. Kingsnorth from Plymouth Hospital, Secretary General of the ESS.

The scientific profile of the First Department of General Surgery of Collegium Medicum, Jagiellonian University covers general surgery, laparoscopy, surgical endoscopy, oncological surgery of oesophageal, stomach, pancreatic, liver, biliary ducts, colorectal cancers, new techniques in ultrasonography, intraoperative, endorectal, and laparoscopic ultrasonography, and treatment of breast diseases.

The Department has coordinated multicenter research on gastric cancer concentrating on early detection and most effective treatment methods in advanced stomach cancer, minimally invasive technologies in early stage cancers, application of radiotherapy between operations and molecular and cell mechanisms of cancer.

In 2006 the Department realised 9 grants financed by the Ministry of Science and Higher Education, 18 statutory...
projects and 2 of its own projects. Three assistants received doctorate degrees, 7 began their doctoral dissertations, 17 began specialties in general surgery, 2 in oncological surgery and 1 in plastic surgery. All junior researches participate in research teams.

The areas of interest cover also tissue and cell culture, hereditary cancers, studies on new cancer markers and sensitivity cancer markers and application of monitoring of the immune system reactions.

In 2009, the Department will host the 8th Congress of the International Gastric Cancer Association.

M. Kantor, J. Kulig

University Children Hospital of Kraków

University Children Hospital of Kraków is a tertiary care referral centre, where all paediatric and paediatric surgical subspecialties are represented, except contagious diseases and inpatient paediatric psychiatry. The hospital is a successor of the first Polish paediatric ward (1835), paediatric department (1864), paediatric hospital (1876) and the third in the world Chair of Paediatrics.

University Children Hospital of Kraków was constructed using funds donated by Americans of Polish descent and the extension was financed by U.S. government grants. The first part of the hospital was opened in 1965, further stages of its construction included the laboratory wing (1974), rehabilitation centre (1987) and ambulatory care centre (1995).

For some diseases (conjoined twins, osteogenesis imperfecta, certain complex congenital heart defects like hypoplastic left heart syndrome) the hospital treats children from all over Poland. It has four intensive care units, seven operating rooms, and complete diagnostic facilities including MRI (the lab is situated on the premises, but run by an independent company as an outsourcing service).

The Polish-American Institute of Paediatrics uses University Children’s Hospital as its teaching base. The Institute is involved with education and research and consists of three Chairs, and 10 Departments. More than 230 research papers are published annually and presented at various national and international symposia. Classes and seminars are taught to more than 1,400 students of the Faculty of Medicine, as well as students of pharmacy, medical analytics, public health, nursing and other medical specialties. Unfortunately, despite our achievements that make us proud, we also have our share of problems: a majority of our facilities, and especially the operating rooms and intensive care units constructed more than 40 years ago, no longer meet contemporary standards and must be promptly modernised. A new surgical complex, ventilators and cardiac monitors, repairs of roofing on all buildings are only selected elements of our “wish list”. This is why we have initiated the project of Restoration of University Children’s Hospital in an attempt to raise funds necessary for the implementation of the most important
investment and renovation projects and purchase of medical equipment.
Thanks to donations and support received to date from various civic-minded companies, institutions and individuals, we have already started the modernization of our Neonatal Pathology and Intensive Care Unit. We have also managed to extend our hospital pharmacy, adding central workstations for cytostatic drug preparation – these medications are administered to haematology and oncology patients. Several of the most pressing renovation works have also been accomplished. In spite of that a lot of work is still ahead if we want to complete all repairs and renovations and furnish modern medical equipment for all the wards, thus reaching a level equal to that represented by other paediatric hospitals in Europe and the world.

Therefore, we are taking the liberty of asking for financial support and assistance in restoration and modernisation of University Children’s Hospital of Kraków – an important care centre for sick children from all over Poland. We will be very grateful for any help in the form of cash or in-kind donation (medical equipment) that we need to receive as soon as possible.

Marcin Mikos
In the year 2006, there were 764 participants (562 in summer programmes and 202 in the ‘custom-tailored’ programmes).

The participants in the summer 2006 came from 47 countries, including 268 people from the U.S.A.; Germany – 92; Austria – 27; Canada – 26; France – 24.

The courses in Polish are structured in accordance with the level specifications defined in the Association of Language Testers in Europe (ALTE) and with the curricula adopted by the Polish Ministry of Science and Higher Education for the purpose of the state certification of the competence in Polish as a second language. Thus, we distinguish the following eight levels of proficiency from beginning to advanced:
1. Survival Polish
2. Breakthrough
3. Waystage
4. Threshold
5. Vantage
6. Effective Operational Proficiency
7. Proficiency (Polish State Certificate Level)
8. Native Speaker

All language classes are taught in Polish! The maximum number of participants in a class is 12 people. The School has worked out its own method of teaching Polish, which is of an eclectic character. For many years the School has been a strong advocate of the communicative approach in foreign language teaching, never hesitating to teach functional grammar - even explicitly and cognitively – if our students needed it. Effective communication in Polish is impossible without a firm grammatical foundation. Teachers have emphasized the need of parallel work on developing all language skills, including writing which is sometimes neglected in the tradition of teaching Polish.

The Polish Ministry of Science and Higher Education has launched a system of state certification in Polish as a Foreign Language in 2004. If the necessary conditions are met, the JU School offers an opportunity to take such exams during or at the end of the summer courses.

Other courses include:
- History of Poland: from Kingdom to Third Republic
- Introduction to Poland
- The Jews in Poland
- Polish Grammar
- Polish Art: Past and Present
- The End of Economic Transition in Poland?
- Contemporary Poland and Her Society
- Polish Culture: Lessons in Polish Literature
- Highlights of Polish Music
- Polish Film: Selected Topics

Apart from the rich academic programme, the School organizes a cultural programme, which includes the presentation of films, theatre performances and concerts, visits to galleries and museums, encounters with Polish folk culture and tradition as well as field trips. The tourist programme begins with a sightseeing tour of Kraków’s Old Town and the Wawel Royal Castle. On weekends there are trips to the former Nazi concentration camp in Auschwitz-Birkenau, trips to the ancient salt mine in Wieliczka, trips to the Pieniny Mountains, including a raft on the Dunajec River and a trip to the Tatras and a visit to the resort city of Zakopane.

Éwa Nowakowska, Piotr Horbatowski

For more information: http://www.uj.edu.pl/SL/ e-mail: plschool@uj.edu.pl   tel.: +48 12 421 3692

Summer 2007

A – four-week course: 5 July – 1 August
B – six-week course: July 5 – 15 August
C – three-week course: 5-25 July
D – three-week course: 26 July – 15 August

Prof. Sztompka giving a lecture during the inauguration ceremony, June 2006
The Institute of Germanic studies at the Jagiellonian University is one of the oldest in Europe, as its history dates back to the beginning of the 19th century. In the year 1808 Mathäus von Collin was appointed to the Chair of Esthetics, Language and German Literature, History of Arts and Sciences and History of Philosophy. Collin left Kraków in 1809 and there was only one German course at the University. Therefore, the true beginning of the activities of the chair of Germanic Studies is acknowledged to be the year 1850 when Karl Weinhold became Professor of German Language and Literature. Earlier he had lectured at the University of Wrocław. From that appointment, the Chair of Professor Weinhold was active till the middle of the 20th century. For one hundred years the German studies had outstanding lecturers such as F. T. Bratranek, W. Creiznach, J. Ippold, S. Wukadinović or A. Kleczkowski. From the very beginning, the students were also very active. Encouraged by W. Creiznach they attempted to create a scientific circle in the year 1893. The university authorities approved the initiative as the German Philological Circle in 1900. The Circle did not only conduct research and teaching, organising courses of phonetics and grammar, but also created its own large library, which was handed over to the institute library after World War II (total of 1400 volumes).

The Second World War disturbed the work of the Chair of Germanic Studies to a considerable extent. Before the war the number of students amounted to 600 and just after the war it was only 40. The reason for the decrease was not so much the memory of the German occupation and extermination but the policy of the new government that decided to stop didactic activities of the Chair. The last students graduated in 1952 (taking MA examination). The Chair was changed into the Department of German Philology, having only one employee (Dr Olga Dobijanka).

Didactic activities were resumed only in the year 1966. The new Institute of Germanic Philology, which is also the present name of the university unit, has been placed in Collegium Paderevianum at Mickiewicza 9. Since then the Institute has unceasingly been conducting research and teaching and is constantly being developed. Currently, there are 54 faculty members and almost 500 students (regular and extramural) enrolled in two fields: German Philology and Swedish Philology. The Director of the Institute is Prof. Dr Antoni Dębski. There are four departments: German literature, German linguistics, contemporary German language and Swedish philology. The Institute conducts research in the fields of the history of literature, literature studies, linguistics, psycholinguistics, methodology of teaching German. The results of researches are presented at conferences organised by the Institute itself and others. The Academic Circle of German Students resumed its activities in 1966.

The Institute of Germanic Philology has had wide contacts with international partners. DAAD teachers (currently Dr Michael Haase) and Austrian teachers (at present Peter Langkammer) have been conducting courses for years. The Institute collaborates with similar units at the University of Cologne, Freie University Berlin, Universities of: Jena, Leipzig, Erlangen, Göttingen, Bochum and Salzburg, the Radboud University Nijmegen, Holland and the University of Lviv, Ukraine. In the framework of the ERASMUS Programme agreements concerning staff and student exchange were signed with 12 German universities, 2 Austrian universities, 5 French universities, 1 Dutch university, 1 Slovakian university and 1 Swedish university. In the academic year 2006/07, there are 29 outgoing students and 12 incoming students.

The challenges that the Kraków Germanic Studies faces include the introduction of a two-level system of studies (Bachelor and Master) and a change of location when the new building of Collegium Paderevianum is completed.
The history of Germanic studies at the Jagiellonian University was described in Olga Dobijanka-Witczakowa’s, *Historia Katedry Germanistyki w Uniwersytecie Jagiellońskim*, in Witold Taszycki’s and Alfred Zaręba’s, *Wydział Filologiczny Uniwersytetu Jagiellońskiego. Historia Katedr*, Kraków 1964, pp. 349-365.

http://www.filg.uj.edu.pl/ifg/
http://www.filg.uj.edu.pl/ifg/erasmus/erasmus.html
http://www.filg.uj.edu.pl/ifg/kng/index.html

Paweł Zarychta
Institute of Germanic Philology

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On March 2, 2007 Rector of the Jagiellonian University Prof. Dr. Karol Musioł and Vice-Rector for Research and International Relations Prof. Dr. Szczepan Biliński paid a visit to Ankara University at the invitation of its Rector Prof. Dr. Nusret Aras. They were also received by the Polish Ambassador to Turkey Mr Grzegorz Michalski. The Rectors signed an agreement for academic exchange and co-operation. Prof. Musioł and Prof. Biliński had several meetings with academic staff members of Ankara University. The co-operation will start in astronomy and Turkish studies. Polish studies and archaeology are further disciplines to explore possibilities of mutual co-operation. An appendix covering technical implementation details of the agreement will be negotiated. Exchange of students will be carried out under the ERASMUS LLP.

Being the first higher education institution in the Republic of Turkey, Ankara University offers education and training in nearly 40 vocational, 114 undergraduate and 110 graduate programs, including basic and applied sciences such as: Agriculture, Dentistry, Medicine, Pharmacy, Science, Veterinary Medicine and Social Sciences including Communications, Divinity, Education, Law, Letters and Political Science. The University has 5 big campuses in the centre of the city. Currently, it has 42,000 students.

Renata Dobrowolska

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**VISIT TO ANKARA UNIVERSITY**

On March 2, 2007 Rector of the Jagiellonian University Prof. Dr. Karol Musioł and Vice-Rector for Research and International Relations Prof. Dr. Szczepan Biliński paid a visit to Ankara University at the invitation of its Rector Prof. Dr. Nusret Aras. They were also received by the Polish Ambassador to Turkey Mr Grzegorz Michalski. The Rectors signed an agreement for academic exchange and co-operation. Prof. Musioł and Prof. Biliński had several meetings with academic staff members of Ankara University. The co-operation will start in astronomy and Turkish studies. Polish studies and archaeology are further disciplines to explore possibilities of mutual co-operation. An appendix covering technical
IMESS programme

The New Year brings new challenges and opportunities for the Centre for European Studies. We are one of six partners in the consortium offering the IMESS programme – or International Masters in Economy, State and Society with reference to Central and Eastern Europe to use its full title. Students will spend a year at University College London and the following year in Budapest, Helsinki, Prague, Tartu or here at the Jagiellonian University, choosing from four study tracks: Economics and Business, Politics and Security, Nation and Society, History and Culture. We are delighted at our success in adding a second exciting programme – Euroculture was the first – awarded the right to participate in Erasmus Mundus, the EU’s cooperation and mobility scheme which offers scholarships for graduate students from so-called third countries.

The programme website – www.imess.eu – describes its aims:

The central objective of the programme is to enhance global understanding and awareness of the wider European region. As well as developing cultural and linguistic knowledge of both Eastern and Western Europe, students acquire the skills to identify and critically analyse key factors shaping the economies, states and societies of the expanding European region and to formulate appropriate and effective policy responses.

Partnership with the University of Kent

At the same time, we are beginning what we hope will be a fruitful partnership with the University of Kent. Students will be able to spend a year in Krakow and a year in Canterbury – in either order – and emerge with two degrees: an MA in European Governance (International Double Award) from Kent and an MA in European Studies from the Jagiellonian University.

Partnership with the University of Glasgow

This July we will host a Postgraduate Research Methodology Summer School in conjunction with the Centre for Russian, Central and Eastern European Studies of the University of Glasgow. The school, entitled Processes of Europeanisation, hopes to attract 20 postgraduate students from the UK and ten from Poland and other countries of Central and Eastern Europe. It aims at a comparative, cross-cultural and interdisciplinary approach in addressing theoretical and methodological aspects of the research process.
The Fair ‘Grenzenlos – Studying and Working Abroad’ was held on 23 November 2006 in Bochum. The Ruhr University Bochum invited about 50 exhibitors: international partner universities (from Tours, Oviedo, Shanghai, Wrocław, Kraków, Utrecht and Istanbul), German Academic Exchange Service (DAAD), Fulbright Commission, British Council, Foreign Office, Federal Administration Office, European Latin American Association, Erasmus coordinators, students’ networks, embassies, consulates and many others. The fair was accompanied by lectures and presentations concerning the possibilities of studying, working and internships abroad. The Jagiellonian University was represented by Maria Kantor, International Relations Office, and Agata Kozielska, Department of Educational Affairs.

The Ruhr University Bochum, founded in 1965, is one of the 10 biggest German universities. It has 20 faculties, more than 70 degree programmes and over 32,000 students, including 4,300 international students from 140 countries. Bochum is located in the heart of the Ruhr area, which is the largest economic region in Europe. It is also a region that has one of the highest concentrations of institutions of higher education and research.

The agreement of co-operation between the Jagiellonian University and the Ruhr University Bochum was signed in 1979.

The working programme for 2004-2007 embraces:
- law,
- pedagogy,
- history,
- mathematics,
- computer sciences,
- physics,
- astronomy,
- chemistry,
- classical,
- German studies,
- English studies,
- philosophy,
- earth sciences,
- library science.

Currently, the Jagiellonian University has 4 Erasmus agreements with the RUB in law, physics, English studies and history of art.

www.ruhr-uni-bochum.de

M. Kantor
Key figures in the academic year 2006/2007

Academic staff at JU
Total: 3,605
- 986 professors and associate professors
- 80 visiting professors
  (including 12 from Ukraine, 10 from Germany, 6 from the U.S.A., 4 from France)

Graduate students in 2006 – 7,101

Students enrolled in 2006/07
Total: 48,463
- Bachelor – 10,157
- Master – 34,057
- Doctoral – 2,158
- Postgraduate non-degree studies – 2,091

International students: 1,685
Including:
- 201 Norwegians
- 194 Ukrainians
- 142 Germans
- 100 Belgians
- 91 Americans
- 88 Canadians
- 79 Czechs
- 62 Kazakhs
- 53 French

International students enrolled in the year 2006

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course Type</th>
<th>No.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Bachelor studies (3 years)</td>
<td>96</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Master studies (5 years)</td>
<td>343</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Master studies (2 year programme)</td>
<td>112</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Doctoral studies (4 years)</td>
<td>61</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Postgraduate studies</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Socrates/Erasmus Programme</td>
<td>347</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>School of Medicine in English</td>
<td>438</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Postgraduate internships</td>
<td>93</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Programmes in foreign languages</td>
<td>79</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Polish Language and Culture</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- One semester and two semester courses</td>
<td>86</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- Summer courses</td>
<td>764</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>2,449</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Participation in research and educational programmes in 2006/07

- Socrates/Erasmus Programme
  - 650 agreements (14% increase)
  - 347 incoming students (31% increase)
  - 795 outgoing students (12% increase)
  - 83 teaching staff mobility (27% increase)
- CEEPUS Programme
- 24 Leonardo da Vinci projects
- 3 Jean Monnet projects
- 2 Socrates Lingua projects
- 8 Erasmus Mundus project
- 1 AGIS

Currently, the Jagiellonian University co-operates with 153 institutions of higher education from 39 countries. The co-operation is realised on the basis of 87 agreements on the university level, 43 agreements on the faculty level and 23 agreements on the institute level.

In 2006, the Jagiellonian University signed 16 new agreements:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>No.</th>
<th>Country</th>
<th>Name of the university</th>
<th>Place</th>
<th>Level</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1.</td>
<td>Belarus</td>
<td>Jan Kupala University of Grodno</td>
<td>Grodno</td>
<td>Institute</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2.</td>
<td>China</td>
<td>Beijing Foreign Studies University</td>
<td>Beijing</td>
<td>University</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3.</td>
<td>Japan</td>
<td>Osaka University of Foreign Studies</td>
<td>Osaka</td>
<td>Institute</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4.</td>
<td>Libanon</td>
<td>Momoyama Gakuin University</td>
<td>Osaka</td>
<td>Institute</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5.</td>
<td>Libanon</td>
<td>Orient-Institut der Deutschen Morgenlandischen Gesellschaft</td>
<td>Beirut</td>
<td>Institute</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6.</td>
<td>Norway</td>
<td>University of Arendal</td>
<td>Arendal</td>
<td>Faculty</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7.</td>
<td>Russia</td>
<td>Russian State University for the Humanities</td>
<td>Moscow</td>
<td>Institute</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8.</td>
<td>Singapore</td>
<td>National University of Singapore</td>
<td>Singapore</td>
<td>University</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9.</td>
<td>Ukraine</td>
<td>International Centre for Astronomical, Medical and Ecological Research</td>
<td>Kiev</td>
<td>Institute</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10.</td>
<td>Ukraine</td>
<td>Yurij Fedkovych Chernivtsi National University</td>
<td>Chernivtsi</td>
<td>University</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11.</td>
<td>Ukraine</td>
<td>S.I. Georgievsky Crimean State Medical University</td>
<td>Simferopol</td>
<td>Faculty</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12.</td>
<td>Ukraine</td>
<td>Cherkasy State Technological University</td>
<td>Cherkasy</td>
<td>Institute</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>13.</td>
<td>U.S.A.</td>
<td>Indiana University</td>
<td>Bloomington</td>
<td>University</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>14.</td>
<td>Italy</td>
<td>Thomas Jefferson University, Wills Eye Hospital</td>
<td>Philadelphia</td>
<td>Faculty</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>15.</td>
<td>Italy</td>
<td>University Tor Vergata</td>
<td>Rome</td>
<td>Faculty</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>16.</td>
<td>Italy</td>
<td>University Milano-Biocca</td>
<td>Milan</td>
<td>Faculty</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

M. Kantor

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Agreement with Melbourne

In January 2007 a Memorandum of Understanding between the Jagiellonian University and the University of Melbourne was signed. The Memorandum is open to all disciplines. The cooperation has already started in medical biotechnology. The Institute of American Studies and Diaspora Studies at the JU intends to co-operate in the field of Australian studies.

The University of Melbourne, is the oldest (established in 1853) and one of the most comprehensive universities in Australia. It comprises 11 faculties and some 40,000 undergraduate and postgraduate students.

R. Dobrowolska

Agreement with Tor Vergata

On 27 November 2006, an agreement of cooperation between the School of Medicine and Surgery of the University Tor Vergata in Rome, represented by Rector Prof. Alessandro Finazzi Agró and the Dean Prof. Renato Lauro, and the Faculty of Medicine of the Jagiellonian University, represented by Vice-Rector for Collegium Medicum Prof. Wieslaw Pawlik, and the Dean of the Medical Faculty Prof. Wojciech Nowak, was signed. This agreement was a prolongation of the contract signed in 1999.

The agreement concerns staff and student exchange within the framework of EU educational programmes and summer internships in clinics. The collaboration will be conducted in the fields of biochemistry, molecular biology, immunology and surgery. Moreover, Prof. Jan Kulig, Director of the First Department of General Surgery, Jagiellonian University, and Prof. Lucio Achilles Gaspari, director of the Department of Surgery, Tor Vergata University, signed a working programme with a schedule of clinical, research and educational exchange for the academic year 2006/2007, including post-graduate courses.

The first agreement between the University Tor Vergata and the Jagiellonian University was signed in 1990 and the collaboration has been conducted with the Institutes of Physics. There is also one Erasmus agreement in the field of Romance languages.

M. Kantor

Agreement with Arendal

On 17 November 2006 a letter of intent was signed between the Medical College of the Jagiellonian University, Folkeuniversitetet Arendal and the Municipality of Arendal, southern Norway. The agreement resulted from the four year collaboration between the JU School of Medicine in English and Folkeuniversitetet Arendal. The agreement was signed by Mr Harald Danielsen, Director General of the Municipality of Arendal, Mrs Ellene Bergese, study director of the Folkeuniversitetet Arendal and Vice-Rector for Collegium Medicum Prof. Dr. Wieslaw Pawlik. The parties agree to develop Arendal Port of Knowledge as an educational centre for alumni of higher schools in Norway. Some of the courses in Arendal Port of Knowledge will be taught by academic teachers of the JU Medical Faculty.

M. Kantor

Visit of Malesian Delegation

On 4-5 March 2007 representatives of Malesian medical centres visited the Medical College of the Jagiellonian University. The delegation consisted of Prof. Dato Mafauzy Mohamed, Director of the Medical Campus, University of Science; Dr. Lokman Saim, Dean of the Medical Faculty, National University of Malaysia; Dr. Jayaram Menon, Head of Medical Department Queen Elizabeth Hospital, Kota Kinabalu, Sabah; Dr. Wan Mazlan bin Mohd Woojdy, Secretary to the Malaysian Medical Council, Ministry of Health and Mr. Mohd Ali bin Jabar, Principal Assistant Director, Accreditation Unit, Training Department, Public Service Department. They met the JU Vice Rector for Collegium Medicum, Prof. Wieslaw Pawlik and the Deans of the Medical Faculties. They also visited the Department of Anatomy, the Department of Cardiology and the Department of Hematology. The main purpose of the visit of the Malesian delegation was to enquire about possibilities of studies in medicine and dentistry at the JU for Malesian students.

M. Kantor
STUDENT EXCHANGE WITH JENA

Friedrich-Schiller-Universität in Jena is the oldest partner university of the Jagiellonian University. In the academic year 2006/2007, as a student of the final year of Judaic studies at the Jagiellonian University, I had the opportunity to spend the winter semester at the University of Jena within the framework of a student bilateral exchange between these universities.

The subjects I selected to study at the University of Jena included a course of biblical Hebrew, a course of biblical Aramaic (conducted by Dr Michael Rhode) and two seminars.

I treated the course of biblical Hebrew as an occasion to get to know the German tradition of translating biblical texts as I already had considerable knowledge of Hebrew, whereas I did not know Aramaic at all. The course taught me its foundations and opened the door to the rich ancient literature of the Near East written in Aramaic.

My participation in the Hauptseminar (Esra, Nehemia und die Entstehung des Judentums), conducted by Prof. Dr Uwe Becker, allowed me to get to know the methods of the German exegesis, which is highly valued in the world. The seminar was devoted to the analysis of the key fragments of the Books of Ezra and Nehemiah (The edict of Cyrus - Ezra 1:1-4; construction of the Second Temple – Ezra 4:6; mission of Ezra – Ezra 7:1-10 and 8:1-36; Ezra and the Torah – Era 7:11-26; mission of Nehemiah – Neh 1:1-2,10; Nehemiah and the construction of the Jerusalem wall – Neh 2:11-3,32) as well as parallel texts, for example Cyrus Cylindr and texts from Elephantine. The discussion also focused on the latest books concerning the history and literature of Israel in the Persian epoch.

The Oberseminar (Forschungskolloqium zum Alten Testament) focused on presentations and discussions of research papers of the participants of the seminar. I would like to mention Jutta Noetzel (Magdeburg) who presented the thesis of her doctoral project on the Book of Malachi. Dr Susanne Rudig-Zelt (Jena) wrote about the story of Abraham, Hannes Bezzel (Erfurt) dealt with the Lamentations; Martin Gröger (Halle) presented the figure of the legendary German researcher Julius Wellhausen. I also had the chance to present the results of my two master theses (written at the Chair of Judaic Studies, JU: Hellenist reform and religious persecutions in Judea under Antioch IV Epiphanes. A Study of reasons and interpretations of the events, and written at the Faculty of Theology, the Pontifical Academy of Theology in Kraków, ‘Die jüdische Gesellschaft unter Herrschaft von Antiochus IV. Epiphanes. Die Vielfalt der Reaktionen der jüdischen Gruppen auf die Ereignisse in Judäa in J. 175-164 v. Chr.’). In my speech ‘Die Juden und Antiochus IV. Epiphanes. Die Ursachen der Religionsverfolgung in Judäa (167-164 v. Chr.)’ I presented the present-day research, fundamental research problems and my opinion on various theories that explained the reasons of religious persecutions in Judea (cf. M. Marciak, Antiochus IV Epiphanes and the Jews, in ‘The Polish Journal of Biblical Research’, vol. 5, no. 1 (9) 2006, 61-74); M. Marciak, A Review: Othmar Kell, Urs Staub, Hellenismus und Judentum. Vier Studien zu Daniel 7 und zur Religionsnot unter Antiochus IV, Göttingen 2000, in ‘The Polish Journal of Biblical Research’, vol. 10, 2006).

During my stay in Jena I was pleased to participate in the international conference entitled ‘Julius Wellhausen – Alttestamentler, Neutestamentler, Arabist’, which was held on 3-4 November 2006. The Colloquium was organized by Prof. Uwe Becker (Old Testament Studies, Jena), Prof. Tilman Seidensticker (Islamic Studies, Jena) and Prof. Jürgen van Oorschot (Old Testament Studies, Erlangen). The aim of the conference was to present the research works of Julius Wellhausen, the legendary German scientist and to confront his results with the present day research (cf. M. Marciak, A Report: International Interdisciplinary Conference: Julius Wellhausen – Alttestamentler, Neutestamentler, Arabist, in ‘The Polish...

During my scholarship I used the University Library a lot. Thüringer Universitäts- und Landesbibliothek Jena is a fully computerised library and its collections on biblical and Oriental subjects belong to the best ones in East Germany. One can use the valuable collections in a very economical way since they are located on one floor of the building of archaeological and historic studies. The literature helped me to complete my master theses and to prepare a project of my doctoral dissertation concerning the discoveries in Wadi ed-Daliyeh and the history of the Samaritans.

The student organisation at the University of Jena ‘A co to?’ is worth mentioning. It is a forum about Polish-German collaboration (cf. www.acoto.com). One of its projects is the Polish-German Week, which will be held in May 2007 at the University of Jena. The week will include various events, workshops, lectures on Poland and Germany and their mutual cultural and economic cooperation. The main aim is to promote Polish culture among students.

I would like to express my gratitude to the institutions to which I owe my stay in Jena. First of all, I would like to thank Friedrich-Schiller-Universität for the scholarship opportunity, Studentenwerk Jena-Weimar for the excellent accommodation and the International Relations Office of the Jagiellonian University, which co-ordinates the student exchange. My gratitude is directed to the scientists at the Faculty of Theology at the University of Jena, above all I thank Prof. Dr. Uwe Becker, whose advice and kindness motivated my work and his help allowed me to develop my scientific methods. I want to thank Dr. Michael Rhode and Dr. Susanne Rudnig-Zelt for their time and friendliness. Finally, I am grateful to Josefine Kammel, who was my tutor in Jenie, offering her help and advice during my entire stay there.

Michał Marciak
Judaic Studies, JU

A HIGHLANDER DANCE THROUGH THE POLISH MOUNTAIN REGIONS

For the weekend of 3-4 March, 2007, the International Students’ Office, the Department of International Polish Studies, and the Erasmus Student Network UJ invited all international students of the Jagiellonian University along on a ‘Highlander Dance through the Mountain Regions of Poland.’ This trip to the mountain regions of Orawa, Spisz, Pieniny, and Podhale was organized around the ideas of integration and of engaging the unique Polish highland folk culture. The weekend trip was intended to bring Orientation Week to a most fitting conclusion and all the students, after a week full of orientation and integration events in Kraków, were well prepared to trek outside the city with new friends and to learn about the distinctive highland culture through sightseeing, song, and dance.

The trip began with all 87 of us meeting very early Saturday morning and making our way south to begin our journey and ‘Dance.’ We made our first stop in the village of Zubrzyca Górna and visited the Orawa Ethnographic Park to come to understand the daily living habits and routines that have existed for centuries, and in some parts still exist today, of the highlanders of the Orawa region. Luck was with us in the morning as the sun shone brightly and the air was surprisingly warmer than usual. Because of this, we had quite a breathtaking view of the stunning Babia Góra mountain (1795 m.).

Afterwards, we departed for the village of Dębno to pay a visit to the 15th century St. Michael Archangel wooden church. Waiting for us was the jovial local parish priest who was more than delighted to meet with us to present this very old church. After a very witty welcome and introduction, the local parish priest explained to us the history and art of the church and he was very pleased with the questions that were posed to him. Because of the very interesting and intelligent questions asked of the priest, he remarked that there was no doubt that the group was comprised of students of the Jagiellonian University.

Upon leaving Dębno, we set forth toward the village of Niedzica to tour the 14th century castle located in a beautifully picturesque area on the edge of Czorsztyn lake. It was in this castle, owned at various times by different noble families of Magyar, Slovakian, and Polish ethno-linguistic descent, that the Highland Robber of highland
robbers, Janosik (the Slovakian, not Polish, Robin Hood), was imprisoned and escaped from to return to his beloved Maryna. We also learned that baldness is also caused by pushing princesses out of castle windows. For the explanation to this legend, you must visit this aesthetically pleasing castle.

Night was already falling, and unfortunately so was the rain, when we left Niedzica for Zakopane at the foot of the majestic Tatra mountains. There can be no doubt that the Tatra mountains have an incredible effect on the heart’s mind and eyes, and when we arrived the clouds had cleared, the moon shone vividly, and we were welcomed to Zakopane by an intense silhouette of Giewont mountain.

After dinner, we were on our way to the highlander integration party at Ciotka (aunt) Buleckula’s inn (karczma), decorated in the time-honoured highlander way. Already waiting to greet us were the folk orchestra along with folk dancers from the Kraków Student Highland Folk Song and Dance Ensemble ‘Skalni,’ all dressed in traditional folk costume. Ciotka, also known as Podhale’s Aunt and the Queen of Podhale, opened the party with an authentic highlander warm welcome and reminding each person in the group that she was now everyone’s aunt and to please address her as ‘ciocia.’

After Ciotka took her leave, Mr. Michał Łazarczyk took over party leader duties and in a very clever and humorous manner explained to the group all of the fun activities planned for the party: learning habitual highlander songs and dances; games involving highlander ‘skiing,’ learning the ‘tricks’ of the highlander blacksmith trade, being trained to tell the difference between highlander cheese (oscypek) and other varieties of cheese, coming to understand the discrepancy between regular tea and highlander tea; contests to choose the female highland dancer and the male highland Robber of the evening, among many other games and contests.

The orchestra played well into Sunday morning and the merriment did not end until well after the first morning light had presented itself. Needless to say, an incredibly fun time was had by all at the integration party.

On Sunday, after breakfast, our very friendly tour guides, Piotrek Krzan and Joanna Stępińska, led us on a tour of Gubałówka mountain and the town of Zakopane. We believe that the students were very interested in the story of the Zakopane style of architecture, and there is none more knowledgeable regarding the topic of highlander art than Piotrek. Upon completion of our tour, there was free time to explore Zakopane individually. Those who were hungry made their way to the famous folk restaurants in Krupówki street: apparently the most popular choice was pig’s shin (golonko) done in highlander style. Others looked for folk souvenirs while still others sat down in a café to sip on highlander tea.

We were very tired as we returned to Kraków, however there was no hesitation among anyone in claiming that a remarkable and unique weekend had been spent in the Polish mountain regions. To the last, our weekend trip was an engaging experience in highland culture and brought Orientation Week to a fantastic finale.

We would like to thank and extend a firm handshake to everyone from ISO and ESN UJ that helped us in organizing the trip and who took part: Mr. Mirosław Klimkiewicz, Ms. Maria Barańska, Ms. Katarzyna Byrsa, Ms. Sylwia Zawistowska, Ms. Anna Kaludzińska, Ms. Agnieszka Kargul, Ms. Lidia Skrobowska, and Mr. Krzysztof Kalina. An enthusiastic wish of ‘Najlepszego’ to the highlander folk orchestra and folk dancers.

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The Song and Dance Ensemble ‘Słowianki’ went to Lviv, Ukraine, on 9-11 November 2006, at the invitation of the Polish Consulate for the occasion of the 88th anniversary of Poland’s independence. The Ensemble consisted of 72 members (ballet, choir and band), the director, choreographer, ballet instructor and choir master as well as Mrs Tamara Kalinowska, an artist performing in ‘Piwnica Pod Baranami’ and her accompanist Mr Grzegorz Pierzchala.

On the evening of 10 November the Ensemble gave a concert in the Lviv National Opera and Ballet Theatre. Its audience was completely full (1,040 seats). At the beginning of the concert the Ukrainian Choir ‘Dudaryk’ and the ‘Słowianki’ Ensemble sang the national anthems of Ukraine and Poland, followed by speeches of the Polish Consul and the local authorities.

During the concert the Ensemble presented Polish folk dances and Ukrainian songs ‘Tycha nad riczkou’, ‘Powij witre’ and ‘Jichaw Kozak’ and the Ukrainian dance ‘Hopak’. Tamara Kalinowska began the second part of the concert. After her performance ‘Słowianki’ presented dances from the regions of Lublin, Kurpie, Mazowsze, Nowy Sącz and Krakow, which were met with great acclaim. The Ensemble gave several encores.

On 11 November there was a sightseeing of Lviv and then the group went to the Orlęta Cemetery. Bishop M. Buczek celebrated Mass during the Polish anthem and put flowers on the Polish graves.

The performance of the Song and Dance Ensemble ‘Słowianki’ was an occasion to promote Polish folk culture and a joyful event for all inhabitants of Lviv, who have a Polish background.

It is worth mentioning that on 14 March the Ensemble is leaving for Japan for a two month tour, at the invitation of ‘Folklore Report.’ The group is to give 23 concerts in major Japanese cities and seminars of Polish dances for Japanese folklore groups. This is going to be the first visit of the Ensemble to Japan and at the same time its 98 concert tour.

Henryk Wolff-Zdzienicki
Director of ‘Słowianki’
On 15th January 2007 in the main hall of Collegium Novum of the Jagiellonian University, a New Year’s concert was held for international staff and students, staying at the University in the academic year 2006/07. The concert, organised by the International Students Office, gathered over 200 foreigners: holders of the Polish government scholarship, students of the ERASMUS programme, doctoral students, students of the Centre for European Studies and other programmes.

Happiness and health for the whole year! We wish you generosity, diligence and magnificent abundance. May you be healthy and joyful like the angels in heaven. God bless you!

**New Year’s Concert**

The concert began with a Polish carol performed by the Academic Choir of the Jagiellonian University, which celebrated its 128th anniversary of continuous performing last year. Prof. Maria Szewczyk, Vice-rector for Educational Affairs at the Jagiellonian University, greeted the audience wishing everyone a prosperous New Year. The hosts of the concert were two students: Joanna Dziadowiec from the Erasmus Student Network and Mateusz Samulewski from the Department of International Polish Studies at the JU. The traditional Christmas and New Year’s wishes were expressed in a southern Polish dialect by two members of the Student Highlanders Folk Music and Dance Group ‘Skalni’ performed five highlanders’ carols, including the most famous one ‘Ej malućki, malućki’.

He Gan from China, a PhD student in the Institute of Sociology at JU, and Zhao Dan from China, a student of English Philology at JU, lightened up the celebration with
Alex Ferraris from Italy, a research student in Polish Studies, showed his outstanding talent for music in his piano improvisations of popular songs, including the universally famous Neapolitan song ‘O sole mio’, invoking in many the beauty and romanticism of Italian culture, and the tune of the Beatles’ ‘Yesterday’.

Yet another version of festivities was presented by Kurdish doctoral students of Biotechnology, Oriental Philology and Chemistry Karim Abdulkarim, Hevidar Taha, Farhang Mothafard, Hana Raoof. They sang two Kurdish songs and were joined by three Polish female students who performed three Kurdish dances, which were loudly applauded by the audience.

In turn the Student Highlanders Folk Music and Dance Group ‘Skalni’ performed two traditional highlanders dances.

The festive mood was continued by Errol E.T Muzawazi from Zimbabwe, a student of law and record holder of the Guinness World Records Longest Lecture, who recited a New Year’s Poem in Shona language. Its English translation appeared on the screen. The African rhythms were continued by three African students, performing an expressive dance.

Alex Ferraris from Italy

Kurdish students

Singing for Fun in Kraków, students from the Centre for European Studies

A happy and lively ‘Happy Moon’ dance and a song in Chinese entitled ‘Sweet Honey’, before an international group ‘Singing for Fun in Krakow’, composed of students from the Centre for European Studies, came up to sing a popular song ‘Always Look on the Bright Side of Life’, encouraging everyone to whistle and sing along to the refrain. Their second song was a funny philosopher’s song.

Student Highlanders Folk Music and Dance Group ‘Skalni’

African dance

Errol Muzawazi from Zimbabwe

J. Sawicz

J. Sawicz

J. Sawicz

J. Sawicz