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Honorary doctorate for Prof. Gaetano Platania

On 22 June 2011 an honorary doctorate was conferred upon Prof. Gaetano Platania from the Tuscia University in Viterbo, Italy. The conferment ceremony was held in the Aula of Collegium Maius. The Senate of the Jagiellonian University, after having accepted the motion of the Council of the JU Faculty of History and the reviews of Prof. Wojciech Tygielski and Bishop Prof. Jan Kopiec from the University of Opole, decided to confer the title of doctor honoris causa of the Jagiellonian University upon Prof. Platania for his achievements, including:

- research on the epochs of kings Jan Kazimierz Vasa, Michal Korybut Wiśniowiecki and August II the Strong,
- foundation and long-term management of Centro Studi sull’Età dei Sobieski e della Polonia Moderna at the University of Viterbo,
- fruitful collaboration with historians in Kraków and Warsaw,
- support for junior researchers conducting search queries in Italian archives and libraries,
- promoting Polish science and culture in Italy and Western Europe,
- building consistently a true image of Poland and Poles in the Italian society.

Prof. Gaetano Platania was born in Rome in 1947. He graduated from the Faculty of History of the University of Rome Sapienza, where he also received his doctorate in 1970. He worked at the Universities of Salerno and Udine. In 1997 he won the Chair of History at the Tuscia University in Viterbo and received the title of professore ordinario. His academic interests focused on Poland’s history of the 17th and 18th centuries and the history of Central-Eastern Europe of these epochs. But his favourite historical figure was King John III Sobieski: specifically his election, foreign policy, victory over the Turks in the Battle of Vienna and his contacts with Louis XIV and the Habsburgs. He wrote 16 books on these issues. He also wrote about Poland’s relationships with the Apostolic See in the 17th-18th centuries. When he worked at the University of Udine he initiated collaboration with the Jagiellonian University in 1980. The collaboration resulted in creating ‘Studia Italo-Polonica’ in 1982. A new dimension in his interest in the Polish history and culture started in 1997 when Prof. Platana organised Centro Studi sull’Età dei Sobieski e della Polonia Moderna at the Tuscia University. The centre is the only place in Italy that examines Poland’s history and promotes the scientific achievements in the Italian environment.

Honorary doctorate for Prof. Thomas L. Saaty

The Jagiellonian University has also conferred an honorary doctorate upon Professor Thomas L. Saaty from the University of Pittsburgh, USA. The conferment ceremony was held in the aula of Collegium Maius on October 6, 2011. The Senate of the Jagiellonian University, after having accepted the motion of the Council of the JU Faculty of Management and Social Communication and the reviews of Prof. Alojzy Z. Nowak from the University of Warsaw and Prof. Kazimierz Goebel from the Maria Curie-Skłodowska University of Lublin decided to confer the title of doctor honoris causa of the Jagiellonian University upon Prof. Saaty for his achievements, including:

- contribution to the theory of decision-making in the form of conceptions: the Analytic Hierarchy and the Analytic Network Process,
- applying mathematical methods to the benefit of social life and international relations,
- involvement for the cause of disarmament and stabilisation of economic processes in the world,
- kind attitude towards people and helping young Polish scientists conduct research in the United States and study at the University of Pittsburgh.
Prof. Thomas L. Saaty was born in Iraq in 1926. He studied at the American University of Beirut and then at Columbia Union College and the Catholic University of Washington. In 1953 he received PhD in Mathematics at Yale University. He also studied at the Sorbonne. Since 1979 he has been connected with the University of Pittsburgh.

Professor Saaty is one of the most eminent American mathematicians. He has written 37 books and 350 articles on mathematics, operation research and decision making. His recent books are ‘The Brain: Unraveling the Mystery of How It Works’ and ‘Creative Thinking. Problem Solving & Decision Making.’ His publications have been translated into more than a dozen languages. He has delivered lectures all over the world and has been invited to give speeches in the parliaments of many different states. Since the times of presidents J.F. Kennedy and L. Johnson he has been solving the most serious conflicts of the modern world, promoting peace, disarmament and the stabilization of economic processes, especially in the developing countries. He has worked as a consultant for the governments of France, Egypt, Sudan, Kuwait, Tanzania, Israel, Palestine and the United Nations. Due to his multidisciplinary interests, he has long been active in the field of philosophy of science, especially within the domains of mathematics, operations research, management, psychology, decision process, engineering and sociology. He is also an expert on Ludwig van Beethoven, a collector of all his music and books devoted to him.

Prof. Saaty has collaborated with the Jagiellonian University for many years. His lectures have always attracted large audiences. And so was this year, on 7-8 October, when Prof. Saaty delivered a series of open lectures about the Analytic Hierarchy Process, Analytic Network Process, Neural Network Process and their possible applications at the JU. The participants included ten representatives of the European Organisation for the Safety of Air Navigation from Brussels.

M. Kantor

42nd Summer School of Polish Language and Culture

The Summer School of Polish Language and Culture for Foreigners was organised for the 42nd time at the Jagiellonian University. The inauguration of the first courses took place on 4 July 2011. The last three-week programme was inaugurated on 25 July and gathered 72 participants from 19 countries. The opening word was delivered by Dr. Piotr Horbatowski, the Director of the JU School of Polish Language and Culture. He stressed the variety of classes, workshops and interactive meetings as well as the attractiveness of the venue – the city of Kraków. On behalf of the JU Rector the course was officially opened by the Vice-rector Wiesław Nowak who wished the participants diligence and success in getting familiar with the Polish language and culture.

The introductory lecture was delivered by Prof. Dr. Zhao Gang, the Dean of the European Languages and Cultures Department at the University of Foreign Languages in Beijing, China. Prof. Zhao Gang has been involved in the teaching and studies of Polish language and literature for 20 years. His most significant publications include, ‘Visions of Nature in Polish Literature,’ ‘History of Central and Eastern European Literature in the 20th Century’ (a part devoted to Poland), ‘Solaris,’ etc. Furthermore, he has published over 20 dissertations in Chinese and other foreign magazines. In 2010, he was recognized with an honorary ‘Distinguished for Polish Culture Award’ by the Polish Minister of Culture. He has also been awarded by the Dean of the University of Gdańsk and the Dean of the University of Łódź.

In his inaugural lecture he spoke about his twenty years of contacts with Poland. When he started his studies at the University of Foreign Languages in Beijing, he knew hardly anything about Poland. He could mention such Polish personalities as Fryderyk Chopin, Maria Skłodowska-Curie or Lech Wałęsa. Yet, he remembered his teacher saying that learning languages would help him understand different worlds, people and himself. This sentence remained in his memory. He studied in Beijing as it was the only university in China that taught Polish. At that time Chinese students
learnt Polish without having any contacts with Poland but they had Polish teachers. But it was only when he arrived in Poland in 2000 that he mastered the language and got to know Polish culture and traditions. Zhao Gang stayed two years at Warsaw University. During his stay he tried to fulfil the old Chinese saying ‘Man should read 10,000 books and cover 10,000 km on his way.’ That was his way of getting familiar with the European culture and literature. He visited the places connected with particular European and Polish artists and eminent personalities. Thus he got to know Poles, their characteristics, emotions, expectations and concerns. Learning the Polish language he also appreciated tolerance and mutual respect and the fact that language was a ‘vehicle of culture.’

Prof. Zhao Gang also spoke about the University of Foreign Languages in Beijing and its eminent Professor Yi Lijun who translated into Chinese over 60 works of the outstanding Polish writers and poets. Currently, 49 languages are taught at the Beijing University of Foreign Languages. Teaching languages is the University’s mission. Learning languages makes people share various cultures with full respect for them but at the same time makes people appreciate their own languages and cultures. Prof. Zhao Gang compared learning foreign languages to building bridges between cultures.

It is worth mentioning that the 42nd edition of the JU Summer School of Polish Language and Culture gathered over 400 participants from 45 countries, following three-, four- and six-week programmes (eight levels of proficiency) on 4 July-14 August 2011. The non-language courses presented Polish history, art, literature, film and society.

M. Kantor

Treasures of the Jagiellonian Library

On 20 September 2011 the Jagiellonian Library hosted the 27th Congress of the International Association of Bibliophiles. As usual it was an occasion to gather old book lovers and collectors. This time the event was attended by over 120 participants from 16 countries.

Members of the Paris-based International Association of Bibliophiles, the most prestigious organisation of experts and collectors of antique books, meet annually in various countries worldwide. The agenda of bibliophile conventions includes scientific sessions and sightseeing tours of the most important and valuable historical libraries and archival collections in the host country. The Jagiellonian Library as a co-organiser of the Congress prepared a special exhibition featuring more than 200 valuable items, including the earliest printed texts, maps, drawings and the autographs of Copernicus, Bach, Chopin, among other things. The exhibition was open to the general public only for one day (21 September) and gathered ca. 600 visitors (in groups of 30).

The Jagiellonian Library is the main library of the Jagiellonian University. Its collections have grown together with the University. The most valuable items of the Jagiellonian Library are grouped according to the type of collection they are part of: manuscripts, music collection, early prints and the graphic and cartographic items. The exhibited objects included the autograph manuscript of Copernicus De revolutionibus (1520-41), which is one of the most valuable manuscripts relating to the history and development of science; codex Troph carminum; Notkerus Balbulus, Liber hymnorum (Germany, 1024-1027); codex of canon law Decretum Gratiani (Italy, ca. 1200), A Collection of Medical Treatises (France, ca. 1300); Writings of St Jerome and Rufinus of Aquileia (Italy, 1400-1413); Cosmographia by Claudius Ptolemaeus (ca.
The Bible (some books) translated and annotated by Martin Luther (Germany, before 1524) – the correction of the translation, in red ink, were made by Luther himself; Nautical Navigation Atlas of the World by Battista Agnese (Italy, ca. 1540) or Quarta pars Metricae incorporatorum Universitati Cracoviensi (Kraków, 16th-20th cc.), containing entries made by famous people who have visited the Jagiellonian Library. The oldest entry is that of King Henryk Walezy made in 1574 whereas the latest is that of Pope John Paul II, made in 1983.

The music collection embraces the manuscripts of: J.S. Bach's Concerto in D minor for two violins, string orchestra and basso continuo (Leipzig, ca. 1730); W. A. Mozart's comic opera Bastien et Bastienne, Singspiel in einem Akt KV 50 (Vienna, August-September 1768), Mozart’s earliest string Quintett B-Dur KV 174 (Salzburg, 1773), his Piano Concerto in E flat major (Salzburg, 1777) and the Coronation Mass C-Dur KV 317 (Salzburg, 1779); Ludwig van Beethoven's Symphonie Nr. 8 F-Dur Opus 93: Tempo di Menuetto (1811-12), Große Fuge B-Dur Op. 133 (1825); Fryderyk Chopin's Scherzo in E major (1842-43) and Barcarolle in F sharp major, op. 60 (1845-46); Johannes Brahms' Lieder (1858) as well as the music works of the Polish composers such as Karol Szymanowski, Witold Lutoslawski and Krzysztof Penderecki.

The next part of the exhibition showed the early prints, e.g. the galley proofs of Mainz prints by Johann Gutenberg (ca. 1458), the Almanach Cracoviensi – the first item to be printed in Poland (1473); Missale Cracoviense made by the best-known Kraków printer Jan Haller (1494); a collection of the municipal laws of Nuremberg (1564) or a copy of the third edition of Copernicus’ work (1617).

Finally, book lovers could see some graphic and cartographic works: pages from choirbooks and prayer books (14th-15th cc.); masterpieces of etching The Knight, Death and the Devil (1513) and Portrait of Erasmus of Rotterdam (1526) made by Albrecht Dürer; the print The Alchemist in his Workshop by Rembrandt van Rijn (1651), the precision with which it was made, together with the depth of the colours and shades are the hallmarks of Rembrandt's genius.

M. Kantor

Science as a public duty – following the ideas and work of Maria Skłodowska-Curie

A satellite symposium to commemorate the 100th anniversary of the award of the Nobel Prize for Chemistry to Maria Skłodowska-Curie was held at the JU Medical College on 2-3 September 2011. The opening lectures ‘The inspirations of Maria Skłodowska-Curie to science and medicine’ and ‘Medical countermeasures against radiation – pathways and challenges’ were given by Prof. Antonina Cebulska-Wasilewska from the Institute of Nuclear Physics and Dr. Alla Shapiro from the US Food and Drug Administration.

The symposium consisted of two sessions: Social and cultural determinants of women’s health and Future directions in cardiovascular research – would they impact diagnostics in women? The former was chaired by Prof. Beata Tobiasz-Adamczyk, the Head of the Chair for Epidemiology and Preventive Medicine of the Jagiellonian University Faculty of Medicine and the latter – Prof. Danuta Czerniecka and Prof. Kalina Kawecka-Jaszczyk from the JU First Department of Cardiology. The sessions drew female professors from Poland, the Czech Republic, Sweden, Great Britain, Turkey and Israel.

‘Social and cultural determinants of women’s health’ focused on different aspects of present-day women’s health and presented social and cultural determinants of health status from different perspectives in contemporary social epidemiology, medical sociology, demography and gender studies. The epidemiological data showing the gender-related differences in health from the European perspective were explained by Prof. Mall Leinsalu from Sweden. Different aspects of older women’s health were shown by Prof. Sara Carmel from Israel. In turn Prof. Sara Arber from the UK spoke about the gender-related differences in the quality of sleep. The role of gender studies in the development of research on social determinants of health was presented by Prof. Krystyna Slany from the Jagiellonian University and Prof. Małgorzata Fuszara from the University of Warsaw.
The second session focused on cardiovascular disorders, which are the leading causes of mortality, morbidity and disability worldwide. Yearly 82,000 men and up to 91,000 women die from cardiovascular diseases, which makes up 43% of all-cause male and 55% of all-cause female mortality. Cardiovascular diseases diagnosed in women are responsible for more deaths than cancer. For many years differences in the pathophysiology and epidemiology of cardiovascular diseases in women were neglected. The problems of epidemiology and prevention of cardiovascular disorders in women were presented by Prof. Renata Cifkova from the Charles University in Prague, Czech Republic. Prof. Serap Erdine (Istambul University, Turkey) delivered a lecture on the differences in pathophysiology of arterial hypertension in men and women. Cardiovascular disorders in women not only have different clinical manifestation, but become a challenge in diagnostic procedures. New techniques in cardiovascular diagnostics in women were shown by Prof. Witold Rużyłło (Stefan Wyszyński Institute of Cardiology, Warsaw) and Prof. Barbara Jarząb (Oncology Centre, Maria Skłodowska-Curie Institute, Gliwice, Poland). Women with known cardiovascular diseases are less frequently referred for invasive procedures, and the results of coronary interventions in women are related with worse outcomes than in men. Prof. Zdzisława Kornacewicz-Jach (Pomeranian Medical University, Szczecin) spoke about the current data in interventional cardiology in women. In the approach to women’s health interdisciplinary strategy is needed. Women with cardiovascular disease may suffer from neoplastic disorders. On the other hand, oncological therapy may significantly influence the cardiovascular system. Cardiooncology, which is a new and dynamically developing branch of medicine, must be considered in discussions on women’s health. Prof. Kawacka-Jaszcz and Prof. Krzysztof Krzemieniecki (Jagiellonian University) discussed oncological diseases in women with cardiovascular risk factors and cardiovascular complications of oncological therapy. Whereas Prof. Beata Tobiasz-Adamczyk spoke about the aspects of quality of life in women after cancer treatment.

M. Kantor

The fifth Researchers’ Night was held in Kraków on 23 September 2011. The Researchers’ Night is organised in 30 European countries and 280 cities at the initiative of the European Commission. The project is intended to popularize science among Europeans. Every year the event draws more and more people. The Researchers’ Night 2011 marked the 100th anniversary of Maria Skłodowska Curie’s Nobel Prize for Chemistry and the 100th anniversary of the discovery of the atomic nucleus by Ernest Rutherford. It is worth knowing that the UN announced the year 2011 as the International Year of Chemistry.

Because of these exceptional occasions the JU Faculty of Chemistry prepared a special programme of the Researchers’ Night. During the weekend of 17-18 September the students of chemistry presented a chemical show in one of the Kraków shopping centres, encouraging people to study chemistry at the Jagiellonian University. The Association of Students of Chemistry prepared a spectacle entitled ‘Once upon a time there was chemistry’ presenting the development of chemistry from the ancient times to the present. The spectacle was the official beginning of the Researchers’ Night and was held at the Kijów cinema. The chemical experiments were accompanied by dancing fires, sudden lightnings and loud explosions. The reaction of the audience was very vivid and enthusiastic. The next part of the Researchers’ Night was presented in the building of the Faculty of Chemistry in Ingarden Street. It included visits to laboratories and lectures. The closing element was the Chemical Show, which always evokes the biggest interest of the participants.

The Jagiellonian University opened its halls and laboratories in the Faculty of Physics, Astronomy and Applied Computer Science as well as the Institutes of: Geological Sciences, Environmental Sciences, Astronomical Observatory and the Botanical Garden. This year the JU units prepared the following topics: Magic physics, Our companion – the Moon, Has mathematics a history?, Biological giddiness and Private lives of plants.

As usual the lectures and presentations attracted numerous young people and children. Everyone present could get to know the world of scientists and feel like one of them.

A. Rafalska-Lasocha
The 648th academic year began at the Jagiellonian University on 1 October 2011. According to the tradition dated to 1364 the ceremony began with Holy Mass celebrated in St Anne’s Collegiate Church. Afterwards a procession of university professors, guests, including Prof. Michael Marberger, the University of Vienna, Prof. Donald Baker, Vice Provost, United Arab Emirates University, Prof. Clodine Kieda, Centre de Biophysique Moléculaire, Prof. Rainer Klump, Vice-President of the Goethe Universität and Jean-Michel Pouxvesle, Charles De Izara, Marylene and Olivier Vallee, Nadia and Stephane Pellerin from the University of Orléans as well as students, was formed in Collegium Maius and proceeded to Auditorium Maximum.

During the inauguration special awards were given to outstanding professors. The medals ‘The Jagiellonian Laurel’ for scientific achievements for the last five years were presented to Prof. Andrzej Świątkowski (law), Prof. Marian Mrożek (computer science) and Prof. Ryszard Korbut (medicine).

The JU medal ‘Merentibus’ was conferred upon Prof. Michael Marberger from the University of Vienna. Elżbieta Penderecka received the Meritorious for the Jagiellonian University.

The Awards Pro Arte Docenti were given to Prof. Elżbieta Muskat-Tabakowska (UNESCO Chair), Prof. Stanisław Majewski (dentistry) and Prof. Andrzej Magiera (physics).

Then the representatives of the freshmen from each faculty took their student's oath, which followed the hymn ‘Gaudeamus igitur’ and the speech of Dawid Kolenda, the President of the Students' Self-Government.

The inaugural lecture entitled ‘Great ideas of contemporary medicine’ was delivered by Prof. Tomasz Guzik from the Faculty of Medicine.

**Inaugural speech of Rector Prof. K. Musiol**

In two years' time, in the year 2014, we are celebrating the 650th anniversary of the foundation of our University, which then consisted of three faculties: law, medicine and liberal arts. Today we are beginning the 648th academic year and students can study in 63 fields in 15 faculties. This year the JU enrolled over 15,000 new students in Bachelor's and Master's programmes and over 1,100 doctoral students. Over 7,500 students can pursue extra-mural courses.

Trying to meet the challenges of the present times, with big determination, overcoming many adversaries, we are strengthening the scientific and didactic potential of our institution. For several years we have been developing our research and didactic infrastructure so that the next generations of our students may be equal rank partners and compete with graduates of the best universities in Europe. We do not know where in Europe the greatest European scientists, artists, businessmen or visionaries were born or will be born. That’s why our obligation is to use all, unprecedented, chances of development of our University to create the best possible conditions to develop young peoples’ talents. Doing that we want our well educated young people to shape the future of Poland and have a real share in the matters of Europe, on the scale of their aspirations and possibilities.

**Third campus and other constructions**

During the recent terms the main task of the JU authorities is the construction of the Campus of the 600th Refounding of the Jagiellonian University, called the Third Campus. So far we have completed the following buildings: the Centre for Natural Sciences, the Faculty of Biochemistry, Biophysics and Biotechnology, the Institute of Environmental Sciences, the Institute of Geography and Space Economy, the Faculty of Mathematics and Computer Science, the Faculty of Management and Social Communication and the Institute of Zoology. The buildings of the Faculty of Physics, Astronomy and Applied Computer Science is being constructed. The construction project of the Faculty of Chemistry has been completed. And we have got the permission to construct a swimming pool. Our plans include the Małopolskie Centre for Biotechnology, the Centre for Natural Education, the Centre for Electromagnetic Radiation. Besides the Third Campus, we are building a new university hospital and Paderewianum II for the Philological Faculty.

Although we are all experiencing anxiety connected with the economic situation in the world, and especially in the EU countries, we know that an increase in financing science and higher education is one of the most effective mechanisms to achieve economic growth.

**Students’ achievements in education, sports and arts**

Last year our students: Maciej Gawron, Tomasz Kobos, Jakub Konieczny and Przemysław Mazur won the 18th edition of the International Mathematical Competition for University Students in Bulgaria. Przemysław Mazur won the Grand First Prize in the finals of the Academic Championships in Group Programming in Orlando, USA. Our team consisting of Robert Obryk, Adam Polak and Maciej Wawro won the bronze medal. Aleksandra Milewska, student of the fifth year at the Faculty of Biochemistry, Biophysics and Biotechnology, won the contest ‘Bioldea 2011.’ Joanna Filipowska, student of biology, won the contest ‘Women of the Future – in the footsteps of Maria Skłodowska-Curie,’ organised by the Ministry of Science and Higher Education and the magazine ‘Elle.’ The research work...
prepared by the Student Scientific Circle of the Second Chair of Surgery received the first award at the Leiden International Medical Students Conference 2011. Like in the previous years in 2010 the alumni of the JU Faculty of Law and Administration received the best results in the examination allowing them to begin legal training as articled clerks.

Using the SOHO probe Michał Kusiak, student of astronomy, discovered the 2000th comet of this programme. Marcin Waligóra and Michał Cibor from the Faculty of Medicine used the AED defibrillator to save a passenger’s life in a Kraków tram. Another medical student Paweł Matusik won the contest ‘Student Nobel 2011.’ Our University can also boast of sports results: in basketball, women’s snowboarding, alpine skiing and sailing.

As usual I try to persuade all students to join our Choir and Dance Ensemble. Those who have not decided to get involved will regret it all their lives as I do. There are other possibilities to use your energy and talents. Last year our students made a LipDub and this year they are working on staging fragments of the musical ‘Michael Jackson Memories.’

Studies at the Jagiellonian University, in the fantastic city of Kraków, are the most wonderful moments of life for many people. Today new students begin this splendid time and I wish them good results in their studies.

The success of the new academic year depends on us. As usual I encourage the whole community of the Jagiellonian University, all students and employees, to build prosperity of our country, our region, our city, the University and each of us.

I declare the 648th academic year at the Jagiellonian University open.

QUOD FELIX, FAUSTUM, FORTUNATUMQUE SIT! MAY IT BE HAPPY, AUSPICIOUS, AND FORTUNATE

Remembering the departed JU professors

On the 72nd anniversary of Sonderaktion Krakau at the Jagiellonian University, 6-7 November 2011, 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.

Remembrance Day

The celebrations consisted of a solemn Mass in the intention of the JU professors, employees and students who had lost their lives during World War II, presided over by Rev. Msgr. Gasidło in the Collegiate Church of St Anne, on the evening of 6 November. In his introduction to the Mass he sketched the various aspects of that sorrowful day in 1939.

The next day the JU delegation visited the graves of rectors, professors and other university workers in the cemeteries. This time they laid wreaths and lit candles of the graves of the JU rectors: Maciej Leon Jakubowski, Stanisław Kutrzeba and Wincenty Zakrzewski.

Then a special meeting was held in the historical lecture hall no. 56 on the second floor of Collegium Novum. At noon there was the calling of the roll of honour and paying tribute to the victims of Sonderaktion Krakau in front of the commemorative tablets in Collegium Novum, under the Oak of Freedom as well as in the barracks of the 20th Cavalry Regiment in Kraków.

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. Peter-Christian Müller-Graff from the Ruprecht Karls University of Heidelberg. In his speech he stressed the solidarity in sorrow and remembrance of the two oldest Polish and German universities. He called the Nazi action on the 6th November 1939 treacherous and barbarian. Among its victims he mentioned those who died in the concentration camp in Sachsenhausen: Prof. Stanislaw Estreicher, a historian of law, who was transported to Sachsenhausen and died there after seven weeks; Prof. Michał Marian Siedlecki, a biologist, who died at the age of 72; Prof. Ignacy Chrzanowski, the founder of the Polish historical theory of literature (died at the age of
Prof. Feliks Rogoziński, a specialist in physiology (died at the age of 61). Prof. Müller-Graff also mentioned several Heidelberg professors who experienced the Nazi persecutions. Besides the sorrowful events he spoke about the cooperation in the field of law between the Jagiellonian University and the University of Heidelberg, especially the JU School of German Law, programmes for doctoral students and joint project at the Mohyla Academy in Kiev. He ended his speech saying, ‘We, the University in Kraków and the University in Heidelberg, choose the task of righteous thinking. We cultivate community and we create what is most precious between us: develop empathy and sympathy.’

The speech of Prof. Jan W. Tkaczyński focused on the JU initiative to care for the graves of the JU professors. He stated that the gathered included the relatives of the arrested professors and their disciples. Their lives and deaths testify to the rightness of Norwid’s definition that ‘homeland is land and graves.’ All of the departed JU professors deserve mention, even the shortest one: lived and worked for the Jagiellonian University. Reminding others of the past generations is not only a form of bowing before them but an expression of our care for preserving memory. As Norwid wrote, ‘when nations lose memory they lose life…’ If we are not able to remember our departed and are not able to instil this need in others we should not count that those who will succeed us will remember us.

Every cemetery is not only a place of eternal rest, park or museum complex but first of all a proof of our remembrance. But sometimes it is also an accusation of our lack of remembrance. That’s why the Jagiellonian University cannot forget those who built its splendour throughout the centuries. Feeling such obligation the JU as the first university in Poland created the Committee for the Care of the Graves of the Jagiellonian University’s Professors in 2008. Its tasks embrace: an inventory of burial places of the JU professors, care and repair of the graves as well as reminding the figures of the JU professors or in some cases restoring their memory to the academic community and general public. The ‘List of Remembrance – of the departed JU professors’ has been created and updated by Jolanta Herian-Ślusarczyk. It documents all JU professors who died after 1803 and is the best monument of our thankful memory.

www.uj.edu.pl/uniwersytet/aktualnosci/odeszli/lista-pamieci
From the list of the departed JU professors Prof. Tkaczyński depicted the lives of Prof. Obaliński, Prof. Kutrzeba, Prof. Natanson and Prof. Stanisław Tarnowski. ‘Their names reflect their love of knowledge and the service to one’s neighbour and to homeland since homeland – to complete Norwid’s definition – is also all of us.’ Prof. Tkaczyński also mentioned the special brochure ‘Traces of Memory. The JU Professors’ Graves in the Rakowicki Cemetery’ published together with the local daily Dziennik Polski.

Prof. Alfred Karol OBALIŃSKI (1843-1898)
Surgeon and ophthalmologist; from 1897 he directed the Surgery Clinic. His surgical pioneering works were the skin grafting method and use of the Gigli saw in trepanning. He was the first to conduct the operation of abdominal incision in 1896. He was also the first to use X-rays to surgical diagnosis in the Polish lands. Finally, he initiated the foundation of the Kraków Emergency Unit.

Prof. Stanisław KUTRZEBA (1876-1946)
Historian of the Polish law; author of the four volume textbook of the history of the Polish state; JU rector (1932-1933), secretary general and then president of the Polish Academy of Sciences. He was arrested in Sonderaktion Krakau.

Prof. Władysław NATANSON (1864-1937)
Physicist; one of the pioneers of the atomic structure of matter; historian of sciences; JU rector (1922-1923), member of the Academy of Sciences and Letters.

Prof. Stanisław TARNOWSKI (1837-1917)
Historian of literature, literary critic, political publicist; co-author of the manifesto of the conservatives ‘Teka Stańczyka’ [Stańczyk’s Portfolio] (1868-1869), MP in the Galician Parliament (1867-1875) and then in the House of Lords in Vienna (from 1885). He directed the prestigious Chair of Polish Literature for almost 40 years. In 1900-1907 he wrote six volumes of the history of the Polish literature; rector (1886-1887 and 1899-1900).

Remembering the Holocaust in Eastern Galicia

This year sees the 70th anniversary of the massacre of 25 university professors in Lvov. On this occasion the Polish translation of Dieter Schenk’s book ‘Der Lemberger Professorenmord und der Holocaust in Ostgalizien’ [The Murder of the Professors in Lvov and the Holocaust in Eastern Galicia] was published and presented at the aula of the Jagiellonian University on 12 November 2011.

The book describes one of the most tragic but forgotten events from World War II. On 2 July 1941, two days after the Germans had captured Lvov, Kazimierz Bartel, who had been Poland’s Prime minister before 1939 and a professor at the University of Lvov, was arrested. In the evening on the same day the Nazis arrested 25 professors from the Lvov universities, together with several other people who stayed in their homes. After short interrogations all of them were killed the next morning on 4 July. The executioners were members of the special Third Reich police – Einsatzkommando zur besonderen Verwendung. Till the end of July 1941 more people were arrested and murdered. K. Bartel was the last one killed on 26 July.

The author of the book Dieter Schenk depicted the background of this murder in the wider context of the policy of extermination in the occupied lands. He managed to examine several German sources that had been unknown to the Polish historians. It is worth remembering that today four relatives of the Lvov victims are still alive: the daughter of Prof. Bartel and the sons of the murdered professors: Jan Longchamps de Berier (Gliwice), Stanisław Grzędzielski (Warsaw) and Zbigniew Kostecki (Krefeld, Germany).

Schenk’s book, translated by Dr. Paweł Zarychta from the JU Institute of Germanic Philology, can become a pretext to discuss the tragic event anew and to pay tribute to the murdered Polish professors. In a way the book continues the work of Prof. Karolina Lanckorońska who did her best to explain this crime. During the trial of Hans Krüger, one of the criminals responsible for this murder, at court in Münster w 1967, Prof. Lanckorońska was a witness but the German court did not sentence him for this crime.

Dieter Schenk is a very outstanding German historian, author of many books concerning the Nazi crimes in the occupied Polish territories.

M. Kantor
A new testimony of Sonderaktion Krakau

It seemed that everything that was possible to say about what happened at the Jagiellonian University on November 6, 1939 had already been said. After the Second World War the memoirs of the JU professors who had been imprisoned in the Sachsenhausen concentration camp were published, along with numerous books and other publications about the Nazi occupation of Kraków and the fate of its inhabitants.

Yet the JU Archives have just received an invaluable account of the arrest of the Jagiellonian University Professors on 6 November 1939. It was written by Zygmunt Starachowicz, the JU Faculty of Law graduate randomly arrested during Sonderaktion Krakau.

The memoir covers the ‘Kraków period’ of the academics’ captivity before they were taken to Wrocław and then to the Sachsenhausen concentration camp in Oranienburg near Berlin. It is, for the time being, the longest and the most detailed known memoir account of Sonderaktion Krakau. It includes hand drawings by the author, depicting the prison chapel in Montelupich Street, where the detainees were held during the first night after the arrest, and the premises of the barracks in Mazowiecka Street, where they were moved on the following day. What is most interesting, however, is the description of experiences, emotions and dramatis personae. Zygmunt Starachowicz turned out to be a master in depicting reality with the written word.

I looked at my companions. I noticed big changes on the faces marked by concern and fatigue. Then for the first time I asked myself the questions to which I could never answer, ‘What for? Who will benefit from it? Will our arrest really contribute to peace in the city? […] Why are people of science to be responsible for political offence? As far as I can remember there has never been such a case in history.

We could hear the key in the lock. The iron doors opened wide. Coffee? No, we were not to eat breakfast that day. We were ordered to go out and through the corridor we entered the same jail yard where they had written down our names yesterday. What can we expect? […] Some vans had already been waiting for us in the yard.

The memoir has been made available to the JU archives by Zygmunt Starachowicz’s granddaughter, Katarzyna Starachowicz. It is already being edited and prepared for print. The publication will be supplemented with a short biography of the author, who, after detention in Sachsenhausen and Dachau, was again arrested for the active membership in the Polish insurgent Home Army and executed in September 1944 in Kraków.

Franciszek Wasyl
Part II - Loneliness

10 June 1906
All is gloomy; daily concerns do not let me even quietly think of Pierre.

Ptaki zostawiają w gnieździe swoje cienie (…) bliznę po odejściu. Dobra pamięć leczy the scar after departure

Birds leave their shadows in their nests […] good memory heals

After Pierre’s death she sent her girls to spend the summer in the country, but she herself stayed in Paris and worked in the laboratory whereas in her home she lived among Pierre’s books, notebooks and notes. She prepared lectures, which Pierre was to deliver and which had to be worthy him.

On 5 November 1906, for the first time in the history of the Sorbonne a woman was to deliver a lecture. On 1 November Maria was given a paid and permanent job, which gave her official access to the laboratory. Until that day she had not received any payment for all of her research work. From the formal point of view she conducted her research illegally.

The lecture hall was crowded. The first woman, Nobel Prize winner, Pierre Curie’s widow was to lecture. What would she say about her husband? Who would she thank for her appointment? The minister? The university authorities? And perhaps she would bow to the Academy since Pierre was its member.

Madame Curie approached the professor’s desk among people’s applause. When they became silent she began her lecture at exactly the place that Pierre had ended. She spoke only about physics: new theories concerning the essence of electricity, atomic disintegration and radioactive bodies. After she had finished lecturing she left the hall quickly.

She did her best to be a good mother. Together with her daughters they rode their bikes and went for walks. She made her girls exercise, swim and spend a lot of time in the fresh air. Being concerned about their psyches and wanting to protect them against their recollections of the tragedy during their childhood she decided not to talk to them about their father. Ewa Curie wrote, She rather wants to deprive them of noble feelings than to make them immersed in a mood of sorrow and depression. But as Ewa continued, The woman who wanted so much to make us immune was too tender herself, too delicate and too much inclined to sufferings. Trying to make us as little sensitive as possible she shrank spiritually seeing grief with every sign of our insensitivity. Sweet, Darling Me – the name her daughters used in their rich correspondence. Till the end of her life she kept the letters from her daughters tied with a ribbon that was used to tie around a box of candies.

She, a widowed, lonely, under forty woman, sought shelter in her work. Two years after Pierre’s death she published a revised edition of ‘The Works of Pierre Curie.’ In 1910 Maria published her lectures on radioactivity in a book of several hundred pages. She also worked on creating a real laboratory, which had been her and Pierre’s dream.

Madame Curie wanted to obtain pure radium. She succeeded to separate its salts but nobody had seen a milligram of pure radium. Despite her health problems Maria planned to conduct new research. In 1910 she isolated pure metallic radium at last. After years she saw this extraordinary, white metal, which had sent her mysterious and unknown rays. But she did not enjoy it for long. It was needed for further research in the laboratory.

In 1910 Maria refused to accept the Legion of Honour, like her husband had done earlier, despite the Minister’s insistence. The Curies were strongly against accepting any distinctions and honorary functions. They refused in every case, the only exception being purely scientific honours.

Maria Skłodowska-Curie – an extraordinary woman

M. Skłodowska-Curie’s study in the Curie Pavillion at the Radium Institute in Paris

A. Rafalska-Łasocha
uderzenie w plecy
utrwała kręgosłup
między kałużą a obłokiem
po kilku nocach
dzielo jest skończone

a strike on the back
strengthens the spine
between a puddle and a cloud
after several nights
the work is done

She agreed, however, to submit her
candidature, at her friends’ instigation,
to the French Academy of Sciences
because of possible benefits for the
laboratory. As it usually happens at
elections there are many intrigues.
And so it was in this case, which was
a special one – the candidate who
might have possibly joined the circle of
academicians was a woman. Moreover,
she was a foreigner.

The Catholic members of the
Academy suggested that Maria was
Jewish. And the freemasons were told
she was Catholic. The academician
Mr Amagar said, ‘Women cannot be
members of the Academy!’ On 23
January 1911 the chairman opened the
session of the Academy, calling to the
usher, ‘Please let in everyone except
women!’
I hesitated for a long time since
the custom obliges the candidate to
pay lots of visits to the members of the
Academy. […] My candidature evoked
vivid interest, putting forward the
fundamental issue – the problem of
accepting women as members. Many
academicians fought against this
principle and finally I lacked a few
votes in the election. I will never again
propose my candidature because I feel
disgust to these personal efforts, which
are necessary in this procedure. I think
that the acceptance to the Academy
should be at the invitation of the
Academy without candidates’ efforts.

The year 1911 was not easy for
Maria. She was the topic of unrefined
press attacks concerning her personal
life. The whole affair was not clear
and still is. The less knowledge the
more guesses and often groundless
speculations. Maria was broken down.
Her family and friends supported her.
Albert Einstein wrote from Prague:

I was so irritated by the way the
mob dares to attack You that I had to
open the floodgate to my indignation.
[...] I would like to tell you that I
admire your perseverance, energy
and honesty. I was happy to have met
you personally in Brussels. […] It is
wonderful that among us there are
such people like you, like Langevin,
truly human beings in whose
company one can feel joy. If the mob
continues to attack you please simply
stop reading this nonsense.

When she received the second Nobel
Prize, this time as the only winner in
chemistry, she wrote to the Swedish
scientist Svante Arrhenius, who advised
her against going to Stockholm to
receive the award,

The behaviour you advised me
would be, in my opinion, a big mistake.
Since I was awarded for discovering
radium and polonium. I think there is
no connection between my research
work and facts of my private life, which
certain publications of mean value have
accused me of, actually distorting the
facts completely. I cannot accept the
principle that calumnies and insults
concerning private life can influence
the value of scientific work.

She went to Stockholm and was
extremely kindly welcomed there.
Maria began her speech at the Academy
in Stockholm saying,

Although I conducted the work in
the field of chemistry, the aim of which
was to isolate pure salts of radium and
to define the properties of this element
myself, it is connected most closely with
our mutual work. Therefore, I think that
I interpret the intentions of the Academy
of Sciences correctly, regarding that
this high distinction was awarded for
the results of that mutual work and
and that it is an expression of tribute to
the memory of Pierre Curie.

Her life and work usually evoked
profound admiration but in some
people they evoked jealousy and hatred,
but in her – first of all the feeling of
humbleness.

The physical condition of this still
young but tired of life woman was not
very good. At the end of 1911 she had
serious problems with her kidneys. An
operation was urgent. However, Maria
asked to postpone it till March since she
wanted to participate in a physicists’
congress at the end of February.

Madame Curie recovered slowly and
in the summer of 1913 she packed her
rucksack and taking her daughters she
set out to climb the Alps. Albert Einstein
with his sons accompanied them. They
had been friends for several years.
She appreciated his genius, supported his
efforts to receive an academic post and
met him at the Solvay Conferences.

The busts of Maria and Pierre Curie in
the courtyard of the Radium Institute

Wydaje się, że nie ma żadnej nadziei,
To, co walczę o światło, jest
śmiertelnie kruche
It seems there is no hope at all.
Whatever is struggling for light is
mortally frail.
The scientific world conferred its distinctions and doctorates upon her. But distinctions and honours were not what brought her joy. She was glad to see the construction of the Radium Institute in Paris. She experienced much trouble trying to create a real laboratory. Immediately after Pierre’s death a universal subscription for the laboratory was suggested but Maria did not agree to this kind of use of her family tragedy.

The war hampered the creation of the Radium Institute. When the war broke out Madame Curie gathered all the necessary equipment she found in the workshops and repositories and in 1914 she began organising radiological stations, serviced by the volunteers she had trained. She organised about 200 new and considerably improved radiological centres. Maria assembled 20 radiological mobile units in her laboratory, which she then gave to the army. She obtained the necessary equipment in Paris and assembled it herself. Then she looked for those who could use it in accordance to her instructions.

Finally, in 1915 Maria arranged a laboratory in the new building in Pierre Curie Street in Paris. She transported the laboratory equipment using her radiological mobile unit between her visits to the battle fields. Professor Curie did the work herself, with the help of a few people. There were radiological courses organised in the Radium Institute. During the war ca. 150 girls and women were trained there.

The war was a tragedy and a profound experience for her. In Autobiography she wrote:

I will never forget such a horrible impression I had seeing such a pogrom of human life and health. To hate the very idea of war it is enough to see once what I have seen so many times for these years – men and boys carried in some mixture of mud and blood to the front ambulances. Many of them were doomed to die soon and many others were doomed to months of pain and sufferings.

Facing a difficult post-war situation France had no perspectives to continue research concerning radioactivity. The price of radium was very high. The Curies did not patent their invention and Madame Curie could not afford to buy the needed radium for further research.

My husband, and also myself, always opposed drawing any material benefits from our discovery. From the very beginning we described the method of preparing radium in all details. We did not have any patents. And we did not reserve any rights from producers. We did not hide any slightest detail and the radium industry developed so quickly only thanks to our precise publications. […] But many of our friends turned our attention, not without rightness, that if we had reserved our rights we would have means to create a perfect Institute without so many difficulties that were big burdens for both of us and that still are for me. Nevertheless, I think that we were right.

Some American friends helped her. Maria received precious gifts from them: a gram of radium from the American women for her Paris laboratory in 1921 and in 1929 – money to buy a gram of radium for the Radium Institute in Warsaw.

Maria Curie-Skłodowska, Andre Debierne, Fernand Holweck, Irena and Fryderyk Juliot Curie constituted a group of collaborators conducting research in the Curie Laboratory. Several dozen people from all over the world had short and long research stays in the laboratory till 1934. In the years 1919-1934 the research conducted there was described in 456 scientific publications and 28 doctoral dissertations.

Maria also followed the fate of her distant Homeland. She carried on scientific correspondence and invited, thanks to the scholarships she managed, scientists from Poland. One of her disciples Alicja Dorabialska wrote about the Radium Institute in Paris in 1926:

May came. In the garden of the Radium Institute birds began singing and lilacs bloomed. […] Suddenly a thunder. On Thursday 13 May the Paris papers cried that there was a revolution in Poland. The news came mainly from Berlin […] and the papers repeated that Poland was ‘a seasonal state,’ and therefore, it had just began to fall apart. […] Madame Curie was also overwhelmed by anxiety and pain. One could see how this woman, rooted in the French life for years, was actually connected with Poland with all her nerves. Not believing foreign papers she looked for news asking me. During my whole stay in Paris I received ‘Robotnik.’ In May I entered Madame Curie’s study every day holding a paper. She looked through the dispatches nervously. […] Some day, when life in Poland began flowing more peacefully Madame Curie, bowing over the paper looked at me and said with a distant, silent voice, which was full of pain, ‘I would like to die in Poland but living in Poland is very hard.’

In the year 1924 the Jagiellonian University conferred upon Maria Sklodowska-Curie two honorary doctorates – one at the motion of the Philosophical Faculty and the other at the motion of the Faculty of Medicine. When in March 1929 the Publishing
Maria paid a high price for the secrets she extracted from nature. She did not have the ability of eye accommodation because the radium rays burnt her lenses. The black gloves she wore on solemn occasions covered her burnt finger tips. The radioactive rays caused that her hands were covered with painful blisters that could lead to gangrene, and she was dying because of her malicious anaemia. This strong woman did not want to admit she had health problems and she continued working till the end of her life. In the Curie Laboratory there were 25 different nationalities in the early 1930s. 17 scientists from different countries worked there at the same time, as Piskurewicz wrote in his book. Manuel Valladares, the last physicist who wrote his doctor’s dissertation under Maria’s supervision described his first days in the Laboratory,

“It took only several minutes to change the mood and to get rid of my shyness and fears. Maria Curie managed to convince me that contrary to what I had thought it was not her but me that did her a favour desiring to work in the laboratory […]”

Remembering the huge difficulties she had to overcome herself at the beginning of her career she always received young scientists with an extreme favour. One should add that during the first months she observed their work carefully. If she was convinced that ‘a new scientist’ did not have sufficient qualifications to become a researcher or that he wanted to work in the laboratory so that he could boast of working under Maria Curie’s supervision – it also happened – she could find the most delicate formula to tell him that many other people wanted to take his place. But when she saw that a virus of scientific investigations was in the ‘new man’ she became interested in both his work and his person.

Currently, radioactive substances are used in medicine, chemistry, physics, geophysics and many other fields of science and industry. Mrs Curie’s works are the source of progress both in radiotherapy (the use of radium and then the use of artificial radioactive isotopes such as cobalt and iridium) and many other fields. Maria Curie’s works and achievements in the area of radioactivity were mile-stones in the development of science and civilisation. They were always used in medicine, chemistry, physics and many other fields of science and industry.

She died at the Sancellemoz sanatorium from a malicious anaemia in 1934. Two days later, without any speeches and state delegations, she was buried in the family grave in Sceaux near Paris. Since 1995 her remains have rested in the Paris Pantheon.

Alicja Rafalska-Lasocha

The captions have been taken from Zbigniew Herbert’s poems.

Working on the article I used the library of the Polish Academy of Sciences Centre in Paris, in particular the following publications:
Maria Skłodowska-Curie, *Autobiografia*, Warszawa, 1959;
*Korespondencja Marii Skłodowskiej-Curie z córką Ireną*, PIW, 1978;
*Korespondencja Polska Marii Skłodowskiej-Curie*, Wydawnictwo IHP PAN, W-wa, 1994;
Ewa Curie, *Maria Curie*, PWN, Warszawa 1997;
November 21, 2011 sees the 200th anniversary of the death of Heinrich von Kleist, who was one of the most eminent German writers, the forerunner of modernism and a drama writer whose plays have enjoyed unfaltering popularity. The exhibition organised by the JU Institute of German Studies, the Jagiellonian Library and Institute of the German Language and Literature of the University of Cologne entitled ‘Heinrich von Kleist and the Epistolary Culture of his Epoch,’ depicts the figure of this outstanding artist. The curators were Dr. Ingo Breuer from the University of Cologne and Dr. Katarzyna Jaśtal and Dr. Paweł Zarychta from the JU Institute of Germanic Philology.

The exhibition was opened in the Jagiellonian Library on 28 September 2011. The opening gathered a large audience of Polish and German scholars and guests, including the German Consul General Dr. Heinz Peters, Prof. Zdzisław Pietrzyk, Director of the Jagiellonian Library, Prof. Maria Kłańska, Director of the Institute of Germanic Philology and representatives of the sponsors of the project: Dorothee-Wilms-Stiftung Köln and KölnAlumni-Freunde und Förderer der Universität zu Köln e.V.

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The exhibition was held together with the conferences organised by the JU Institute of Germanic Philology and the Institute of German Language and Literature of the University of Cologne, which took place in Kraków on 27-30 September 2011. Both conferences were organized within the framework of the long-year cooperation between these two universities.

The exhibition aimed at presenting the life and work of this great writer in the broader context of the epistolary European (and also Polish) culture of the late 18th and early 19th centuries.

Therefore, the exhibition featured manuscripts by such famous people, apart from Kleist’s works, as Jean Jacques Rousseau, Victor Hugo, Friedrich Schiller, George Byron, Charles Dickens, William Thackeray, Alfred Tennyson, Mary Shelley, Adam Mickiewicz and Cyprian Kamil Norwid.

It is worth knowing that the Jagiellonian Library houses a collection of about a hundred letters by Kleist, which is more than half of the correspondence that has survived. The collection includes letters to his family, fiancée, friends and fellow writers. It also contains the only surviving letter from Goethe to Kleist and the Varnhagen’s copies of the letters concerning Kleist’s suicide.

How sad you are in this letter. You have so much expression in your words as in your eyes
(Kleist to Rahel Varnhagen, 1811)

Heinrich von Kleist and epistolary culture at the turn of the 18th and 19th centuries

The literary output of Heinrich von Kleist (1777-1811) combines elements of various cultures and epochs. In his works we can find elements of the Enlightenment, Classicism and Romanticism as well as the French and English cultural traditions, republican and patriotic elements. Kleist wrote dramas, short stories, poems and essays. He edited a periodical dedicated to art and a daily. He was a German aristocrat and burgher, a soldier and writer, author of numerous ideas about himself as well as an eternal wanderer. In his works, which were mainly reflections on the idea of unknowability and inexpressibility of the truth he skillfully juggled with the patterns of his epoch and went beyond their limits, anticipating the aesthetic achievements of the modernist movement.

Aber wie traurig sind Sie, in ihrem Brief. – Sie haben in Ihren Worten so viel Ausdruck, als Ihren Augen
The first thing that comes to our minds when we think of a letter is that it replaces conversation. [...] It is a free imitation of a good conversation. (Gellert, 1751)

European epistolary culture till the Romantic period

The 18th century brought about far-reaching changes of the epistolary culture. It was Latin that dominated the European epistolography in the ancient times and the Middle Ages. Letters written in national languages appeared towards the end of the Middle Ages and the 17th c. At first, they did not serve to express personal experiences but were utilitarian and followed the court and rhetorical conventions.

During the Baroque period letters became important elements of the refined cultures of European courts and favourite Baroque motifs of chivalric novels, which dictated the models of behaviours and conversations in court. With time correspondence became free of the norms and the composition and style of letters were simplified and less artificial. The authors aspired to express their subjective experiences. In 1783 Karl Philip Moritz proposed in his ‘Introduction to Writing Letters’ that the letter should be a ‘faithful image of the spoken language.’

The author of the first German epistolary novel entitled Leben der schwedischen Gräfin von G*** (Life of the Swedish Countess G***, 1748) was Christian Fürchtegott Gellert. The most meaningful and well known novel was The Sorrows of Young Werther by Johann Wolfgang Goethe (1774). They treated letters as a written form of the analysis of writers’ personalities, referring to the model formed in England – the first epistolary novel Love-Letters between a Noble-Man and his Sister (1684-87) by Aphra Behn. Soon more novels written in this genre became popular, including Samuel Richardson with his immensely successful novels Pamela (1740) and Clarissa (1749), the French Julie, ou la nouvelle Héloïse (1761) by Jean-Jacques Rousseau and Laclos’ Les Liaisons dangereuses (1782) ([filmed as ‘Dangerous Liaisons’]).

In Germany the culmination of the development of the epistolary novel fell on the Romantic period when letters were recognised as an ideal means for discussing aesthetic or philosophical questions and also means of personal confessions and creative experiments. Love letters had a special status as a way of expressing feelings and a special genre. The epistolary novel also became the space in which women could realise their creative aspirations.

The Polish epistolary culture reflected the European tendencies. Its unique 17th century example is the love letters of King John III Sobieski to his wife. The author succeeded to express his intimate experiences and feelings referring to the model of the French shepherd’s romance. Then the form of the Polish epistolary culture developed under the influence of Sentimentalism (from 1760), which treated letters as important means to develop love and friendship, emphasising the cult of emotions and private sphere. The conception of letters, created during Sentimentalism, was radicalised by the epoch of Romanticism, which is exemplified by the correspondences of the most outstanding Romantic figures: Adam Mickiewicz, Juliusz Słowacki and Zygmunt Krasiński. Their intimate confessions were connected with philosophical, religious or moral reflections. An interesting example of Romantic woman’s epistolary prose is the letters of Delfina Potocka to F. Chopin. The letters of another Polish poet C. K. Norwid are also a special testimony of the Romantic epistolary culture.

Finally, it is worth noticing that the development of the epistolary culture would not have been possible without the rapid development of postal communication and roads. The network of postal tracks became dense and the postal tracks became travelling routes, which was testified by the widely spread ‘postal maps.’ However, the real revolution of the postal movement took place in the middle of the 19th century when railway transport developed.

Do you feel joy in your every step awaiting my next letter? O wonderful! And O unfortunate! When will I write a letter that will give you so much joy I owe you? –

(Kleist to Ulrike, 1803)

Heinrich von Kleist as author of letters

Heinrich von Kleist, a writer with a complex and full of contradiction personality, was born on 10 (or 18) October 1777 into the family of an impoverished Prussian gentry. Early orphaned he entered the renowned Royal Infantry Regiment in Potsdam. He took part in the fights against the French revolutionary army. As he could not accept the spirit of subjection he retired from the service in 1799.

A. Wojnar

Opening of the exhibition
The possibilities that opened before a young man of his social status were limited. He could work in the public administration or lead a life of a scientist or a poet. But first he studied physics, mathematics, natural law, history of culture at the University in Frankfurt an der Oder. After about a year and a half he interrupted his studies and began travelling. He visited Paris and Switzerland. At first his trips were educational as Kleist wanted to visit important scientists and poets. In Switzerland he planned to buy a farm in Thun but his project did not succeed. But his literary career began in Switzerland since he wrote his first works and plays, including the sketch to his famous comedy *The Broken Jug*.

In 1802/03 he was a guest of the Weimar poet Christoph Martin Wieland. Then he travelled to Switzerland, Paris, Mainz and Weimar, back to Prussia where he again worked for the public administration.

In the years 1807/08 he began publishing his own periodicals. His works and plays were published as well. In 1810/11 Kleist wrote two volumes of stories and he edited *Berliner Abendblätter*, one of the first German dailies. During that time Kleist had justified hope to be employed in the Prussian administration or army. After a period of existential uncertainty, on 21 November 1811, Kleist committed suicide together with his friend Henriette Vogel, who suffered from cancerous disease. First he shot his friend and then he took his life. The reasons of his suicide have not been fully explained until today. He left a couple of farewell letters, which are the most famous letters in the history of German literature.

Many letters written by Kleist and those addressed to him have been lost. Nevertheless, the preserved letters document almost all the stages of his life, and thanks to that we can get to know the figure of one of the most important and mysterious German men of letters at the turn of the 18th and the 19th centuries.

The most important addressees of Kleist’s correspondence were women: his friend and half-sister Ulrike (letters from 1795-1811) and his fiancée Wilhelmine von Zenge (letters from 1800-1801). These letters are preserved in the Jagiellonian Library. The other important addressees were his aunt Auguste Helene von Massow and the acquaintances from the times of his service in Potsdam: Adolphe von Werdeck and Marie von Kleist. The male addressees were army officers, German and Austrian writers and poets, including Goethe, princes and kings.

The letters document all phases of Kleist’s biography and literary output. He travelled a lot and wrote letters regularly. They contain descriptions of cities and landscapes, gardens, paintings, functioning of postal service or social changes. They represent various epistolary genres and styles: family correspondence, love letters and official letters. Kleist used spoken language (incomplete sentences, dashes, lack of forms of address, which suggests unbroken conversation in a form of letter) and the so-called rhetoric of sincerity, e.g. ‘I would like to tear out my heart from the breast, put it into this letter and send it to you.’

Moreover, Kleist’s letters confirmed that the post of those days was a universal means of transport and contained information about its rapid development, e.g. the network of semaphores.

I. Breuer, K. Jaśtal, P. Zarychta
The Institute of European studies was invited by the secondary school No 8 from Kraków to co-create a class of intercultural competencies. The work on developing the class lasted throughout the summer holiday. On 3rd and 4th October 2011 the first class of international competencies was inaugurated in both institutions. Because the idea of the class was created in the framework of the Comenius program, which the secondary school No 8 is involved in, the inauguration was visited by teachers and students from European countries – Germany, Italy, Austria, Lithuania, Turkey and Spain. On Monday afternoon (3rd October) in the secondary school there was an official opening ceremony in the presence of the directors of the secondary school No 8 and Dr. K A Gajda from the Institute of European Studies at the Jagiellonian University (project coordinator on behalf of IE). After the performance titled ‘Goethe meets Mickiewicz’ everyone had an opportunity to try international delicacies brought by the representations of the partner schools. On Tuesday (4th October) teachers and pupils from Polish and European schools took part in classes at the Jagiellonian University in Przegorzały. After being welcomed by Professor Z. Mach (the Head of the Institute of European Studies) there were lectures in English (chaired by M. Zubek) and German (chaired by Dr. K. Cobia) on ‘Milestones in our modern history – World War II and the time of communism.’ The participants discussed topics related to history in small groups.

The idea of the class of international competencies

In the contemporary, globalized world, with the growing risk of conflict on the one hand, and the changing requirements of the institutions operating in the field of international (economic enterprise, political institutions, cultural, scientific and social, etc.) on the other hand, international competencies seem to be key competencies and they should be developed from an early age. Young people can acquire and develop them only in international cooperation. School and university should, therefore, allow their students to communicate and collaborate with youth of other cultures and provide them with adequate knowledge of intercultural competence. It is necessary and very important, therefore, to refer to the knowledge of Europe and civil society and the process of European integration. The student should be able not only to gain reliable knowledge, but also develop skills to confront the reality of his knowledge, interpretation of social phenomena and to recognize the differences in the proceedings of change and development of individual countries, which are often the cause of different styles of reasoning and hinder communication. So intercultural education implemented in schools in the educational program (usually theoretical) should be seen increasingly as a practical teaching of specific values and skills and should also be integrated at the school teaching programme.

The programme of the class of intercultural competencies is aimed primarily at students who plan to:

- study such fields as European studies, international relations, political science and tourism,
- study in other European countries,
- work in foreign enterprises or institutions, political economic, cultural, scientific and social active in international,
- live and work abroad.

Objectives of the class of intercultural Competence

The overriding goal is to develop in students the skills needed to work and communicate in an international team. Thus the deepening of their knowledge of the culture of Europe, extend horizons, familiarize students with various European styles of thinking, expressing feelings, communication and cooperation in order to accomplish a common project. In addition other important aims include tracking the implementation of students’ current events and the use of various sources of information and creating awareness of a common European culture while promoting the skills of the region. Important assumptions are also developing the students’ tolerance and respect for other cultures and values as well as creativity, entrepreneurship and responsibility for the group and performed the task, skill evaluation and lessons learned from international cooperation, to identify examples of good practice and mistakes to be avoided in the future. The project aims are also to adapt the school curriculum to European standards and requirements of a globalized world, the subjects taught to give a European dimension, enriching the learning process by introducing a series of lectures and exercises carried out by university teachers and graduate students at the Jagiellonian University.
Institute of European Studies and improve the quality of teaching by introducing an element of practical science in the field of language teaching and intercultural education.

The class is based on international standards of communication and teamwork, which is simultaneously the object of research conducted by staff of the Institute of European Studies at Jagiellonian University.

The main pillars of the class are:
- intensive language learning,
- a series of lectures and exercises carried out by university teachers and postgraduate students of the IES of the Jagiellonian University on Europe, civil society, globalization, European integration while maintaining the regional differences, etc.,
- international projects, allowing the acquisition of these.

Activities of the class of intercultural competencies achieved by the Institute of European Studies

Activities carried out by university teachers and graduate students of the Institute of European Studies within the class of intercultural competencies are designed not only to provide reliable knowledge expounded by the specialists and to broaden students’ messages, but also and above all, to learn problem-solving based on case studies, science, creative thinking and to translate theory into practice. Therefore, the topic will be previously laid out in a lecture and then rehearsed in workshops. Taking into consideration the linguistic (German) nature of class and students’ interests some exercises will involve German-speaking area of Europe and its relations with the countries of the EU and the other will focus on European issues, with particular emphasis on Polish relations with other EU countries. This project is, therefore, not only to improve pupils’ competencies, but also to teach them to think creatively, to stimulate their interest in art, provide them with the ability to combine various elements of the same disciplines and to finds similarities and differences between the cultures of the EU, to teach young people new skills to encourage pupils to their own creative work, self-seeking, and innovative solutions will be encouraged in dialogue within and between cultures.

In order to meet the demands of the project the methodology of working refers to methods of exposing, administering: the anecdote, explanation, reading, description, talk, lecture, multimedia presentation, lecture informative, practical – practice question, project method, the method of guiding text, activation method – discussion teaching, games, simulation, decision making or drama, lecture, but also to the pedagogy of creativity, creative thinking, teaching and drama therapy to the core curriculum.

A student in the university course should acquire new knowledge of European culture and intercultural competence and the ability to work in a group, confronting their knowledge of reality, and good analysis (including benchmarking), and the interpretation of social phenomena and efficient communication within different cultures and make dialogue with peers and older people as well as to recognize differences and intercultural similarities and respect their cultural heritage. University classes should be conducted in the three-year cycle time, teaching once a month. Ten topics will be completed during the school year. The first class will include the following topics: Polish contemporary milestones in the history of our country and culture of modern Europe, the EU youth, EU history in a nutshell, intercultural economic and political relations, discrimination and tolerance, stereotypes, social and cultural aspects of European integration, cultural policy, What is science? method of language, precision and scientific criterion of individual scientific fields.

Expected results

Students will learn to recognize differences and similarities between countries. On the one hand, it will enable them to open up to intensive international cooperation, but on the other hand it will retain their cultural distinctiveness. They will gain valuable experience and develop their European awareness. The knowledge and experience complemented by European awareness and intercultural skills acquired will enable students in their later professional lives to be actively involved in the international arena.

K.A. Gajda
Visit from Duisburg-Essen

Within the framework of Erasmus staff week Tonia Marisescu, from the International Office of the University of Duisburg-Essen, and I spent a week at the Jagiellonian University (12-17 September 2011). It was perfect timing since September still offered us wonderful summer weather.

Our training was organised well and we had interesting talks in various JU units, including the International Relations Office, the International Students’ Office, ESN Office, Erasmus Offices, the Department of Students Affairs, the Recruitment Office and the Careers Office. We could also visit the JU Museum in Collegium Maius, the Professors’ Garden and the new campus – the Faculty of Management and Social Communication and the Faculty of Biophysics, Biochemistry and Biotechnology. Our visit to the Jagiellonian Library on the last day of our stay at the JU was very interesting as we got to know the functioning of a modern library and had a unique occasion to see old maps of Europe in the Cartographic Department of the Jagiellonian Library.

The structure and organisation as well as ways of dealing with educational issues at the Jagiellonian University differ from the German system of higher education but it was interesting to share our problems and activities as well as views on higher education with our Polish colleagues. Our conversations with the JU partners allowed us to create a picture of the Jagiellonian University and how it solves various administrative and educational matters. The knowledge we gained will certainly be useful for our daily work at the University of Duisburg-Essen.

The picture of the JU was completed by our visit to Collegium Maius, where we learnt about the history of the JU, and to the new campus that shows the JU development.

Besides our training at the JU we could see the Kraków monuments, including the castle, St Mary’s Church, the former Jewish district and the salt mine. On warm evenings we could explore the beautiful cafes and pubs and made long walks along the Vistula River.

Thus we spent a week in Kraków and the Jagiellonian University, a week full of positive impressions and experiences, which enhanced our knowledge of Poland, Polish universities and students.

A. Wojciechowska
SCIES-Support Centre for (International) Engineering Students
Universität Duisburg-Essen

Gender Studies and Research – collaboration with the University of Oslo

In spring 2011, we celebrated the graduation of the participants of the interdisciplinary postgraduate course ‘Gender Studies’ run in 2010 by the Institute of Sociology of the Jagiellonian University. The course was developed in collaboration with the Centre for Gender Research of the University of Oslo in Norway. The partnership between the Centre for Gender Research and the Jagiellonian University developed thanks to the Norwegian funds from the Scholarship and Training Fund (www.fss.org.pl).

The interdisciplinary postgraduate course ‘Gender Studies’ was run by the Institute of Sociology of the Jagiellonian University (ISUJ). The project responded to the need, expressed by the United Nations Beijing Declaration and the European Commission in 1996, to include gender perspective in all political, economical and social activities (gender mainstreaming). Project goals were to raise the level of knowledge and awareness within Polish society about gender issues and to enhance the implementation of equality policies. The goals were reached by educating public service workers (administration, police, social welfare workers and others) and leaders of non-governmental organizations as they directly influence the implementation of equality policies. The other group invited to participate in the course were school teachers as they are the ones responsible for the education of young people and have direct influence on shaping their worldviews and knowledge.
Besides participation in classes (on topics such as sociology of gender, gender mainstreaming, feminist economy, gender and law, gender in practice) led by experienced academic staff and practitioners from non-governmental organizations, participants of the course conducted individual research projects aiming at improvement of the work of their institutions or organizations. The project aims were to analyse the functioning of one aspect of their institution work using the newly learned concepts and the research methodology. The innovation curriculum of the programme has been developed in collaboration with our partner institution from Norway. As the Centre for Gender Research runs also BA and MA programmes in gender studies, it was invaluable to learn from their experiences and discuss ideas. The programme was based on strict theory-practice relations and contained courses (socio-cultural determinants of gender, gender in social policy, public sphere, mass-media), as well as practical workshops (e.g. research methods, IT technologies, fundraising, anti-discrimination workshops). The results of students’ final research papers were presented during the closing conference and were published in the book entitled “Gender. Between Theory and Practice.” The book is available in Polish at:


Today after the successful project realisation, the partnership is taking steps to further develop collaboration in the area of research on gender equality and gender studies as well as to enhance student and teacher exchange between institutions. The long term aim would be to develop a joint degree programme in the area of gender studies. In May 2011, the Norwegian representation visited the Institute of Sociology in Kraków, and in October 2011, Ewa Krzaklewska, from the Institute of Sociology JU, conducted a study visit to the Centre for Gender Research. The study visit was also supported by the Norwegian Grants, the Scholarship and Training Fund, contributing to the development of collaboration between the institutions, and conducting library research on the gender dimension in the study of life courses and transitions to adulthood.

Summing up, collaboration between the countries that have such different attitudes and traditions of gender equality politics might be very fruitful for both sides as it might challenge the cliché and teaching and researching practices. As the Norwegian experience was very valuable in the curricula design of our course as well as in my personal research on life trajectories, we hope to be able to collaborate further on developing challenging study courses and research projects.

Project website:
www.socjologia.uj.edu.pl/gender
www.socjologia.uj.edu.pl
Centre for Gender Research, University of Oslo, Norway: http://www.stk.uio.no/English/frontpage.html

This project was completed with the support granted by Iceland, Liechtenstein and Norway by means of co-financing from the European Economic Area Financial Mechanism and the Norwegian Financial Mechanism as part of the Scholarship and Training Fund.

Ewa Krzaklewska
Archaeological excavations in Cyprus

Paphos in Cyprus is a new archaeological site for the JU Department of Classical Archaeology. The excavations were conducted on 3 July – 7 August 2011 by a JU team consisting of two scholars, five doctoral students, 15 students and two volunteers from the Institute of Archaeology under the supervision of Prof. Ewdoksia Papuci-Władyka.

The Paphos Agora Project has been granted concession from the Cypriot Department of Antiquities. The aim of the project is to conduct excavations in the area of the agora in the ancient town of Nea Paphos, the capital of Cyprus during the Hellenistic and Roman periods. So far the Roman agora – a square perystil (court with a surrounding colonnade) having a side of ca. 100 m – has been localised and partly examined in the years 1975-78 by K. Nikolaou. Our research focused on finding the Hellenistic agora which was most probably lying below it.

During the first week geophysical research was conducted and then classical excavations began. Two trenches were opened: one in the central part of the Roman agora and the other in the middle part of the eastern portico. The team found architectonic remains which included five rooms (probably shops: tabernae), various walls, and floors. The water supply system with sewage pipes and two cisterns were especially interesting, but there was no time to examine them. These remains may belong to the three chronological phases: Hellenistic, early Roman and late Roman. We also found Roman ceramics as well as Byzantine and Hellenistic pottery fragments. The most important findings include: many bronze coins, a bronze jar with a decorated handle, bronze scales and an acorn-shaped weight, nails and pins as well as items of iron and lead (nails, weights, etc.) among which an iron Roman sword and a lead cylindrical vessel with a long iron handle are very special. An especially interesting find is a well-preserved Egyptising amulet, decorated by incised pictures on one side and a magic inscription in the Greek alphabet on the other. The other attractive findings were terracotta lamps and a little head of the goddess Athena wearing a helmet as a fragment of a terracotta statuette. Some fragmentary preserved glass vessels were also excavated.

The first season of excavations was very fruitful and the results are extremely important and satisfying from the scientific point of view, although at the moment we cannot state that we found the Hellenistic Agora of Paphos. Excavation works will be continued next year.

E. Papuci-Władyka
Inauguration at the Centre for European Studies

The inauguration ceremony for international students at the JU Centre for European Studies, which is part of the Institute of European Studies, was held in the aula of Collegium Novum on 3 October 2011. It gathered around 100 students, academics and guests, including the JU Vice-Rector for educational affairs Prof. Dr. Andrzej Mania, the Vice-Dean of the Faculty of International and Political Studies Prof. Dr. Andrzej Dudek and the Director of the Institute of European Studies Prof. Dr. Zdzisław Mach as well as the representatives of the American, Austrian, French and British consulates.

The inauguration began with the JU hymn Gaude Mater Polonia performed by the JU Choir under the direction of Włodzimierz Siedlik. Then Prof. Mach and Vice-Rector Mania officially welcomed students asking them to treat the Jagiellonian University and Kraków as open and friendly places and encouraged them to take full advantage of their stay here. In turn the gathered students took the university oath in Polish and English. This solemn part ended with Gaudeamus igitur sung by the JU Choir.

The inaugural lecture entitled ‘The European Union in global security. The politics of impact’ was delivered by Roy H. Ginsberg who is a professor of Government, Model EU Advisor and founder-director of the International Affairs/Environmental Studies Global at Skidmore College in Saratoga Springs (New York). He is the author of numerous books on international politics, e.g. Foreign Policy Actions of the European Community: The Politics of Scale, Ten years of European Foreign Policy: Baptism, Confirmation, Validation and Demystifying European Union: The Enduring Logic of Regional Integration. In his lecture he stressed the historical moment of the inauguration: the approaching parliamentary elections in Poland, the Polish presidency in the Council of Europe and the crisis in the EU. He presented Poland’s contribution to the European integration: the Polish-German reconciliation, its involvement in the process of peace making in Iraq, Afghanistan as well as some African and Middle East countries. Poland could be a bridge builder between the EU and NATO. Another aspect of Prof. Ginsberg’s talk was the Common Security and Defence Policy as a set of instruments. He mentioned the deployments under the CSDP in Macedonia, Congo, Georgia and Palestine.

The inauguration was closed with the EU anthem ‘Ode to Joy’ sung by the JU Choir. It is worth adding that in the academic year 2011/12 foreign students can follow several programmes taught in English: MA in Euroculture and MA in European Studies and double degree programmes taught in conjunction with other leading European universities, including University College London, the University of Glasgow and the University of Kent. Students spend either one or two semesters studying at the Jagiellonian University and two semesters at the partner university, thus benefiting from the academic expertise of the respective departments as well as having the chance to enhance their language skills as well as gaining various perspectives on European affairs.

The Undergraduate Study Abroad programme is organised for undergraduate students from other universities and colleges. It offers students the opportunity to see the rapidly-changing world of Central Europe at first hand while studying at Poland’s oldest and most prestigious university. Students coming for study abroad at the Centre for European Studies become full-time students of the Jagiellonian University. We regularly receive students from partner institutions including American University, Boston College, University of Rochester, University of Illinois at Chicago, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill and University of Richmond. In recent semesters students from universities including Loyola University Chicago, Northwestern University, Rutgers University, Syracuse University, University of Toronto, Centenary College of New Jersey, Boston University, Kenyon College, College of William and Mary and University of Alberta have also attended courses at the Centre for European Studies.

M. Kantor
The International Masters in Russian, Central and East European Studies at JU

The International Masters in Russian, Central and East European Studies (IMRCEES), an international consortium of six European universities including the Jagiellonian University, was recently awarded “Erasmus Mundus Masters Course” status by the European Commission.

Erasmus Mundus is a programme for cooperation and mobility in higher education which is funded and managed by the European Commission. It is designed to improve the quality of higher education by promoting structured cooperation between institutions and by encouraging a robust European dimension in the education which is offered. Erasmus Mundus scholarships also help to keep European education accessible, not only for EU citizens, but also for the best candidates from around the world.

IMRCEES offers students the unique opportunity to spend one year of study at the School of Social and Political Sciences of the Glasgow University in the UK and one year at the Centre for European Studies of the Jagiellonian University in Poland, leading to the award of a double degree. Students in the IMRCEES programme concentrate on the knowledge, theories and experience needed to understand a particular geographical, social and political area, and the challenges faced by this region in the 21st century. Flexible, high-quality language training is an essential part of IMRCEES.

The IMRCEES programme also includes other events such as a series of academic conferences and workshops which will be held with the participation of all of the consortium partners and which will enrich the overall experience of programme participants.


K. Zielińska

New initiatives at CES

The Centre for European Studies (CES) offers several interdisciplinary study programmes which offer the opportunity to observe and study the rapidly changing European Union and Central and Eastern European region from a unique vantage point. Students from around the globe have come to Kraków to take advantage of CES’ quality academics, central location, friendly staff and exciting cultural activities. Presently, CES is composed of 34 MA and 9 study abroad students from the United States, Romania, France, Czech Republic, Ukraine, Netherlands, Belarus, Iran and Australia. CES collaborates and works with several international programmes and university partners.

The Centre for European Studies is happy to announce its 2012 Summer School Program. Entitled, “Central Europe: Unity in Diversity?”, this year’s 3 week program will focus on issues of integration processes and cooperation in the region as well as its experiences with diversity. We warmly invite you to join us in learning about minority issues, transatlantic relations, the role of Central Europe in the European Union, and many other topics covered in our classes. Participants will be also able to enjoy local excursions and study trips as well as the lively cultural and social life of Kraków.

Please see our website or contact our Communications and Development Officer, Justyna Jochym, (jochym@ces.uj.edu.pl) for more details. Application deadline is March 1st, 2012.
The inaugural start of the Jagiellonian University representatives in the European Academic Championship in Cordoba (13-21 July 2011) is over. The success in ‘the Polish yard’ predisposed us positively before the first matches on the European arena. But soon the group matches showed that the hotheads of basketball, the JU students, playing in the second and third basketball divisions in Poland had no chances against the professionals who represented other universities. The JU team played against the teams of the Universities: of Zagreb, Maribor, Bologna, Valladolid and Aveiro. Our team won the last match against the Portuguese team from Aveiro. The winner of the tournament was the team from the University of Kaunas. No wonder, its members regularly play in the Lithuanian First Division and the national team. Cordoba hosted over 500 athletes. The sports level of the championship was very high but unfortunately, the organisational aspect was poor.

The JU team consisted of Czepczyk Paweł, Bryzek Tomasz, Piotrowski Mateusz, Szewczyk Michał, Dwernicki Jakub, Boczarski Jakub, Wanat Emanuel, Najman Jonatan, Januszkiewicz Marek, Klonowski Marcin, Gurgul Aleksander and Kulig Jakub. The coach was Krzysztof Cięszki. During the championship all of them showed sports good sportsmanship and sense of duty, worthy of true sportsmen. The experiences they gained will yield fruit in the future.

It is worth adding that the JU Academic Sports Association is the oldest organisation of this kind in Poland. It was the Jagiellonian University that initiated the idea of student sport in 1909. Currently, the ASA embraces 940 members (including 516 women) who exercise sports and recreation in over 40 sports sections.

On 12 October 2011 there was the Gala of the Małopolska Academic Sport, summarising the Małopolska Academic League 2010/11 organised by the Academic Sports Association Kraków. Over 5,000 students-sportsmen from 13 institutions of higher education in Kraków competed in 32 disciplines in the academic year 2010/11. The Jagiellonian Universities was the only institution that had competitors in all the discipline. The JU sports team, consisting of 500 students, won the third place in the League, the winner naturally being the University School of Physical Education.

JU Sports Office
On 6 October 2011 the Jagiellonian University officially welcomed its Erasmus incoming students. Over 400 Erasmus students turned up for that event. On behalf of the JU authorities Professor Andrzej Mania, Vice-Rector for educational affairs, welcomed the gathered students. He stressed the international dimension of the Jagiellonian University and student mobility. Then the Institutional Erasmus Coordinator Mirosław Klimkiewicz, Head of the International Students Office, presented the scope of activities for Erasmus students.

In turn Simon Dale from the British Council talked about the importance of effective speaking and writing in English and the course of English for Academic Purposes organised by the British Council. He also presented Kaplan’s intercultural thought patterns.

The ESN team talked about the other attractions of the Orientation Week (3-9 October), namely the University Day (visit to the Jagiellonian Library and the university campuses), the Sports Day (go-carting and paintball with professional instructors), the Multi-Culti Day (sightseeing tours), various parties (Tram Party, i.e. 2-hour trip in an old tram where you can drink, have fun and socialize with people or Language Evening – meeting in a club where the tables have been assigned to different nationalities so that students can talk to native speakers) and planned trips to the Tatras and the Mazury lake district. One could see that a week full of fun and joy was prepared for the Erasmus students and they should not miss this chance. Naturally, the ESN team depicted the whole scope of semester activities organised by the ESN teams: travel, party, culture, sports, public relationships and tandem scheme (learning languages). They also mentioned charity activities. At the end of their presentation the President of the ESN at JU Magdalena Żurowska and the ESN treasurer Hubert Makowski led the gathered Erasmus students in taking the JU oath in Polish and English.

The presentation of Krzysztof Byrski ‘Studying at the Jagiellonian University’ obviously attracted the students’ attention as it focused on the formalities and practical aspects of studying: on-line registration to courses, ID cards, learning agreements or certificates. It was followed by questions.

Finally, Scott Simpson from the JU Centre for European Studies spoke about cultural shock and cultural differences. He emphasized that even in a globalizing world there were always differences in culture, which were not necessarily good or bad. Everyone needs time to adjust to them. Arriving in a new country and at a new university, with its own incomprehensible traditions, doubles the potential shock. His presentation took a serious and light-hearted look at Polish culture, academic culture, stages of culture shock and coping strategies. He presented four stages of cultural shock: honeymoon, confrontation, adjustment and comfort. He also mentioned the reverse culture shock after students return to their own countries. What can help students survive? Flexibility, patience, tolerance and sense of humour. At the end of his presentation he enumerated the main reasons for mobility: learning new insights, improving your CV, earning credits or learning new languages. There can also be personal reasons, e.g. getting to know one’s roots.

### Erasmus incoming students according to nationality – winter semester 2011/2012

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<th>Nationality</th>
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<td>Spanish</td>
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<td>German</td>
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<td>French</td>
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<td>Hungarian</td>
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<td>Czech</td>
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<td>Dutch</td>
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<td>Latvian</td>
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<td>Austrian</td>
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<td>British</td>
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<td>Lithuanian</td>
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<td>Romanian</td>
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### Erasmus incoming students according to JU faculty – winter semester 2011/2012

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<tr>
<td>Philosophical</td>
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<tr>
<td>International and Political Studies</td>
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<td>Philological</td>
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<tr>
<td>Management and Social Communication</td>
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<tr>
<td>Law and Administration</td>
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<td>Medicine</td>
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<tr>
<td>Historical</td>
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<tr>
<td>Biology and Earth Sciences</td>
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<td>Polish Studies</td>
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<td>Chemistry</td>
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<td>Biochemistry, Biophysics and Biotechnology</td>
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<td>Interfaculty units</td>
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<tr>
<td>Physics, Astronomy and Applied Computer Science</td>
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<td>Mathematics and Computer Sciences</td>
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<tr>
<td>Pharmacy</td>
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<td><strong>TOTAL</strong></td>
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In winter semester 2011/12 the Erasmus incoming students can enrol in courses conducted in English, French and German at the Jagiellonian University

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<th>Department</th>
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<tr>
<td>Department of Comparative Civilisation Studies</td>
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<tr>
<td>Institute of American Studies</td>
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<td>Faculty of Law and Administration</td>
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<td>Centre for European Studies</td>
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<td>Institute of Sociology</td>
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<td>Oriental and Regional Studies</td>
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<tr>
<td>Faculty of Management and Social Communication</td>
<td>8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Faculty of Biology and Earth Sciences</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Faculty of Medicine</td>
<td>30</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Biochemistry, Biophysics and Biotechnology</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

All courses taught in English, German, French, Italian, Spanish
course in corpus linguistics
courses in Polish culture, philosophy, religion, media art
courses in South Asian politics, Indian studies, Tibetan folk culture
courses in Transatlantic studies
Courses and seminars in law
courses in history, finances, integration, business, architecture, myths and symbols
courses in sociology, movements, gender
courses in psychology: counselling, stereotypes, organisation diagnosis
courses in applied psychology, Muslim societies, politics
courses in physics, astronomy, informatics
courses in modern Polish literature and Polish-Jewish relationships, Polish theatre
All courses taught in English, German, French, Italian, Spanish
course in corpus linguistics
courses in ethnicity, literature, tradition
courses in communication, marketing, world development, media
courses in ecology, environmental studies, geography
courses in medicine in English
courses and laboratories