Contents

University news
2 Honorary doctorate for Prof. W. Szybalski
3 US Ambassador visits JU
4 Sixth European Congress of Mathematics
4 Prince Albert of Monaco at JU
5 Festival of Canadian Culture
5 Polish-Venezuelan team reached Tramen tepui

International relations
22 Experiencing the magic of Iceland
23 Joint MA Programme in International Relations
23 Visiting Professor Toru Shimizu
24 Visit to the University of Glasgow
26 Grenzenlos Fair in Bochum

Features
6 Inauguration of the 649th academic year

Student life
26 Orientation Week for foreign students
27 New initiatives at CES
28 Four weeks for German language and culture in Heidelberg
29 Experience of a Turkish student
29 Researchers’ Night

10 Merentibus for Prof. Cheong Byung Kwon
12 Control of iodine deficiency disorders
14 Development of Jewish Studies at JU
17 Jehoshua Ozjasz Thon: his life, thought and activities
18 Europe and the world in crisis - SYLFF Fellows’ conference
20 'History of ideas'-edition projects
Honorary doctorate for Prof. Waclaw Szybalski

On 28 September 2012, an honorary doctorate was conferred upon Prof. Waclaw Szybalski 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 Biochemistry, Biophysics and Biotechnology and the reviews of Prof. Ewa Bartnik from the University of Warsaw and Prof. Ewa Łojkowska from the University of Gdańsk decided to confer the title of doctor honoris causa of the Jagiellonian University upon Prof. Szybalski for his achievements, including:

- scientific achievements of international importance, including the initiation of numerous new research areas in the field of genetics, microbiology, medical biology and synthetic biology;
- for help and assistance offered over the years to Polish science and Polish researchers from the Jagiellonian University, in particular for the opportunity to participate in fellowships in the Professor’s laboratory at the University of Wisconsin, Madison, USA;
- for disseminating good opinion about Poland and Polish academic centres and for supporting the research and educational efforts in Poland.

The laudatory speech was delivered by Prof. Józef Dulak, the Head of the JU Department of Medical Biotechnology. Then the Rector of the Jagiellonian University Prof. Wojciech Nowak handed the diploma to Professor Szybalski, who, thanking for this distinction, spoke about his scientific adventures, his links with Lwów, where he had started his research during World War II, with Gdańsk and about his laboratories in the United States, which numerous Polish scientists visited to work with him. At the end of his talk he mentioned the visit of his friend, former student and the Nobel Laureate Dr James Watson and his wife Ms Liz Watson, whom he had accompanied during their visit to the Jagiellonian University in June 2008. He concluded that for him this year’s visit to Krakow was ‘the trip of his lifetime’ like it had been for Ms Watson.

The ceremony coincided with the conference, ‘50 years of gene therapy: the contribution of Prof. Waclaw Szybalski to science and humanity’ organised by the Polish Academy of Arts and Sciences (PAU), the Polish Cell Biology Society, the Polish Biochemical Society and the JU Department of Medical Biotechnology, and held in the PAU premises in Sławkowska Street on 28-29 September 2012.

At the opening ceremony Professor Andrzej Białas, the President of the Polish Academy of Arts and Sciences, mentioned the history of the Academy. Prof. Józef Dulak, the head of the organizing committee, welcomed all the participants, briefly presenting the connections of Prof. Szybalski with the Polish science and scientists. Then Prof. Szybalski received a diploma of foreign PAU member from Prof. Andrzej Białas and Prof. Krystyna Grodzińska, the Director of the PAU Division of Natural Sciences. Prof. Maciej Żylicz (President of the Foundation for Polish Science) read aloud the letter of Poland’s President, Mr Bronisław Komorowski addressed to Prof. Szybalski. The gathered participants of the conference included representatives of the City of Kraków and the Małopolska Voivodship. The Jagiellonian University was represented by the Vice-Rector for research and structural funds Prof. Stanisław Kistryn and by the Dean of the Faculty of Biochemistry, Biophysics and Biotechnology Prof. Wojciech Froncisz. Among other guests there were Prof. Szybalski’s daughters: Barbara Hunter-Sandor and Jolanta Fabicka.

The conference started with the lecture of Prof. Szybalski in which he described the beginnings of gene transfer technology, which he and his wife Elizabeth Szybalski had initiated 50 years ago, laying the foundations for gene therapy. Professor Ewa Łojkowska from Gdańsk University and Prof. Jacek Bigda from Gdańsk Medical University presented the Prof. Szybalski’s life and some of other works. The speakers of the conference embraced Alain Fischer (Hospital Necker, INSERM, Paris), Anne Galy (Genethon, Evry), Chantal Pichon, Claudine Kieda and Patrick Midoux (CNRS, Orleans) from France; Gustavo Mostoslavsky (Boston University, USA), Adrian Thrasher (UCL Institute of Child Health, London, UK) and Seppo Yla-Herttuala (the University of Eastern Finland,
US Ambassador visits JU


In his speech Ambassador Feinstein stressed that for the USA the transatlantic relations were as important today as they had ever been. Europe and the USA must remain partners since their economies are closely related; the EU members and America are democracies, they share democratic values and face common challenges. In his opinion we need a strong Europe and strong transatlantic relations, based on three pillars: trade and economy (the USA is the largest investor in Poland and Polish companies are also investing in the USA), collaboration concerning democracy (Poland is one of the most successful examples of transition to a free market economy; credibility of the Polish transformations and support for democracy in such countries as Belarus or Moldova) and security (the collaboration of the US and Polish militaries at a more comprehensive and a much higher level). The ambassador also stressed educational co-operation between Poland and the USA.

Ambassador Feinstein’s speech was followed by questions. They concerned the issues of freedom, democracy, military involvement in Afghanistan and scholarships.

Ambassador Lee A. Feinstein arrived in Poland in 2009, appointed to be America’s 25th ambassador to the Republic of Poland by Secretary Clinton and President Obama and approved by the United States Senate by unanimous consent. Ambassador Feinstein presented his credentials to the late President of Poland, Lech Kaczyński. Having worked for two Secretaries of State, one Secretary of Defence, and at American research and human rights institutions, Ambassador Feinstein has a distinguished record both in and outside of government. Ambassador Feinstein was an advisor in the Office of the Assistant Secretary of Defence for Strategy and Requirements in the Pentagon from 1994-95. He then served in the State Department as Member and Principal Deputy Director of the Policy Planning Staff from 1995-2001. As an adviser to Secretary Madeleine Albright, he is proud to have played a role in establishing the Community of Democracies in Warsaw in 2000. His areas of expertise are security policy, including arms control and non-proliferation, international law and organizations as well as human rights and democracy promotion. As an international lawyer, he is an authority on the Responsibility to Protect.

Under the auspices of the Embassy’s Ambassadorial Awards Program, Ambassador Feinstein awarded Polish director Agnieszka Holland the Jan Karski Freedom Award for outstanding political, social and cultural contributions on behalf of democracy and human rights and Polish-American author Janusz Glowacki with the Czesław Milosz Award for contributions to U.S.-Polish understanding.

M. Kantor
Sixth European Congress of Mathematics

The 6th European Congress of Mathematics was held at the Jagiellonian University on 2-7 July 2012. It was organised together with the European Mathematical Society (EMS) and the Polish Mathematical Society. The European Congress of Mathematics takes place every four years and is considered one of the most important international mathematical events. Since 1992, the European Mathematical Society invites mathematicians from all over the world to this important event. Previous congresses have been held in Paris, Budapest, Barcelona, Stockholm and Amsterdam. Close to 1,000 mathematicians participated in the congress that took place over a whole week at the Auditorium Maximum of the Jagiellonian University.

The programme of the Congress consisted of plenary lectures giving a broad overview of contemporary mathematical disciplines as well as of more specialized talks and panel discussions about the latest developments in the field. Ten EMS prizes for outstanding young researchers (not older than 35 years) of European nationality or working in Europe were awarded during the congress. The prize winners were chosen by a committee, chaired by Prof. Frances Kirwan (Oxford, UK), consisting of 15 internationally recognised mathematicians representing a wide variety of sub-disciplines. Funds for this prize were endowed by the Foundation Compositio Mathematica. The winners were mathematicians from Germany, Italy, France, Romania and UK. For the first time, the newly established Otto Neugebauer Prize in the History of Mathematics was awarded for a specific highly influential article or book. The prize winner was selected by a committee of five specialists in the history of mathematics, chaired by Prof. Jeremy Gray (Open University, UK). The funds for this prize were offered by Springer-Verlag, one of the major scientific publishing houses. The winner of this prize was Jan P. Hogendijk, a full professor in History of Mathematics at the Mathematics Department of Utrecht University, ‘for having illuminated how Greek mathematics was absorbed in the medieval Arabic world, how mathematics developed in medieval Islam, and how it was eventually transmitted to Europe.’

Prize winners from the previous years successfully continued their careers and achieved further success, including several of them being awarded the Fields Medal: the most prestigious prize for mathematicians, often referred to as the ‘Nobel Prize of Mathematics,’ which is awarded every four years to a maximum of four scholars.

Prince of Monaco visits JU

During his official visit to Poland, His Serene Highness Prince Albert of Monaco visited the Jagiellonian University on 18 October 2012. He was greeted by the JU Rector Prof. Wojciech Nowak. First Prince Albert visited Collegium Novum and then the Jagiellonian University Museum in Collegium Novum and Collegium Maius, being guided by Prof. Stanislaw Waltoś. Among the numerous exhibits he could see the JU treasury, the old astronomical instruments and Chopin’s piano. In the library hall of Collegium Maius Prince Albert delivered a lecture, ‘Consequences of environmental changes in the polar sphere,’ which was followed by a discussion. Then he wrote the following words in the visitors’ book, ‘In sincere appreciation of all the Polish academics, who thanks to the richness of their intellect and their work, contribute greatly to the shaping of our world.’

The last part of the visit included the presentation of the historical clock with moving figures in the courtyard of Collegium Maius and the performance by the JU Academic Choir.

It is worth knowing that in the year 2006 Prince Albert initiated a foundation (Fondacion de Prince Albert II de Monaco) that has three specific goals: to form partnerships in order to conduct projects in its priority areas for action, to raise the awareness of the population and public authorities regarding the impact of human activities on the natural environment in order to encourage more environmentally friendly behaviour and to promote outstanding initiatives and innovative solutions, in particular by awarding prizes and grants.

M. Kantor
On 12-17 November 2012 the JU American Studies Scientific Circle and the JU Institute of American Studies and Polish Diaspora organised the Canadian Culture Festival during which participants could get to know the culture of Canada through lectures, discussions, films and concerts. The inaugural lecture entitled, ‘Canadian prairies: why are they so unique’ was delivered on 17 November by Ass. Prof. Marta Kijewska-Trembecka from the Institute of American Studies and Polish Diaspora. On the same day the season of Canadian films started. Two films: One Week directed by Michael McGowan (2008) and Daydream Nation directed by Michael Goldbach (2010) were shown.

During the next days the lectures and discussions focused on Polish immigrants in Canada, Franco-Ontariens, Franco-Manitobains, Fransaskois, Franco-Albertains, Franco-Colombiens, i.e. the French-speaking literary conquest of Western Canada as well as several films directed by Denis Arcand and Guy Maddin.

On 15-16 November 2012 there was a student-doctoral conference entitled ‘O Western Canada.’ Manitoba, Saskatchewan, Alberta, British Columbia, Yukon and Northwest Territories. This is Canadian West, usually remaining overshadowed by their Eastern brothers. For decades, the interest of the world was drawn mostly to Quebec and Ontario, their roles in shaping Canadian politics, economy, society; and to their rivalry. Meanwhile, those four promising, fascinating provinces became the focus of more and more attention, due to their history and cultural riches. Western Canada is intertwined with the native tribes’ cultures, with the transcontinental railroad, with the North-West Rebellion led by Louis Riel, or more recently, with hosting of two Winter Olympics. It is the area of thriving economy, but also an area where Western alienation is an issue. And we cannot forget about the cultural and sport centres of the cities like Calgary, Vancouver or Winnipeg.

All those topics and more were the scope of the conference, discussed during panels on history, society and culture.

Additionally, there was an open meeting with Mrs Pamela Isfeld from the Embassy of Canada to Poland, Warsaw, and a concert of the band Valleys from Montreal.

Polish-Venezuelan team reached Tramen Tepui

The Zoological Museum of the Jagiellonian University has conducted research in Venezuela for 20 years. Recently it has supported a scientific expedition to the Tramen Tepui peak (2726 m) located on the border of Venezuela and Guyana. The tepuis, known as ‘islands above the rainforest,’ are a challenge for researchers as they are home to a high number of new species which have yet to be described.

One of the members of the expedition, which reached Tramen Tepui on 14 February 2012, was Mrs Izabela Stachowicz, who was responsible for the scientific part of the expedition. She graduated from the Faculty of Biology and Earth Sciences of the Jagiellonian University. In 2009 she took part in the course of Tropical Ecology, organised by the Institute of Environmental Sciences and the Zoological Museum and for the Venezuelan counterparts, the Venezuelan Institute for Scientific Research in Caracas and the Central University in Maracay. During the course she was taught entomological techniques by the staff of the Zoological Museum.

The exploration of the tepuis received administrative and logistic support of the Zoological Museum, providing personal contacts with Venezuela. The Museum co-ordinated the choice of the site and field research methods. It provided the members of the expedition with entomological equipment: nets, traps, scoops, forceps, exhausters, envelops, etc.

The entomological material collected during the expedition was deposited in the Zoological Museum and then properly set and preserved. A photographic documentation was made and taxonomic examinations – comparative analyses of the morphological and anatomic characteristics – were conducted.
with the use of the equipment of the Zoological Museum. Three new taxa: two at the level of species and one at the subspecific level, were identified. A preliminary taxonomic description of one of the species was made, and the Polish edition of *National Geographic* and Radio Zet have run a competition concerning the scientific specific name of one of the new species.

*Tomasz Pyrcz*

*Director of the JU Zoological Museum*

***

A press conference with the members of Tramen Tepui expedition to Venezuela was held in the JU Collegium Novum on 11 September 2012. In the words of welcome Professor Wojciech Nowak, JU Rector, compared the challenge of travelling into the wild with the challenge of conducting research. He also mentioned a long tradition of describing and collecting new species of flying moths at the Jagiellonian University: JU Zoological Museum has one of the largest collections of South American butterflies in Europe.

---

**Inauguration of the 649th academic year**

October 1, 2012 marked the beginning of the 649th academic year at the Jagiellonian University. Following a service in St. Anne’s Church there was a procession of professors in university gowns. The procession, including JU students and staff, stopped near Collegium Novum (main university building) by the Oak of Liberty to lay a wreath under the commemorative plaque. A few minutes past 11 the main hall in Auditorium Maximum was resounding with *Gaude Mater Polonia*, a medieval Polish anthem sung at every opening of the new academic year.

This year’s inauguration gathered outstanding guests: Donald Tusk, Prime Minister of Poland, Jerzy Miller, Provincial Governor, Marek Sowa, Marshal of the Małopolskie Voivodeship, Prof. Jacek Majchrowski, President of the City of Kraków, Jarosław Gowin, Minister of Justice, Włodzimierz Kosiniak-Kamysz, Minister of Labour and Social Policy, Prof. Elżbieta Orłowska, State Secretary, Ministry of Science and Higher Education, rectors and deans from foreign universities, diplomats, members of the Polish Parliament, representatives of the army, police, clergy and students.

As this year marked the change of the JU authorities the inauguration was opened by Professor Karol Musioł, the former rector, who passed the JU historical insignia to the incoming rector, Prof. Wojciech Nowak.

In his speech, Prof. Wojciech Nowak first referred to the inauguration of 1 October 1947 opened by the JU Rector Prof. Franciszek Mikołaj Walter (a professor of dermatology). Two years later the communist authorities separated the Faculty of Medicine and the Faculty of Pharmacy from the Jagiellonian University. Then in 1933, after 44 years, the medical faculties became again part of the Jagiellonian University, thanks to the late Professors Andrzej Pelczar and Andrzej Szczeklik. After 66 years a professor of medicine (surgeon) became the next JU Rector (the 305th rector since the foundation in 1364).

Then Rector Nowak stressed that the quality of education was the highest priority at the Jagiellonian University, which
was reflected in the fact that five JU faculties (Law and Administration, Mathematics, Computer Studies and Public Health) received quality grants from the Ministry of Science and Education. He mentioned that there were 35,768 candidates applying for study programmes and 17,711 freshmen began 298 Bachelor’s and Master’s programmes. He was convinced that their credo was *Quidquid discis, tibi discis* (Whatever you learn, you learn it for yourself), which confirmed professionalism and involvement.

Prof. Wojciech Nowak also declared that his motto, as a rector and physician, was an extended ‘primo non nocere’ principle – ‘first, do no harm, but also be helpful.’ He underlined that the university administration was responsible for offering assistance to researchers, academic teachers and students. This assistance should be ‘friendly simplicity,’ which was the phrase coined by Steve Jobs, designing MacIntosh and iPhone. He encouraged the audience to make these words the motto of all administrative activities.

Finally, he quoted Hugo Kołłątaj, the reformer of education and of the Jagiellonian University during the Polish Enlightenment, who the JU Senate declared to be the patron of the year 2012:

Moreover, remember that you are sons of this famous Mother of sciences, the first School in the Kingdom, from which in the old days, as from their beginning and source, abilities flew out throughout the whole Nation: therefore, you are to increase, through the most thorough fulfilment of your duties, its ancient ornament as well as to revive and maintain its magnificence.

Prime Minister Donald Tusk focused on the idea of autonomy, which is a principle governing not only university life but also social life. The autonomy of institutions, as the basis of the control of power, lies at the heart of the rule of law, separation of power and the idea of parliamentary system, all of which have contributed to the success of the European civilisation.

Then the annual university awards were presented. The *Plus ratio quam vis* medal went to Prof. Karol Musiol whereas JU Person of Merit Award was given to Stanislaw Kłys. The Jagiellonian Laurels were given to Prof. Elżbieta Muskat-Tabakowska (Faculty of Philology), Prof. Grażyna Stochel (Faculty of Chemistry), Prof. Romuald Aleksander Janik (Faculty of Physics, Astronomy and Applied Computer Science) and Prof. Marek Sanak (Faculty of Medicine).

The most important part of the opening ceremony was the matriculation. 32 first year students swore an oath on behalf of all their colleagues. After the singing of the university anthem, a speech was made by the President of the JU Student Self-Government Dawid Kolenda. He said that the new academic year, which preceded the jubilee 650th of the foundation of the Jagiellonian University, carried many changes and challenges, including the demographic implosion, the situation in the labour market. He greeted all the freshmen and wished them much success, knowledge, experience and involvement in student life.

The last element of the inauguration was a lecture delivered by Prof. Karol Musiol. The tradition of inaugural lectures goes back to the year 1400. The title of this year’s lecture was ‘University – never ending story’ and concerned the history and idea of universities as wisely-constructed institutions, based on several fundamental academic principles: freedom in teaching and conducting research, autonomy and terms of university authorities. In the 14th century the Jagiellonian University joined the European science and education and currently, it is building the European Research Area and the European Higher Education Area, together with the European Union countries, trying to face the so-called Grand Challenges of the contemporary world.

After the ceremony, the JU Rector Prof Wojciech Nowak invited all the participants to take a glass of university wine and drink a toast to the future of Alma Mater:

**QUOD FELIX, FAUSTUM, FORTUNATUMQUE SIT!**
It is worth adding that the Jagiellonian University has already started preparing its great jubilee of 650 years of existence, which will begin with the inauguration of the 650th academic year on 1 October 2013 and culminate on 11-12 May 2014. The Jagiellonian University and the Agricultural University in Kraków will build two units serving this discipline: the Veterinary and Experimental Medicine University Centre (towards the end of 2013) and the Veterinary Medicine Centre for Small and Large Animals (to be completed at the turn of 2017/18).

Currently, at the Jagiellonian University there are:

**50,826 students**, including:
- 45,880 Bachelor’s and Master’s students
- 3,010 PhD students
- 1,936 non-degree postgraduate students
- 1,466 international students from 81 countries (besides exchange students):

Bachelor’s and Master’s students according to the JU faculties:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Field</th>
<th>Number</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Management and Social Communication</td>
<td>7,578</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Law and Administration</td>
<td>7,046</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>International and Political Studies</td>
<td>4,331</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Philosophy</td>
<td>4,087</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Philology</td>
<td>4,086</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Medicine</td>
<td>3,023</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>History</td>
<td>2,460</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Biology and Earth Sciences</td>
<td>2,453</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Health Sciences</td>
<td>2,378</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Polish Studies</td>
<td>2,070</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mathematics and Computer Science</td>
<td>1,697</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Physics, Astronomy and Applied Computer Science</td>
<td>1,386</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chemistry</td>
<td>1,328</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pharmacy</td>
<td>1,282</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Biochemistry, Biophysics and Biotechnology</td>
<td>509</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Interdisciplinary Individual Studies of Humanities</td>
<td>166</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>total</td>
<td>45,880</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The particular JU faculties and institutes organised their inaugural ceremonies, including the matriculation, throughout October. They asked various eminent scholars to deliver the inaugural lectures. For example, the Institute of Oriental Studies asked Prof. Norman Davies to grace its ceremony of 19 October. Prof. Davies’ lecture was entitled ‘The Oriental World through non-oriental eyes.’

The Jagiellonian University can boast of launching a new programme of veterinary medicine on 4 October 2012. This field was very popular with candidates (16 applications per place). Finally, 58 students (44 women and 14 men) were enrolled on this course, which will last 11 semesters and will end with a diploma of a veterinary doctor. The launching of this programme is the result of the agreement of scientific co-operation signed in 2011 by the Rector of the Jagiellonian University Prof. Karol Musiol, the Rector of the Agricultural University Prof. Janusz Źmija and Prof. Tadeusz Wijaszka, Director of the National Veterinary Research Institute in Puławy, within the framework of the Veterinary Medicine Centre affiliated at the Agricultural University in Kraków.

Thus the dreams of many scientists to launch veterinary in Kraków came true. The first Chair of Veterinary at the Jagiellonian University was created in 1803 by Prof. Paweł Adami. The chair was closed in 1936.

A. Wojnar
PhD students according to the JU faculties:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Faculty</th>
<th>Number</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Law and Administration</td>
<td>642</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Philosophy</td>
<td>381</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Biology and Earth Sciences</td>
<td>280</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Physics, Astronomy and Applied Computer Science</td>
<td>218</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>History</td>
<td>208</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>International and Political Studies</td>
<td>203</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Polish Studies</td>
<td>179</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chemistry</td>
<td>157</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Management and Social Communication</td>
<td>154</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Philology</td>
<td>151</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Medicine</td>
<td>144</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mathematics and Computer Science</td>
<td>123</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Biochemistry, Biophysics and Biotechnology</td>
<td>112</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pharmacy</td>
<td>58</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>total</strong></td>
<td><strong>3,010</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Bachelor’s, Master’s and PhD international students (besides the Erasmus and other exchange students) according to countries:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Country</th>
<th>Students</th>
<th>Country</th>
<th>Students</th>
<th>Country</th>
<th>Students</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Norway</td>
<td>368</td>
<td>South Korea</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>Saudi Arabia</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ukraine</td>
<td>231</td>
<td>Vietnam</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>Argentina</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Belarus</td>
<td>140</td>
<td>Uzbekistan</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>Azerbaijan</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>USA</td>
<td>94</td>
<td>Iran</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>Belize</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Canada</td>
<td>76</td>
<td>Brazil</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>Chile</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Czech Republic</td>
<td>62</td>
<td>Turkey</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>Dania</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Germany</td>
<td>58</td>
<td>Angola</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>Estonia</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Malaysia</td>
<td>51</td>
<td>Latvia</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>Ethiopia</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lithuania</td>
<td>32</td>
<td>Bulgaria</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>Finland</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Russia</td>
<td>30</td>
<td>Holland</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>Indonesia</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kazakhstan</td>
<td>29</td>
<td>Romania</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>Israel</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>France</td>
<td>25</td>
<td>Mongolia</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>Jordan</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hungary</td>
<td>21</td>
<td>Spain</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>Kirgizstan</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sweden</td>
<td>21</td>
<td>Egypt</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>Lebanon</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Armenia</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>Japan</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>Macedonia</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Austria</td>
<td>14</td>
<td>Australia</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>Malta</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Great Britain</td>
<td>14</td>
<td>Syria</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>Morocco</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Indie</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>Senegal</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>Pakistan</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>China</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>Ireland</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>Peru</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Italy</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>Portugal</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>South Africa</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Slovakia</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>Greece</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>Serbia</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Moldova</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>Nepal</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>Sri Lanka</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Georgia</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>Hong Kong</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>Switzerland</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Albania</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>Cameroon</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>Tunisia</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Taiwan</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>Croatia</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>Uganda</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Turkmenistan</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>Afghanistan</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>Zambia</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Iraq</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>Andorra</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>Zimbabwe</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**81 countries** | **1,466**

Maria Kantor
In the year 2012 Prof. Cheong Byung Kwon had several occasions to sum up his achievements as a Korean professor of Polish studies – doyen and founder of the only Chair of Polish Studies that has existed in Seoul for 25 years. On one of these occasions Prof. Cheong said, ‘When I turned 30, I passed my first state examination allowing me to go abroad with a state scholarship to study the history of Central-Eastern Europe in Berlin. Then the Korean government was preparing for an opening to the Soviet block countries. I chose Polish studies, which was a coincidence or a stroke of fate. As the German poet Novalis said, “Accident is simply unforeseen order.’ Speaking about the merits of Prof. Cheong as the first professor of Polish studies I will try to answer the question whether it was an accident, a stroke of fate or perhaps the ‘unforeseen order.’

Prof. Dr Cheong Byung Kwon founded the only chair of Polish studies in South Korea at Hankuk University of Foreign Studies in Seoul. As it usually happens, initiators of new study programmes use the trends leading to changes and social interest in a given country, its culture and society or new political relations between two counties, which have already existed in the system of education. When in 1983 Prof. Cheong applied to the ministry to create a Polish studies department at Hankuk University, none of the above-mentioned premises were fulfilled: the government of South Korea limited the number of new study programmes in Seoul and did not intend to have closer political relationships with Poland, a communist country, though known for its social transformations initiated by the Solidarity Movement but suppressed by the imposition of marshal law in December 1981. That is why at first Prof. Cheong acted on his own and that is why he had to wait till 1987 to launch the Polish studies programme at Hankuk University.

During that time the lack of teachers was a big problem since only two people could teach in Seoul: Prof. Cheong and Prof. Rafał Goździk, having Polish origin, educated in Russian studies and a citizen of France.

It was very important to have teachers from Polish universities but then it was impossible as Poland and South Korea did not maintain any diplomatic relations. Therefore, Prof. Cheong’s first visit to Poland, which was to initiate collaboration, did not take place until 1989. The co-operation between the Jagiellonian University and Hankuk University began at this time. For the Jagiellonian University it was Prof. Aleksander Koj, JU Rector, who supported this idea. The other supporter was the late Prof. Andrzej Kapiszewski, a sociologist from the Polonia Institute. This JU unit was the first institution to co-operate with Hankuk University, and from February 1990, they began educating Korean students. As it can be seen the JU authorities treated the collaboration with Seoul as ‘unforeseen order’ rather than an accident or a stroke of fate.

The Jagiellonian University was the first Polish institution that decided to support Polish studies in Korea and educate Korean students as well as send its academic staff to Seoul. For several years the involvement of JU staff was enormous since many eminent professors decided to begin ‘Korean periods’ of their careers. Let me mention only some of them: the pioneer was Kinga Kozak, who like her colleagues wholeheartedly taught Polish to Korean students: the professors teaching in Seoul were: Grzegorz Babiński, Mieczysław Smoleń, Aleksander Zajda, Jadwiga Kowalikowa, Renata Przybylska, Stanisław Gawliński and Zofia Cygal-Krupa. One can say that their departure to Seoul was the fulfilment of the Senate’s decisions but I do remember their enthusiasm and readiness to face the new challenge, which was to teach in Korea.

In the 1990s the Jagiellonian University had no possibility of creating Korean studies in its Institute of Oriental Studies, which could have been an institutional partner for further collaboration with Hankuk University. Consequently, the creation of the course of Korean and then Korean studies at the University of Poznań diverted the collaboration with HUFS to Poznań. But the Jagiellonian University continues to educate Korean students in summer courses as well as semester and one year programmes. So far there have been over 120 Korean students and several PhD students at the Jagiellonian University. The Korean alumni embrace professors at HUFS, businessmen and diplomats. We remember Korean students as motivated and diligent people who had numerous achievements in learning Polish and getting to know the Polish culture. If we realise how many...
Koreans followed Prof. Cheong and succeeded in the collaboration between Poland and Central Europe, we can state that his choice could not have been accidental. We will rather agree with Novalis and say that it was ‘unforeseen order.’

Prof. Cheong is highly meritorious for his contribution in the development of Polish studies in South Korea as well the development of Slavonic studies, which is testified by the following facts: in 1987 Prof. Cheong was appointed as the first head of the Department of Polish Studies at HUFS, but he did not forget the other countries of Eastern Europe, doing his best to launch the Institute of Central-Eastern European and Balkan Studies at HUFS, which he directed in the years 1999-2001. He received a doctoral degree in the JU Institute of Polish Studies in 1999, presenting a dissertation entitled ‘The conception of Polish studies at a Korean university,’ under the supervision of Prof. Jadwiga Kowalikowa. In this period his position at HUFS grew rapidly, which is testified by the fact that in the years 2000-2002 he was the Dean for professors’ and academic affairs at HUFS, and in the years 2004-2006, he was the Dean of the College of Central European and Eastern European Studies. Finally, in the years 2008-2010 – the director of the HUFS Library.

When in 2007 there was the 20th anniversary of Polish studies at Hankuk University Prof. Cheong used this occasion to initiate the Polish Studies of Three Countries: China, Japan and Korea. These meetings turned out to be very important since they constitute a forum of exchange of information and the integration of regional Polish studies, conducted in these three countries of the Far East. During the third meeting in Beijing in June 2010 the newly established Department of Polish studies in Mongolia at the Ulan Bator University was added. Earlier in the year 2002, Prof. Cheong had founded a prestigious Korean bi-annual ‘East European Studies,’ becoming its editor-in-chief. The role that Prof. Cheong played in creating Central European studies in Seoul and integrating Polish studies in the Far East confirms our conviction that he has fulfilled ‘unforeseen order.’

Currently, the Department of Polish Studies at Hankuk University belongs to the most dynamic units of this type in the world. However, one should note that the rapid growth of staff in this Department would not have been possible without the intensive scholarly work and translation efforts of Prof. Cheong. His academic output includes ca. 60 articles and five books, which he wrote or edited. The most important book is ‘The History of Poland’ published in 1997. The other significant publications include: ‘Polish-Korean Dictionary’ (1,266 pages) edited by the HUFS Publishing House in 2002 and a collection of works entitled ‘Comparative Studies on the Folk Literature of Korean and Central & East European Countries’ in 2005. The first two books are important because they give solid foundations for teaching Polish history to Koreans and teaching the Polish language in Korea. Undoubtedly, it would have been impossible to educate Korean students and develop Polish studies in Korea without these fundamental works.

The translations done by Prof. Cheong embrace the novels and plays of the most eminent 19th and the 20th century Polish authors: Henryk Sienkiewicz, Bolesław Prus, Jarosław Iwaszkiewicz, Adolf Rudnicki and Sławomir Mrożek. The translations of the Polish poetry include such outstanding 20th century poets as Wisława Szymborska, Zbigniew Herbert or Stanisław Barańczak. Indisputably, his best translation – *opus magnum* – is the translation of ‘Master Thaddeus’ by Adam Mickiewicz, which Prof. Cheong published in 2005, acclaimed by the whole community of specialists in Polish studies. This translation also received the award of the Centre of Polish Language and Culture for Foreigners POLONICUM at Warsaw University in the year 2006. Reflecting on the arduous work of translation done by Prof. Cheong, consisting in seeking Korean equivalents for the most Polish poems and narratives we reach the following conclusion: if the change of young Cheong from a specialist in German into the first Korean professor of Polish studies was an accident or a stroke of fate, his further life and achievements resulted from his consistent and conscious research, didactic work and translation efforts: work done for years in the conviction that it results from ‘unforeseen order.’ Otherwise, it would have been impossible.

Prof. Byung Kwon Cheong’s efforts to launch the Department of Polish Studies at Hankuk University of Foreign Studies in 1987, to educate many generations of Korean specialists in Polish studies, and especially, professors specialising in Poland’s history and sociology as well as in Polish literature, his longstanding fruitful collaboration with the Jagiellonian University and other Polish institutions of higher education and his translations into Polish of the superior Polish writers and poets are worthy to receive the Merentitus Medal by the JU Senate. This medal constitutes symbolic thanks of the community of our University for undertaking this toil to learn our language and get to know our culture, for promoting the Polish language and culture in Korea, for having realised what seemed completely impossible in Seoul in 1983. Something like that could have been achieved only by someone who knew from Novalis that ‘Accident is simply unforeseen order.’

*

Władysław T. Miodunka,
Centre of Polish Language and Culture in the World

***

The ceremony of conferral of the Merentitus Medal on Prof. Byung Kwon Cheong was held during the solemn meeting of the JU Senate in the aula of Collegium Novum on 17 July 2012.
The Polish Council for Control of Iodine Deficiency Disorders (PCCIDD) was established in 1991 in Kraków by the Polish Society of Endocrinology upon consultation with the Ministry of Health as a consulting body to the Minister of Health with respect to iodine deficiency. The Council has joined a group of similar organisations in Europe and in the world, and co-operates with the European Coordinating Centre in Pisa, Italy, (Prof. Paolo Vitti, MD PhD) and the International Council for Control of Iodine Deficiency Disorders (ICCIDD) in Charlottesville, USA.

The strategic goal of the Polish Council is to solve the problem of iodine deficiency at a population level by implementing the programme designed by the Council – the National Programme for Elimination of Iodine Deficiency – and in this way fulfilling the declaration that Poland signed at the World Health Assembly in New York in 1990. The Council is located at the Chair and Department of Endocrinology, Jagiellonian University, Collegium Medicum, (Head is Prof. A. Hubalewska-Dydejczyk, MD PhD) in Kraków. The chairman of the Council and consultant of the National Program for Control of Iodine Deficiency Disorders is Prof. Zbigniew Szybiński, ICCIDD expert.

The discontinuation of iodine prophylaxis during the martial law in Poland in 1981 produced certain health consequences on the population level: an increased incidence of goiter in schoolchildren – in some areas up to 41%, an increased incidence of goiter in adults of up to 30% and in pregnant women of up to 80%, transient hypothyroidism in neonates of up to 2.0%, and a 3-5-fold increase in the incidence of differentiated thyroid carcinomas in women over 40 years of age. The PCCIDD decided to carry out epidemiological studies in 1992/1993 involving school children, neonates and pregnant women, and took part in 1994 in an international campaign by the ICCIDD and WHO by means of ‘Thyromobil’ van supplied by the Merck Darmstadt Germany, aimed at school children. In compliance with the ICCIDD standards, the PCCIDD defined iodine deficiency in Poland as moderate, and only in the coastal area as slight. The studies also revealed that the Carpathian and Sudeten endemics could progress to become severe endemics.

**The model of iodine prophylaxis in Poland**

In 1996, because of the endemic situation, the PCCIDD proposed to the Ministry of Health mandatory kitchen salt iodisation (20–40 mg KI/1 kg), and this disposition was put into operation at the beginning of 1997. The Council defined the remaining components of the Polish model of iodine prophylaxis: additional iodization of formula for neonates (10 μg/100 ml of milk) and additional pharmacotherapy 150 μg l/daily in pregnant and breast feeding women.

The Ministry of Health approved the National Programme for Elimination of Iodine Deficiency in 1999-2003 assuming that the final analysis of the programme would identify new tasks of the programme. The consecutive years 1999, 2000, 2001 and 2002 witnessed a significant improvement in all study indicators: the incidence of goiter in schoolchildren decreased by 30-80% compared to 1992/93, and in the youngest group of 6-8 year olds, it was 2.6% on average, i.e. below endemic level. The incidence of thyreotropinaemia in neonates over 20 mUI/mL decreased from 2.0% to 0.16%, the incidence of goiter in pregnant women fell from 80% to 19%, and the progress rate of differentiated thyroid carcinoma in women was also decreased. The findings were approved by the conference of experts from ICCIDD, UNICEF and WHO held at the Ministry of Health on 1 February 2002, and the Polish model was considered to be effective and safe. There was no population risk of iodine-induced hyperthyroidism and hypersensitivity due to iodine consumption. However, the final goals of the programme have not been achieved. In older schoolchildren, goiter still occurs in 7-8% with regional variability, and frequency of ioduria over 100 μg I/L has not reached the desired value of 50%. No more than 70% of pregnant women receive the recommended iodine dose, and although the progress rate of thyroid carcinoma in women is slower, its incidence is still 3-4 times higher than in 1990. The quality of salt iodisation has reached 96% of the normal limits.

The National Programme for Elimination of Iodine Deficiency Disorders was interrupted between 2003 and 2005, although the disposition on mandatory iodization of kitchen salt and neonatal TSH screening according to the ICCIDD recommendation continued. The Programme was put into operation again in 2006, and continues today.

The Clinical Department of the University Hospital in Kraków – the head being Prof A. Hubalewska-Dydejczuk – is the chair of the National Programme for Elimination of Iodine Deficiency financed by the Ministry of Health. The project manager is M. Trofimiuk, MD, PhD. The Department of Endocrinology has continuously co-ordinated and supervised the programme since 1992. The principal consultant of the National Programme for Elimination of Iodine Deficiency in Poland is Prof. Zbigniew Szybiński, chairman of the PCCIDD and expert of the International Council for Control of Iodine Deficiency Disorders (ICCIDD). In 2007 Prof. Z. Szybiński was elected as the Corresponding Member of the Real Academia National De Pharmacia in Madrid.

**Co-operation with the World Health Organisation**

Europe is an iodine deficiency area. Only 13 of 40 European countries apply mandatory iodization of salt and iodine deficiency remains a serious public health problem. However, Poland is now in the group of European countries with optimal supplementation of iodine at the population level. The main carrier of iodine in the prophylactic system is iodization of household soil. The World Health Organization (WHO) issued a recommendation of the Technical Consultation: Paris 2006, Luxembourg 2007, that increased salt consumption as a risk factor for hypertension and atherosclerosis should be restricted.
The European Commission looked to adhere to this recommendation by creating the High Level Group on Nutrition and Physical Activity. According to the WHO recommendations, a daily allowance of 5 g NaCl (i.e., 2 g Na) for individual salt consumption should not be exceeded. This has been confirmed in clinical studies. In Poland, preventive measures were also undertaken. The National Food and Nutrition Institute in Warsaw issued a Position Statement on the general strategy of salt intake reduction in Poland. According to the WHO data, daily intake of NaCl in European countries is from 8 to 10 g/day/person. At present, mean individual salt consumption in Poland totals 13.5 g, of which salt used in households constitutes 8.8 g. The results of the population based study in Poland on prevalence of goiter, resulted in mandatory iodization of household salt with 20-40 mg KI/1 kg, and iodization of neonates’ formula introduced in 1997. An additional dose of 150 μg of iodine is recommended for pregnant women. This model is very effective, and endemic goiter in schoolchildren has been eradicated. The main indicators of the effectiveness of iodine prophylaxis are: thyroid volume, concentration of iodine in urine, and neonatal TSH in serum. To evaluate the actual situation in terms of the prevalence of goiter in schoolchildren, we devised the new normative values of thyroid volume measured by means of USG in a selected group of 6-12 year-old schoolchildren from the Polish coastal region without goitre and with UI over 100 μg/L. Current efforts aimed at preventing iodine-deficiency look to increase the consumption of other iodine-rich products, mainly milk, and mineral water with standardized levels of iodine (‘Ustronianka z Jodem’ and ‘Wysowianka’).

Once they achieve an iodine concentration of 0.1–0.2 mg/L, these products can easily supplement any decrease in physiological iodine levels resulting from reduced salt consumption. Moreover, wide-ranging educational campaigns are also required. They which will be co-ordinated by the WHO Collaborating Centre for Nutrition at the Department of Endocrinology, Jagiellonian University, Collegium Medicum in Kraków, set up in 2008. Its main terms of reference focus on iodine prophylaxis and the necessity of increasing consumption of alternative iodine-rich products such as milk and iodised mineral water with a controlled concentration of iodine of 0.1–0.2 mg/L. These products can easily supplement any decrease of iodine daily intake resulting from reduced salt consumption, and may become a constant component of the everyday diet. Iodine prophylaxis and its effectiveness in Poland are co-ordinated and controlled by the Polish Council for Control of Iodine Deficiency Disorders within the National Programme for Elimination of Iodine Deficiency financed by the Polish Ministry of Health.

**Actual situation of iodine deficiency and iodine prophylaxis in Poland in light of the WHO recommendation on reduction of salt intake**

In 1997, Poland introduced mandatory iodization of household salt with 20-40 mg KI/1 kg, and additional daily dose of 150 μg of iodine is recommended for pregnant and breast feeding women. This model is very effective. Prevalence of goiter in schoolchildren of 6-8 years old dropped down from 25.9% to 2.5%—below endemic level, and concentration of iodine in urine increased from 52.8 ug/L to 112.0 ug/L. Prevalence of goiter in pregnant women decreased from 80 % to 19.00 %. However, concentration of iodine in urine increased from 34.9 ug/L to 109.24 ug/L – still below the recommended value. It is caused by the low number of pregnant women receiving recommended additional daily dose of iodine –150 μg. The frequency of the neonatal TSH above 5.0 mIU/ml dropped down from 12.68 % to 4.1 %, and the reference value of 24-h 131-I thyroid uptake test in the Nuclear Medicine units in the adults dropped down from 44.9 % to 27.9 %. To evaluate the actual situation in prevalence of goiter in the main group of risk – schoolchildren, we elaborated the new reference values of thyroid volume measured by means of USG in the selected group 6-12 year old schoolchildren from Polish seaside area without goiter and with UI over 100 μg/L. The World Health Organization (WHO) issued a recommendation that increased salt consumption, as a risk factor for hypertension and arteriosclerosis should be restricted to 5 g/day/person. At present, mean individual salt consumption in Poland according to the Food and Nutrition Institute in Warsaw totals 13.5 g, of which household salt constitutes 8.8g. In 2008 WHO Collaborating Center for Nutrition at the Department of Endocrinology, JU Collegium Medicum, was designated. The main terms of reference are focusing on iodine prophylaxis and current efforts aimed at increasing consumption of alternative iodine-rich products: milk and iodized mineral water with controlled concentration of iodine 0.1–0.2 mg/L. These products can easily supplement any decrease of iodine daily intake resulting from reduced salt consumption, and may become a constant component of the everyday diet.

This presentation was prepared for the ICCIDD West Central Europe Regional Meeting Satellite to the 36th Annual ETA Meeting in Pisa, Italy, on 8-12 September 2012. The meeting gathered representatives from 31 countries. They gave presentations of their country data. Besides, there were talks concerning global iodine statues and trends, iodine nutrition and pregnancy, thyroid function and pregnancy, iodine intake, environment and risk for thyroid diseases, alternative methods to USI and iodine in the environment: release of gaseous iodine from seaweeds. The discussions included all aspects of thyroid research and treatment. During the meeting in Pisa there were also live sessions.

Zbigniew Szybiński, Department of Endocrinology, JU Collegium Medicum
The beginning of the academic year 2012/2013 marked a new stage in the development of Jewish studies at the Jagiellonian University. On 1 October 2012 the Department of Jewish Studies became a larger JU unit – Institute of Jewish Studies – and at the same time the Jagiellonian University opened new pioneering programmes for undergraduate and graduate students: Jewish Studies (in Polish Judaistyka).

The Institute of Jewish Studies was called into being by the JU Rectors’ motion issued on 13 March 2012, concerning the transformation of the Department of Jewish Studies into an institute. The Department was an autonomous unit of the JU Faculty of History created on 1 November 2000. It resulted from the reorganisation of the Research Center for Jewish History and Culture in Poland. The head of the Department of Jewish Studies was Prof. Edward Dąbrowa, who is now the head of the Institute.

Currently, the Institute of Jewish Studies includes three units: the History of the Jews, the Culture of the Jews, the History of Judaism and Jewish Literatures. It has ca. 150 students pursuing BA and MA programmes as well as 20 PhD students writing on various topics related to Jewish studies. Some courses are taught in English. In the summer the Institute organises special lectures and courses for international students.

The Institute of Jewish Studies collaborates with various universities, museums, schools and Jewish communities in Poland and abroad. The important contacts are: Tel Aviv University, the Hebrew University of Jerusalem, University College London, the European Association for Jewish Studies and the Embassy of Israel in Poland, Warsaw, the US Consulate General in Kraków and the Association of the Krakovians in Israel. Moreover, the Institute of Jewish Studies signed several agreements within the Erasmus LLP. As holders of national and international scholarships (e.g. Fulbright, Erasmus) the faculty and students of the Institute have conducted research as well as given lectures at numerous European, Israeli and American institutions of higher education.

The Institute of Jewish Studies is located in the old historical building called ‘Kazimierzowski College,’ in the former Jewish part of the district of Kazimierz (19 Józefa Street), which for many centuries was the centre of Jewish life in Kraków.

***

Interview with Prof. Edward Dąbrowa, the head of the JU Institute of Jewish Studies:

- Where does the enormous interest in Jewish studies in Poland come from?

There are at least several causes and each of them contributes to this popularity. I think that from the academic point of view the decisive factor is the profile of studies that was realised in the Department of Jewish Studies and now is being realised in the Institute of Jewish Studies. For over half a century the Jewish topics were reserved for only a narrow group of known scholars who conducted research and developed Jewish studies. But they were not accessible to non-professional readers who wanted to deepen this part of our national history and culture that was related to the Polish Jews. On the other hand, the interest results from certain popular cultural phenomena that take the form of all kinds of festivals of Jewish culture. Their cultural and folklore aspects are very attractive and undoubtedly, contribute to the increase of interests in Jewish topics, which concerns at least some participants of these festivals. The next reason is related to globalisation and favourable political conditions. Once the relationships between Poland and Israel were regulated and the necessity to obtain visas by Poles was annulled, people began visiting the places that are inseparably associated with the biblical tradition and the history of Christianity. Sometimes a visit to Israel leads naturally to a desire to deepen the knowledge of this country and its inhabitants, to get to know its past, languages and cultures.

- You mentioned the cognitive motives, the fascination with Israel and Jewish culture. Are there more reasons for the interest in Jewish studies in Poland and what is the motivation of potential candidates to enrol in the programmes of Jewish Studies at the JU?

It is a very difficult question since we have not conducted any research concerning the motives of students pursuing Jewish studies. We assume that candidates’ motivation is first
of all intellectual; they desire to get to know something that is interesting in itself and at the same time little known. Sometimes we deal with emotional motives resulting from sympathy for the society, tradition, which is close to them, for example, for religious reasons. Studying allows them to give up the attitude of observers. For some students our programmes are important elements to discover their identities. This attitude makes them get to know the traditions of their ancestors and also learn the Jewish languages, allowing them to get to know the sources of the tradition – through the texts that give access to the world of contents and values they have not known so far.

- What issues can students get to know during their studies and which courses are most popular with them?

When 13 years ago we made the first attempt to prepare a study programme the historical contents prevailed since we decided to base our programme on the minimal requirements for students of history. With time, after having employed more teaching and research staff, we tried to enlarge our programme, adding more language courses as well as courses in literature and issues of spiritual and material Jewish culture. As we can observe these changes contributed to widening the circle of topics which our students are interested in. Besides the topics related to the history of the Jews in Poland and the Diaspora the issues concerning the history of literature, Judaism and various aspects of material culture have been popular with our students.

- What are the chances for specialists in Jewish studies to make careers and find jobs?

The interdisciplinary character of Jewish studies give alumni better chances to find their own places in life after graduation. This statement is justified since knowing the fates of some alumni I can say that they are doing well as junior scholars and academic teachers. Our alumni also work in diplomatic, cultural and educational institutions. Because they know Hebrew they find jobs in companies collaborating with Israeli partners.

- Please name some institutions where our alumni are employed?

Undoubtedly, these are all institutions that deal with Jewish issues. I mean the Galicja Jewish Museum, which is located next to the Institute. This museum has been ‘controlled’ by our alumni. I want to remark that they were employed through open competitions in which they confirmed their competences and qualifications. Our alumni are employed in the Historical Museum of the City of Kraków, in diplomatic institutions (e.g. the Embassy of Israel), in various offices as well as companies. Some of them are studying abroad. Thanks to the knowledge they gained here they are desired students. Some of them left Poland and although we do not know about their fates fully we have news that they work (or collaborate) for various organisations, associations in which they continue to develop their Jewish interests.

- We have already got to know students’ interests and what are the research areas and specialisations of the faculty of the Institute?

As I have mentioned Jewish studies are interdisciplinary. It means that a didactical-research team includes people representing various disciplines and scholarly specialisations. Besides historians they are philologists specialising in Yiddish and Hebrew, specialists in religious studies and biblical scholars. This variety of interests of my co-workers allows students to look at the same phenomena from different perspectives. This variety translates into an abundance of research topics undertaken by our scholars. It is worth mentioning at least a few: the history of Kraków’s Jews and the Jewish cultural heritage in Kraków, the Jewish self-government institutions in modern Poland, the history of religious movements in Judaism in the Polish lands, the history of the Yiddish literature in the years 1945–1956, the Hebrew epigraphy, the publications of Jewish source texts in the original as well as Polish translations and historical-philological commentaries.

- And what are your scholarly interests in the field of Jewish studies?

My interests concern the history of ancient Israel, and strictly – the period of the Hasmonean rules during which there was a brief revival of the Jewish statehood. I am not only
interested in the events that happened in the territory of ancient Palestine but also in the Jewish relations with the neighbouring territories, especially with the Iranian world.

- Which factors contributed to the transformation of the Department of Jewish Studies into an institute?

The fundamental condition of the development of the Department of Jewish Studies was the syllabuses in the regular and extramural studies. Thanks to employing more specialists who were needed to realise the study programmes the faculty of the Department was strengthened to a considerable extent. The development of the educational activities brought about the development of the university staff. When the Department was created only two employees were associate professors. The rest were junior scholars who had just written their PhD dissertations or were preparing them. Within 12 years we witnessed a big change. Currently, the Institute of Jewish Studies has six associate professors and five adjuncts, out of whom two will soon complete their ‘habilitation’ procedures.

- What is the Institute distinguished by among other academic centres dealing with Jewish studies?

The answer to this question results from the previous question. Undoubtedly, the JU Institute of Jewish Studies is distinguished by its faculty and educational offer. It is the only institute in Poland that offers BA and MA programmes: Jewish Studies, which are original, prepared by our faculty. The programmes are to allow students to gain profound knowledge about Judaism and skills needed to conduct research and use in various professional activities. Besides these programmes the Institute offers PhD courses. Over 20 doctoral dissertations are being written under the supervision of our faculty.

- Over two years ago you moved to the building called ‘Collegium Kazimierzowskie’ at the centre of the Kraków’s district of Kazimierz. What changes has the new location brought about?

The new facilities caused a quality change since the previous seat of the Department in Batorego Street was a stylish, though small, building. We could use some 160 sq m. Now the Institute uses over 600 sq m. The difference means completely new working conditions. Now the facilities allow us to conduct various activities: the Association of Students of the Institute of Jewish Studies can meet regularly and organise conferences as well as have their own collection of books. Our teachers have their own rooms. All lectures are held in one building. There is a reading room where students and guests can access the rich collection of the Institute library without any limitation. The next advantage is the neighbourhood of the most important Jewish monuments, which enhances the atmosphere of the place and the realisation of the educational process. Our institutional partners are also located in Kazimierz, within our reach.

- The team, which constantly develops, and the attractive location must make the Institute an interesting partner for various institutions in Poland and abroad. Are there any relationships between the Institute and the Jewish community in Kraków? If yes, what kind?

Our collaboration with the Jewish community and its institutions is fairly vivid. We maintain very good relations with the Jewish Community of Kraków. We collaborate with the Jewish Community Centre in Kraków and the museums adjacent to the Institute as well as other institutions. We especially value our contacts with the Austeria Publishing House directed by Mr Wojciech Ornat. For years this publishing house has published and promoted numerous books written by our staff. The new study programmes make us look for different fields of co-operation. The new profile of studies makes students get to know various aspects of social life and gain practical skills. It can be done through internships or voluntary work within the framework of the programmes conducted by our partner institutions.

- What are the plans of the Institute for the coming years?

What we aspire for as an academic community is very ambitious. We plan to have new research teams and gain financial means. More specifically, we want to strengthen the position of the Institute among the national and international academic environments and develop diversified forms of cooperation with our partners. I hope that our future partner will be Arizona State University, Tempe. However, we would not only like to develop collaboration with partners of Western Europe or the USA but also with our neighbours, especially
On 3-4 October 2012 an international conference dedicated to the memory of the outstanding, strongly related to the cradle of our Alma Mater and Poland, rabbi Jehoshua Ozjasz Thon. The conference entitled ‘Jehoshua Ozjasz Thon (1870-1936) – his life, thought and activities’ was organised jointly by the JU Institute of Jewish Studies, the Department of Hebrew Studies of the Faculty of Oriental Studies of Warsaw University and the Institute for the History of Polish Jewry and Israel-Poland Relations, Tel Aviv University, and first of all by Ass. Prof. Michal Galas, JU, Ass. Prof. Shoshana Ronen, Warsaw University and Prof. Avner Holtzman Tel Aviv University.

Ozjasz Thon, born in Lvov in 1870 and died in Kraków in 1936, was a respected and highly valued rabbi and preacher, outstanding Zionist theoretician, activist and leader, a philosopher, publicist and social activist, member of the Committee of the Jewish Delegation at the Versailles Peace

- Recently, you have become the President-elect of the European Association for Jewish Studies) for the years 2014-2018. What does this mean for the Institute?

I do not treat this as a personal distinction but a testimony of great recognition of the international community of scholars for the achievements of the institution I am directing. Our achievements in developing Jewish studies are known better abroad than locally. The role of the President of this Association is in a way honorary but he also has some duties, including the organisation of a big international congress of Jewish studies. Thus the Institute and I have the task of organising such a congress in Kraków in 2018. I am convinced it will be an extraordinary occasion to promote the achievements of Jewish studies in Poland on an international scale. As usual, such congresses gather several hundred participants from various countries, even the very distant ones. That is why I would like my colleagues from all Polish academic centres, conducting Jewish studies, to contribute to the programme of this congress.

- Reflecting on your last words I want to ask my final question: what should I wish you as the organiser of the first European Congress of Jewish Studies in Poland and the head of the first Institute of Jewish Studies in Poland?

My main aim is to develop intensively the scholarly profile of the Institute and to develop our teaching and research staff, with the friendly support of the Dean of the JU Faculty of History and the JU authorities. I am convinced that both factors will favour our effort to meet new educational challenges and directions of research, to create large team projects and realise complicated organisational endeavours, e.g. the above-mentioned European Congress of Jewish Studies in 2018.

- Thank you very much for the conversation.

The interview was conducted by Dr Edyta Gawron, adjunct in the JU Institute of Jewish Studies.
Conference, long-standing MP and the chairman of the parliamentary group ‘Jewish Circle.’ Despite his numerous merits for the Jews living in Kraków and in Poland as well as for the Polish state and its former capital today Thon is a forgotten figure. That is why the international conference, held in the Jewish Community Centre in Kraków, was to present his life and diversified activities and thus make next generations of scholars and outsiders interested in this charismatic and extremely important man – to restore the memory of him. How interesting the person of Ozjasz Thon was is confirmed by the fact that some 20 scholars, both senior and junior ones, from Poland, Israel, Germany and the United States, decided to deliver talks during the conference. During the two day conference they presented the life and activities of rabbi Thon, his connections with religion, society, nation, state, politics and the world of widely understood culture or art, to mention only several issues presented during the conference and stimulating vivid and inspiring discussions.

It is worth mentioning that the conference was graced with a special exhibition in the Historical Museum of the City of Kraków – the Old Synagogue. The exhibition showed numerous Thon’s memorabilia and photographs as well as a commemorative book and his statue. Let me also add that concluding the intensive and fruitful conference Ass. Prof. M. Galas expressed a conviction that it would be worth honouring this eminent figure, meritorious for the city of Kraków, by naming the square in front of the Tempel Synagogue after its rabbi Ozjasz Thon. It was him that ministered and worked there for many years. This idea was enthusiastically received and acclaimed by the gathered participants.

Finally, besides the three mentioned universities the supporting institutions were: the Jewish Community in Kraków, Jewish Community Centre of Kraków, the Association of Krakovians in Israel, the Historical Museum of the City of Kraków, the Austeria Publishing House, the weekly ‘Tygodnik Powszechny,’ the Association of Jagiellonian University PhD Students and the monthly ‘Słowo Żydowskie.’

Krzysztof Niweliński, PhD student, Institute of Jewish Studies

Europe and the world in crisis
SYLFF Fellows’ conference

On 7 September 2012, the twentieth anniversary of the agreement between the Jagiellonian University and the Sasakawa Foundation (now The Nippon Foundation) initiating the Sasakawa Young Leaders’ Fellowship (SYLFF) was celebrated in Collegium Maius of the Jagiellonian University. It gathered representatives of The Nippon Foundation, including its President Mr Yohei Sasakawa, representatives of The Tokyo Foundation, including Mr Takashi Suzuki, the Director for Leadership Development, the President of JUSFA Dr Pawel Laidler and several SYLFF fellows as well as the JU authorities: Rector Wojciech Nowak and the inaugrated in 1987, had grown into a large network that today links 69 leading universities in 44 countries. Over 25 years more than 13,000 fellows have completed the programme and been sent out into the world. In Poland the SYLFF Fund produced ca. 220 outstanding fellows. The JU former SYLFF fellows created the Jagiellonian University SYLFF Fellows Association (JUSFA), which organises seminars and workshops on human rights in developing countries and on various problems faced by the global community. Mr Sasakawa also dealt with problems of global scale such as environmental issues, widening economic gaps and conflict based

Vice-Rector for Educational Affairs Prof. Andrzej Mania.

In his welcome JU Rector Prof. Wojciech Nowak stressed the developing co-operation between Poland and Japan. In turn Dr Laidler reminded the gathered of the history of the SYLFF Fellowship Fund at the Jagiellonian University, showing the historical photos of signing the agreement between the late JU Rector Prof. Andrzej Pelczar and the late Mr Sasakawa in 1992.

In his speech Mr Y. Sasakawa mentioned that the programme, on faith or ethnicity. Therefore, the world needs outstanding leaders who will address diverse problems from a variety of perspectives, using their accumulated knowledge, experience and wisdom, and ‘who are fully committed to finding solutions that are tailored to the surrounding situation. This is the kind of leader I would like you to become,’ Mr Sasakawa concluded.

In turn Mr Takashi Suzuki, the Director for Leadership Development, expressed his admiration for the outstanding calibre of the SYLFF
fellows, their diverse backgrounds, and their commitment to their respective fields of expertise.’ He regarded the conference on ‘Europe and the world in economic crisis’ as a wonderful initiative that strengthens the SYLFF community network, which the Tokyo Foundation supports. The Tokyo Foundation provides ‘support programmes’ to enrich SYLFF fellows’ academic activities and facilitate networking. It is also engaged in making policy proposals as an independent, non-profit think tank. However, it recognises that even the best policy solutions will not work if applied mechanically, without regard to local conditions and needs, e.g. the earthquake in March 2011. As the world today faces financial, political and social challenges meeting them requires capable leaders such as SYLFF fellows.

The second part of the 20th anniversary of SYLFF at the Jagiellonian University consisted of eight presentations related to the theme of the conference ‘Europe and the world in economic crisis: challenges and opportunities,’ given by the panellists – SYLFF fellows from the University of Latvia, the University of Coimbra, Portugal, the University of Leipzig, Germany, the University of Indonesia, the University of Szeged, Hungary and the Jagiellonian University. They addressed such issues as management in the Baltic State, the economic crisis in Portugal, crisis in emerging economies – comparison of global regions, national intellectual property rights: patents, copyright, trademarks and registered designs; opportunities and challenges for tourism between European and Southwest Asia countries (Europe is the world’s leading tourists’ destination); Indonesian young female leaders’ perspective on global crisis; motivational forces of integration and new political economies. The talks will be soon published as conference proceedings.

Finally, the participants of the meeting had a panel discussion on how to build a stronger SYLFF community. The international guests and fellows visited the Wieliczka salt mine and took a sightseeing tour to the city of Kraków.

M. Kantor
History of Ideas edition projects

On 23 November 2012, the editors-in-chief of the Kraków history of ideas edition initiatives met in the seat of the mentis-Verlag GmbH in Münster (Germany) with the publishing house owner. The international edition of the enterprise to the history of ideas in Europe arose in the context of a ‘History of Ideas Research Network’ project, co-ordinated by the Faculty of Philosophy and financed since February 2012 with financial-backing from the ‘National Programme for the Development of the Humanities’ of the Ministry of Science and Higher Education of the Republic of Poland. The ministerial programme includes the promotion of Humanities research activities, which include the worldwide dissemination of their results, and which supports the establishment of optimum structures so that young scholars can evolve professionally. This programme agenda enabled the development of a long-term edition containing a particularly rich and long tradition with the history of ideas of the old continent as the main goal by the international scholar consortium under the leadership of the ‘History of Ideas Research Centre’ at the Jagiellonian University.

The history of ideas has already had a long-standing past on the European soil prior to its naming in the U.S. in the intellectual landscape of some of its regions, between the Atlantic and the Urals, it has developed in different ways indirectly, more or less successfully. But the history of ideas experienced a particular turn about 15 years ago in Central-Eastern Europe. While at the Russian Academy of Sciences in 1996, a ‘History of Ideas Research Centre’ arose, the same year, from an old concept of ‘History of Ideas Club’ going back to Arthur O. Lovejoy and was implemented at the Jagiellonian University in Kraków. Since 2009, the Kraków history of ideas projects has received broad international support by European scholars. Thus the Georges & Lech Kalinowski-International History of Ideas Club was formed on 8 May 2009. In April 2011, the Kraków and the Paduan historians of ideas directed a joint proposal for the co-operation with all the history of ideas research sites in Europe. As a result of this initiative, in the late spring of 2011, a ‘History of Ideas Research Network’ tries to combine the history of ideas practices as well as various disciplines developed on European soil within an international comprehensive research groups. The ‘History of Ideas Research Centre,’ set up in November 2011 at the Jagiellonian University in Kraków, provides a forum for the institutions represented in this network in Denmark, Germany, France, Italy, Poland, Austria, Portugal, Russia, Sweden, Switzerland and Spain as well as in the United States to broaden their co-operation and share their developed history of ideas traditions with each other.

Prof. Gunter Scholtz (Ruhr-Universität Bochum) and Prof. Michel Henri Kowalewicz (Jagiellonian University) represented the Editorial Board of the Kraków editorial projects at the talks with German publishing. The meeting was focused mainly on the concrete possibilities of establishing a series of books and electronic publications on the net. Both the new book series, as the newly established periodical, should now follow the highest, globally applicable standards of evaluation and publishing processes. This is all in thanks to ‘double blind peer reviewing’ and the co-ordination of publications with the meritorious and the graphical strategy of the edition house that has long been claimed as the promoter of scholarly knowledge production in the field of the Humanities with an emphasis on the Philosophy.

The tandem initiative of the Jagiellonian University is aimed at all those interested in the history of ideas reflective representation of the Humanities, Law, Social Sciences and Economics as well as the Natural and Formal Sciences, also to the analysis of artistic creation and of Medicine. This initiative is to all those who are professionally involved with ‘Man’ in general; his work and his environment and with the conditio humana. The initiative should provide an excellent chapter to the research studies and research techniques and
its justification process as well as methodology. Both contributions to the book series as well as their online magazines are submitted to a committee for review.

The main objective of this project is, on the one hand, the preservation and continued maintenance of the European traditions of a history of ideas: their topics, their languages, their methodologies and their reasoning within schools. On the other hand, it especially deals with the reference to something worth preserving and some of its questionable contents within the ‘European Ideas’ tradition itself. At the same time, the Kraków initiative aims to create an incentive for the individual linguistic regions to transcend their borders in the history of ideas. Kraków can pride itself on its long-standing traditions of linguistic encounters and its rich cultural exchange. It is a city at the crossroads of, not only the intellectual but also the commercial, routes between Eastern and Western borders as well as the routes found between the North and South.

Both the book series as well as the online magazine will address ‘history of ideas problems’ in the broadest sense. In this respect, the authors of the manuscripts have to dedicate themselves not only to the ‘notions and concepts’ but also to the previously identified issues. The general programmes of the two projects exclude manuscripts written in a purely journalistic manner and have to relate to the specific contents of earlier issues. The thematic guidelines are to be made by the editors and/or publisher. A particularly important task is attributed to the scientific advisory board (i.e. evaluation of submitted manuscripts with peer review). This international committee will include members of various disciplines and age groups. As in the case of the group of publishers and the scientific advisory board, including the editorial board, various age groups are represented. This is a decisive factor in ensuring both inter-generational transfers of experience within the series of books produced by the magazine and to the related personnel as well as a longer-term implementation of the history of ideas program in its enterprise.

The series is intended to lead the diversity of European history of ideas and solutions regarding their presence in the mind. It should primarily summarize the results of interdisciplinary discussions with representatives from different branches of knowledge. A forum for such a debate is scheduled for December in its annual meeting in Kraków. The first meeting, on 8 December 2011, gathered together European scholars and artists discussing the topic of ‘Appearance, Reality and Beyond’ (Pozór [ rzeczywistości], rzeczywistość i poza tym/ Apparence, réalité et au-delà / Schein, Wirklichkeit und darüber hinaus / Apparenza, realtà e oltre / Появление, реальность и за пределами). In 2012, two meetings were planned: in October (Toleration and Tolerance. Models, Metamorphoses and Implications) and in December (Facetten der Ideengeschichte des Spiels). The series will make for excellent and previously unpublished studies on the history of ideas available to a wide audience and will publish previously undiscovered documents written in the ‘rarely used’ European languages. These texts will be translated simultaneously and consecutively in one of the above congress languages.

The online magazine is to appear continuously. Individual items should be in the form of e-papers offered as reprints in trade. The posts are mostly in English and in German, but also in French, Italian, Spanish, and Russian. The online magazine will additionally be an important element of a peer-review-organ within the European history of ideas. It should, moreover, be an innovation within the field of European history of ideas promotional forum. The magazine will not only promote the European, but also the non-European aspirations and thus help to maintain the academic exchange with other traditions in the history of ideas.

Michel Henri Kowalewicz, JU History of Ideas Research Centre
Cold northern weather did not seem at first to create a good atmosphere to have a training week in an international circle and yet a group of admissions officers from the Jagiellonian University Department of Admissions went to Reykjavík, Iceland, for a Utrecht Network staff training week 2012 – Workshop for University Admissions Officers. The international meeting was organised between 22 and 26 October 2012 and created the occasion to discuss matters connected with university admissions. The participants of the training week included officers from Belgium, the Czech Republic, Finland, Germany, Italy, the Netherlands, Norway, Sweden, Lithuania, Estonia and, naturally, from Iceland.

The training week was launched by the Utrecht Network, which is a representative European-wide network of universities co-operating in the area of internationalisation. The group is particularly committed to such areas as student and staff mobility, summer schools, the internationalisation of curricula, joint curricula and double/joint degrees. The Utrecht Network represents 31 European universities from 29 countries. The Jagiellonian University is the only university that represents Poland in this network.

All participants of the training were asked to prepare presentations about the upper secondary school system in their home countries and admission requirements for universities, visa matters for non-European students as well as online application system and web tools.

The whole training focused on admission matters. The participants were able to learn about and discuss many interesting matters, e.g. the duties of ENIC/NARIC offices, forged documents, admission requirements for undergraduates and postgraduates in various countries and programmes, visa matters and tools for recognition of diplomas, degrees and other qualifications. The exchange of experience was invaluable.

Different ways, one goal in enrolment policy

Each university presented information on the secondary school system in their home countries in order to compare and understand the differences and similarities between their admissions procedures. The participants discussed methods and tools used in their offices. During the workshops the participants learned how to solve problems, which they experienced, and shared their own opinions on the recognition of education, assistance to prospective international students, computer systems used in admission processes and difficult situations in everyday work. Our general goal was to find as many common solutions to different problems as possible, in the light of a wider perspective gained from the other participants.

Why do candidates commit forgery when applying to university?

The talk ‘Forged documents – fake universities’ gave us the opportunity to get a new view on the difficult subject of forgery committed by candidates applying to university: they do not intend to study but try to get a visa-ticket to the Schengen zone. We discussed main causes of document forgery committed by foreign candidates. There was also a workshop that allowed us to practice new methods for verifying the applications submitted to our University.

The magic of Iceland

Not only was the training week special but also was the place. Iceland is a unique destination where you can see a mixture of forces of nature: dynamic ice cap and outlet glaciers, geothermal energy and frequent volcanic activity, coupled with the northern lights. The capital of Iceland, Reykjavík, brings variety of interesting things to see and do. We felt as though we were in a land of magic, beginning from small colourful cottages, through the magnificent Harpa, experiencing the rise of the sun, ending with people, who were kind and helpful.

Conclusions and observations

We returned with new knowledge and conclusions as well as some solutions, which could be implemented in our work. We met people doing the same jobs as we do, ready to share and help one another in matters concerning admission procedures. We would like to share this knowledge with our colleagues as well as on the platform of the institutions of higher education in Poland.

E. Całus, A. Kuciel, J. Mrowiec, K. Sacała

The Department of Admissions is a JU unit responsible for organising and providing service related to the admission process at the Jagiellonian University. Our work focuses on improving the organisation of admissions. We have developed the Online Application System (OAS). It allows candidates to apply for study programmes easily. The catalogues of study programmes on our website are always the most accurate source of information about the Jagiellonian University’s educational offer concerning the Bachelor’s, Master’s, PhD and selected post-diploma programmes taught in Polish and other languages. Our website is available in Polish and English; the online registration is, therefore, possible for non-Polish speaking candidates.

www.rekrutacja.uj.edu.pl
Joint MA Programme in International Relations

On 1 October 2012, the JU Rector Prof. Wojciech Nowak, Prof. László Komlósi, Vice-Rector of the University of Pécs, Hungary, Prof. Ivan Malý, Vice-Rector of the University of Masaryk in Brno, Czech Republic, and Prof. Milota Vetráková, Vice-Rector of Matej Bel University in Banská Bystrica, Slovakia, signed an agreement to establish an academic consortium with the aim of establishing a Joint Master’s Degree Programme in International Relations, specialisation: Europe from the Visegrad Perspective. The initiative is based within the International Visegrad Fund and corresponds to the values common to all states of the Visegrad Group.

Graduates of this programme will acquire expert knowledge necessary to better understand the complex nature of the interplay between global and regional phenomena affecting the functioning of international organisations, businesses and civil society. They will be well prepared to work in international organisations, diplomatic service, public administration, mass media as well as non-governmental and non-profit organisations. Graduates will also possess the necessary analytical ability to carry out individual research as prospective doctoral students. The two-year programme will be launched on 1 October 2013 and the Jagiellonian University will assume the role of coordinator of the programme. Students begin their study programme at the Jagiellonian University and then they will spend a semester at each partner university. Faculty members from each partner university will deliver guest lectures and conduct Master’s thesis seminars at the partner universities. Master’s thesis guidance will be done on the basis of joint supervision: coutorial.

The Visegrad Network of Research, Education and Mobility ‘VNDREAM’ project aims at building a network of academic excellence among partners of the consortium, which consist of universities from Visegrad countries: Poland, Slovakia, Czech Republic and Hungary. The main goal of the project is to establish durable organisational infrastructure that would enable scholars and students both from the Visegrad region and from other regions to benefit from experience as well as intellectual, cultural and social resources that the Visegrad region offers.

M. Kantor

VISITING PROFESSOR TORU SHIMIZU

In the winter semester of 2012/13 the JU Faculty of Biochemistry, Biophysics and Biotechnology is hosting Professor emeritus Toru Shimizu from Tohoku University, Sendai, Japan, as a visiting professor. Prof. Shimizu has been invited by the Department of Medical Biotechnology, with whom he has collaborated for many years, starting with his first visit and lecture in June 2009, then Prof. Józef Dulak, the head of the Department, visiting professorship in Japan in August/September 2010 (from the Japanese Society for the Promotion of Science) and last year’s visit and lectures of Prof. Shimizu to the Second Congress of Polish Biochemistry and Cell Biology in September 2011, co-organised by the Department. Prof. Shimizu’s research interests include: structure-function relationships of heme-responsive heme sensor proteins and heme-based gas-sensor proteins; spectroscopic applications (optical absorption, CD, MCD, resonance Raman); protein structure/folding and protein engineering; biotechnology of metalloenzymes applied to hazardous waste treatment as well as bioorganic chemistry, inorganic biochemistry, bioremediation and biocatalysis.

On 2-29 October 2012 Prof. Shimizu delivered lectures on heme proteins. In the lecture series, fundamental knowledge of heme and well-known heme proteins as well as cutting-edge information on the new roles of heme in the heme sensor and oxygen sensor proteins were explored and discussed in part at the seminars (8 Oct-15 Nov 2012) in a way understandable even for people without expertise of heme and heme proteins so as to grasp the story.

Heme, the protoporphyrin IX iron complex, is one of the best-known and most important cofactors required for adequate functioning of living creatures. Heme and heme proteins are involved in O₂ storage (in myoglobin), O₂ transfer (by hemoglobin), electron transfer (by cytochromes), O₂ activation (by cytochrome P450 and NO synthase), peroxide activation (by peroxidases), hydrogen peroxide removal (by catalase) and many other important functions. At the initial stage of the lecture, general and fundamental concepts of porphyrin and the porphyrin iron complex (heme) and the well-known heme proteins, myoglobin and hemoglobin were introduced and explained. Then the structure and function of relationships of other well-recognised heme proteins, including cytochrome c, cytochrome b₅, cytochrome P450 and nitric oxide synthase, were discussed. Diseases associated with dysfunctions of heme and those heme proteins were also taught.

In these heme proteins, heme acts as the function/reaction centre. In contrast, two novel roles of heme in physiological functions are emerging. The first category of the emerging novel functions of heme is that heme plays the role of the first signal in intramolecular/intermolecular signal transduction. In other words, association and/or dissociation of heme to/from heme sensor proteins regulate numerous important physiological functions in response to heme availability. The second category of the new function of heme is, on the other hand, that it acts as the O₂ sensing site of oxygen sensor proteins. The heme of oxygen sensor proteins also senses other gaseous molecules such as NO and CO. Therefore, the heme sensor and oxygen sensor proteins affect numerous important physiological functions, such as transcriptional regulation, protein kinesis, protein synthesis, guanylate cyclase, phosphodiesterase and protein degradation.

For the JU students the participation in lectures given by visiting professors is an excellent occasion to draw knowledge from eminent international scientists as well as to discuss specialised topics and their own projects, not mentioning the practice of specialist English.

Joanna Uchto

NEWS letter No. 48 Autumn 2012 23
Visit to the University of Glasgow

Within the framework of the Erasmus staff training week Dr Maria Kantor from the JU International Relations and I (the JU Chair of International Public Law and School of German Law) visited the University of Glasgow on 24-28 September 2012. The programme of our visit was prepared by Will Wadman, International Officer for Europe working at the Recruitment and International Office at the University of Glasgow. He arranged meetings in various offices and departments of the University of Glasgow so that we could get to know the structure, internationalisation and procedures of this Scottish university established in 1451.

On our first day we met Stuart Forsyth, Corporate Communications, and were given a campus tour by Caroline Boddie, International Officer. During the next days we discussed international matters, including recruitment of foreign students, with Will Wadman. Avril MacGregor, International Student Adviser, Ann Wilber, Recruitment and Marketing Manager, Colette McGowan Deputy Head of Admissions-Study Abroad, and Lisa Broadwell, European Exchange Administrator, informed us about procedures and problems of international students studying in Scotland. It was also interesting to meet officials working in the College of Social Sciences: Angela Melley, International Development Manager, Adriana Torres, Recruitment Conversion and Marketing Officer, and Gayle Pringle Barnes, International Student Learning Officer, who gave us a presentation of their College and its educational offer.

Our meeting with Dr Clare McManus and Maggie Baister, Programme Director and Programme Administrator of the Erasmus Mundus International Masters in Russian, Central and East European Studies, made us aware of the already existing collaboration between the Jagiellonian University and the University of Glasgow.

For me it was important and interesting to meet Professor Jim Murdoch, School of Law International Officer, Morna Roberts, School of Law International Administrator, and Drew MacDonald, Law Postgraduate Student, and to discuss possibilities of collaboration with the JU School of German Law (organised together with the University of Heidelberg and University of Mainz). Prof. Jim Murdoch intends to launch a project for students of the Universities of Glasgow, Mainz (the Johannes Gutenberg University of Mainz is the oldest partner of the University of Glasgow) and possibly Kraków. This idea is supported by Prof. Udo Fink from Mainz. Another possibility of collaboration between Glasgow and Kraków is an Erasmus agreement in law.

Kay Munro, Subject Librarian for Russian and East European Collection, showed us the main library of the University of Glasgow. The University Library is one of the oldest and largest libraries in Europe. Situated on over 12 floors, it holds more than 2.5 million books and journals as well as providing access to an extensive range of electronic resources including over 30,000 electronic journals. It also houses sections for periodicals, microfilms, special collections and rare materials.

We also met Jane Weir and James Campbell from the Career Services as well as Emma Sloan from the Development and Alumni Office.

On our last day of stay in Glasgow Lesley MacInnes, Deputy Director of Residential Services, informed us about
possibilities of student accommodation in Glasgow. Her colleague took us to two halls of residence so that we could see the students’ living conditions. In the afternoon we met two chaplains as the University of Glasgow also cares for the spiritual aspect of its students providing various pastoral services. Reverend Stuart D. MacQuarrie, Chaplain to the University, Interfaith Chaplaincy, and Fr John Keenan, Roman Catholic Honorary Chaplain, showed us their places of worship and pastoral services.

During the training week, between the arranged meetings, we also visited the Hunterian Museum and MacIntosh House, which are part of the University of Glasgow. The Hunterian Museum and Art Gallery is one of the world’s top university museums, and one of the top five museums in Scotland. Naturally, we could not lose the opportunity to visit Scotland’s most visited attraction Kelvingrove Art Gallery and Museum, which is located close to the University of Glasgow.

Our visit to the University of Glasgow was an excellent occasion to get to know the city and its Scottish heritage. Although Edinburgh is Scotland’s capital the largest city of Scotland is Glasgow. It is one of Europe’s top ten financial centres and home to many of Scotland’s leading businesses. The city’s main manufacturing industries include companies involved in shipbuilding, engineering, construction, brewing and distilling, chemicals and textiles. Glasgow is known for its tenements – the red (or blonde) sandstone buildings are one of the most recognizable signatures of the city. These were the most popular form of housing in the 19th and the 20th century Glasgow and remain the most common form of dwelling in Glasgow today. The city is notable for architecture designed by the Glasgow School, the most notable exponent of that style being Charles Rennie Mackintosh. Mackintosh was an architect and designer in the Arts and Crafts Movement and the main exponent of Art Nouveau in the United Kingdom, designing numerous noted Glasgow buildings such as the Glasgow School of Art, Willow Tearooms and the Scotland Street School Museum. A hidden gem of Glasgow, also designed by Mackintosh, is the Queen’s Cross Church, the only church by the renowned artist to be built.

Glasgow is a major centre of higher and academic research, with four universities. The University of Glasgow is the fourth oldest University in the English-speaking world. The alumni of the University include six Nobel laureates, two British Prime Ministers and several leaders of Britain’s and Scotland’s major political parties. At the University’s foundation in 1451, there were four original faculties: Arts, Divinity, Law and Medicine. In 1713, Queen Anne endowed the Regius Chair of Law at the University. This revived the teaching of Law at Glasgow, and subsequent Chairs included the Chair of Conveyancing, established in 1861 by the Faculty of Procurators; the Douglas Chair of Civil Law in 1948; the Chair in Jurisprudence (1952); in Public Law. In 1984, the Faculty of Law became the Faculty of Law and Financial Studies, and in 1992, the individual legal departments were grouped together into the School. The School of Law at the University of Glasgow provides undergraduate and postgraduate courses in Law, and awards the degrees of Bachelor of Laws (Legum Baccalaureus, LL.B.), Master of Laws (Iuris Vtriusque Magistrum, LL.M.), Master of Science (Magister Scientiae, M.Sc.), Master of Research (M.Res.) and Doctor of Philosophy (Philosophie Doctor, Ph.D.), the degree of Doctor of Laws being awarded generally only as an honorary degree.

Today the University of Glasgow is in the top 100 world’s universities, rated top in the UK for international student satisfaction. It is a major employer in the city of Glasgow with around 6,000 staff. It is also a member of IRUN (International Research Universities Network).

Glasgow has a large (for the UK) proportion of ‘home’ students, with ca. 40 % of the student body coming from the West of Scotland, an additional ca. 39 % from elsewhere in the UK, leaving ca. 16 % from elsewhere in the world. More recently the University has started to attract more overseas students, particularly from Asia. More than 16,000 undergraduates and 6,000 postgraduates from 120 countries worldwide study at the University each year.

Spending several hours each day on the campus we could experience the international dimension of the University of Glasgow. Needless to say, we drank hundreds of cups of English tea in cozy university canteens and cafes, where we found shelter between the meetings as the weather was typical for Scotland!

Aleksandra Romanowska
The Fair ‘Grenzenlos – International Days’ was held on 7-8 November 2012 in Bochum. The aim of the Ruhr University Bochum is to continuously support students’ mobility by increasing the flow of information and providing attractive international exchange programmes. This year it organised the Grenzenlos (without borders) fair focusing on studying in Australia, Brazil, Chile, China, France, Japan, Korea, Mexico, the Netherlands, Poland, Russia, Spain, Turkey and the USA.

The fair takes place every second year and is visited by thousands of pupils, students and staff members from the RUB and other institutions of higher education from the region. The RUB invites its partner universities as exhibitors. The two partner Polish universities are the Jagiellonian University and the University of Wroclaw. The Jagiellonian University was represented by Maria Kantor, International Relations Office, Monika Nogowska, Deputy Head of the Admissions Office, Dorota Gwizdak and Edyta Woźniak, Admissions Office, as well as Anna Nowak-Dorda from the Communications and Marketing Office. At the JU stand there were also 4 German students who were ‘ambassadors’ for our university as last year they spent one semester at the JU within the framework of the Erasmus LLP. During those two international days our stand was visited by some 200 students and staff members.

The fair was accompanied by lectures and presentations concerning the possibilities of studying, working and internships abroad. A special guest was the Ambassador of Brazil in Germany Dr Everton Vieira Vargas who spoke on the academic exchange and economic co-operation between Brazil and Germany.

The JU team also visited the International Office of the Ruhr University Bochum and spoke to Elena Diaz about admissions procedures at RUB.

The Ruhr University Bochum, founded in 1965, is one of the 10 biggest German universities to date. It has 20 faculties, 150 degree programmes and over 36,695 students, including over 4,679 international students from 130 countries. Bochum is located in the heart of the Ruhr area, which is the largest economic region in Europe. It is also a region that has one of the highest concentrations of institutions of higher education and research.

The agreement of co-operation between the Jagiellonian University and the Ruhr University Bochum was signed in 1979. The working programme for 2012-2014 embraces 15 fields: law, pedagogy, history, mathematics, computer sciences, physics, astronomy, chemistry, classical, German and English studies, philosophy, earth sciences, library science and teaching of foreign languages. Currently, the Jagiellonian University has seven Erasmus agreements with the RUB in law, English studies, classical philology, history, history of art, sociology and Polish literature. www.ruhr-uni-bochum.de

Grenzenlos 2012 – International Days at the RUB

On 1-7 October 2012 the Jagiellonian University welcomed its Erasmus incoming and other foreign students for the autumn semester 2012/2013. The official meeting was held in the aula of Collegium Novum on 3 October. On behalf of the JU authorities a welcoming speech was delivered by Prof. Andrzej Manna, Vice-Rector for educational affairs. In turn the Institutional Erasmus Coordinator Miroslaw Klimkiewicz, Head of the International Students Office, welcomed all students and presented the scope of activities for incoming students.

Then the gathered students took the JU oath in Polish and English. They repeated the words of the oath after Bartłomiej Basiura, the President of the ESN at JU. The other members of the ESN board talked about the other attractions of the Orientation Week, including a 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.

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.

Justyna Jochym from the JU Centre for European Studies spoke about cultural shock and cultural differences. She 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.

Finally, 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.

In the autumn semester of the academic year 2012/13 there are 488 Erasmus students (278 female and 210 male).
New initiatives at CES

The JU Centre for European Studies (CES) offers several interdisciplinary study programmes which give 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, its central location, friendly staff and exciting cultural activities. Presently, CES is composed of 33 MA and study abroad students from the United States, Germany, France, Serbia, Netherlands, Canada, Hungary, Mexico, Poland, Switzerland and Malta. CES offers four study tracks that students may choose from and tailor to their academic interests: EU Studies, Central and Eastern European Studies, Europeanization and Governance in CEE and Studies in the Holocaust and Totalitarian Systems. The Centre also collaborates and works with several university partners, such as the University College of London, the University of Glasgow as well as the University of Kent.

Studies in the Holocaust and Totalitarian Systems in the academic year 2013/14

The Studies in the Holocaust and Totalitarian Systems specialty is designed for students intending to pursue a career in research on genocide as well as for students, who consider this specialized knowledge about the Holocaust and totalitarism to be beneficial for the development of a civic society. This specialisation outlines the genesis of national and religious conflicts in the contemporary world, the mechanisms used to create the structure of a totalitarian or authoritarian state, and racism and anti-Semitism present in modern-day European society. Particular attention is paid to the Polish perspective and experience with totalitarisms during the 20th century, the Nazi occupation and Soviet post-war times. We encourage all those interested to apply under this specialisation in the 2013/2014 academic year.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Language</th>
<th>Students</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Spanish</td>
<td>154</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>German</td>
<td>87</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Turkish</td>
<td>54</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>French</td>
<td>49</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Italian</td>
<td>36</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hungarian</td>
<td>18</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Latvian</td>
<td>11</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dutch</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Portuguese</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Czech</td>
<td>8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Slovakian</td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Belgian</td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bulgarian</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Croatian</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lithuanian</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Slovenian</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Greek</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Austrian</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Swedish</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Romanian</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>British</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Icelandic</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Estonian</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Irish</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Swiss</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TOTAL</td>
<td>488</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Erasmus incoming students according to nationality – autumn semester 2012/2013

Hectic days at the ESN office

The inauguration on 3 October 2012
Visegrad Countries in the Transforming EU

Supported by a grant awarded to the Centre for European Studies by the Visegrad Fund the aim of the course is to analyse the processes of European integration and their impact on the Visegrad countries. The experience of the Czech Republic, Hungary, Poland and Slovakia during integration is an interesting study topic as it provides examples of the long-term consequences of the processes initiated in Central Europe. The course aims to offer a comparative perspective, showing similarities and differences in the changes caused by the integration processes in the region. The changes occurring in the four countries will be analysed from both a political and social perspective.

The course will bring together scholars from various fields, working in the Visegrad countries, so as to provide students with specialised knowledge on the selected topics.

Summer School in Kraków 2013

The Centre for European Studies is happy to announce its 2013 Summer School Programme. Entitled, “Nation, Democracy and Citizenship in Central Europe,” this year’s three week programme will provide an overview of the main issues of democratization, citizenship, ethnic-cultural diversity and human rights. These key concepts will be analyzed through the prism of politics, economy, law and culture which will help participants investigate and interpret these processes of democratization in an important, but often neglected region – Central Europe. Participants will be able to also enjoy local excursions and study trips as well as the lively cultural and social life of Kraków. Application deadline is 1 April 2013. For more information, please visit www.ces.uj.edu.pl

Justyna Jochym,
Communications and Promotions Co-ordinator at CES

FOUR WEEKS FOR GERMAN LANGUAGE AND CULTURE

11 p.m. and still not packed yet. Departure at 5:00 a.m. next day and it would be nice to have at least a few hours of sleep. But there are still some things missing. A dictionary, a grammar book and a toothbrush… Yeap, I think that’s all. I can finally rest before my trip.

This is how the International Course for German Language and Culture began for me. To be perfectly honest, it had started with my application for a grant, but let’s skip that part. On 3 August I spent 12 hours on a bus, and was very tired but also happy I got off at Karl Square, Heidelberg. The view of the castle was absolutely stunning. The city placed in the valley, surrounded by green hills is really picturesque. I spent the first night in a hostel because the Office was to be opened on the following day.

When I woke up, I started to “besiege” the University building from the early morning hours so that I could complete all of the formalities and have the whole day for sightseeing. It worked out and around 11 a.m. I was already in my room (a five minute walk from the main market square). Just a quick shower and off to the city. What’s striking at first sight is the size of the old town and the condition, in which it is kept. Tenements, churches, little alleys. Everything neat and tidy as if it had been built yesterday. German “Ordnung” glimpses from every corner: I doubt if someone could imagine a better place to learn German.

But it is not bricks and cement that give a city its soul. People from all over the world take credit for it. In the streets you can hear almost every language known to mankind. And so at the University, while in a group of more than 500 people, you find inhabitants of every continent (maybe except Antarctica).

The course itself began on 6 August with a placement test, in order to assign everybody to the most appropriate group for him/her. Lessons took place every day in the morning. Then there were plenty of opportunities to attend extra classes. The range of them was quite wide, from sport to various seminars and lectures. Cultural activities were prepared in the evenings. You might choose German films, music or even theatre. It was not only a great possibility to have an insight in the German culture but also to socialize with other participants. Our organisers took care that we never got bored, even at the weekend. There were many excursions to choose from, so everybody could visit the most important places nearby. In fact, if one had wanted to participate in every activity and still have time to study he would not have had any time to sleep.

The International Course let us get to know each other’s culture and customs better. Did you know that if you raise a glass to a Hungarian you must look deep in his/her eyes. Otherwise it may be considered rude. But it is not only about leisure. Such intercultural skills can be used as well in business life. It really looks better when you know local customs. Maybe it is not so hard to behave in Europe where cultures in most cases are similar but what to do when one finds himself in a place such as China. And here, in Heidelberg, there were plenty of possibilities to get to know Asian people.

When it comes to the course itself, besides the classes, one could brush up on his language skills. If it is your first stay in a foreign country it is always hard to speak the first sentence, but after a few talks it comes out of nowhere. The biggest surprise is, however, when you start thinking in the foreign language. Sometimes it is hard to use a proper expression in your own mother tongue because everything that comes to your mind is a foreign word. This is, I think, the biggest asset of the course. Not the classes, but constant practice. Now when I finished the course I see a great improvement, especially when it comes to fluency.

To sum up, I must say that the trip to Germany was worth it. I met many new people, visited some beautiful places and last but not least, learned German. Four weeks passed very quickly and I can only say that I wish I had not slept so much, but rather exploited the night like I did the day.

Maciej Hotel.
JU student of law