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SPECIAL EDITION

March 2013

Faculty of English

Faculty of Social Sciences

Faculty of Physics

Faculty of Chemistry

Faculty of Polish and Classical Philology

Faculty of Biology

Faculty of Mathematics and Computer Science

Faculty of Political Science and Journalism

Faculty of Geographical and Geological Sciences

Faculty of Modern Languages

Faculty of Historical Studies

OUR UNIVERSITY

Faculty of Pedagogy and Fine Arts in Kalisz

Faculty of Educational Studies

Faculty of Law and Administration

Faculty of Theology

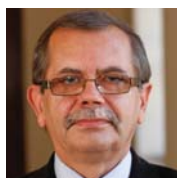


AMU PRESIDENT AND DEPUTY PRESIDENTS ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES 2012-2016



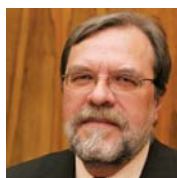
**AMU President,
Prof. dr hab. Bronisław Marciniak**

- ▶ University representation before external bodies
- ▶ Convener and president of AMU Senate's meetings
- ▶ Development of staff policy rules
- ▶ Development of the rules of cooperation with national and international institutions
- ▶ Establishment of new University organisational units in cases stipulated by the Statute
- ▶ Appointment of professors
- ▶ Implementation of the University's operating and financial plans
- ▶ Supervision of AMU's financial and economic activity; supervision of University administration
- ▶ AMU internal control
- ▶ The disciplinary spokesman for staff affairs
- ▶ Civil defence
- ▶ Other decisions in matters set out in the Higher Education Act and AMU Statute
- ▶ Cooperation with Poznań academic institutions



**DEPUTY PRESIDENT FOR EDUCATION
Prof. dr hab. Krzysztof Krasowski**

- ▶ Third level (PhD) studies, post-graduate studies and professional development courses
- ▶ Syllabuses and curricula of full-time and extramural studies
- ▶ (1st, 2nd and 3rd level studies and five-year master degree programmes)
- ▶ Teaching quality, study programme accreditation
- ▶ Teacher training
- ▶ Supervision of external branches in Gniezno, Słubice, Kościan, Śrem and Ostrów Wielkopolski
- ▶ Legal matters
- ▶ Cooperation with AMU student associations
- ▶ Supervision of the activity of interfaculty units.



**DEPUTY PRESIDENT FOR ACADEMIC STAFF
AND UNIVERSITY DEVELOPMENT
Prof. UAM dr hab. Andrzej Lesicki**

- ▶ Teaching, scientific, engineering, library and publishing staff
- ▶ University strategy and development
- ▶ Staff welfare and welfare facilities
- ▶ Cooperation with trade unions

- ▶ AMU investment activity (including the supervision of the Wielkopolska Centre of Advanced Technologies)
- ▶ Supervision of research stations
- ▶ Health & safety in teaching and scientific activity



**DEPUTY PRESIDENT FOR STUDENT AFFAIRS
Prof. dr hab. UAM
dr hab. Zbigniew Pilarczyk**

- ▶ Full-time and extramural studies (1st and 2nd level studies and five-year master degree programmes)
- ▶ Student self-government and organisations
- ▶ Student welfare
- ▶ National and international student exchange programmes
- ▶ Student scholarly and scientific movement
- ▶ The disciplinary spokesman for students affairs
- ▶ Student traineeship and practical training
- ▶ Supervision of the External Branch in Piła
- ▶ Promotion of AMU
- ▶ Disabled student affairs
- ▶ European Union's programmes related to teaching activity
- ▶ Life-long learning (Colourful University, academic classes and schools, University of the Third Age)



**DEPUTY PRESIDENT FOR RESEARCH
AND INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION
Prof. dr hab. Jacek Witkoś**

- ▶ Planning and coordination of scientific research
- ▶ International cooperation, international research programmes
- ▶ Scientific cooperation with Poznań academic institutions
- ▶ Supervision of research centres
- ▶ Supervision of the International Education Centre
- ▶ Supervision of the activity of the AMU Scientific Publishers and AMU Botanical Garden
- ▶ European Union's programmes related to research activity
- ▶ Supervision of the activity of the interfaculty NanoBioMedical Centre.



**DEPUTY PRESIDENT FOR COOPERATION
WITH CORPORATIONS AND IT
IMPLEMENTATION
Prof. UAM dr hab. Marek Nawrocki**

- ▶ IT and computer system development
- ▶ Supervision of the IT Centre
- ▶ Cooperation with the business community
- ▶ Academic entrepreneurship
- ▶ Distance learning
- ▶ Invention and patent protection
- ▶ Supervision of the activity of the University Library and AMU Archives
- ▶ R&D equipment
- ▶ Supervision of the activity of the Career Development Office
- ▶ European Union's programmes other than related to research and teaching activities



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AMU awarded Silver Erasmus

It is my great pleasure to inform you of the decision of the Foundation for the Development of the Education System to award AMU with the Silver Erasmus Prize "2nd place in the ranking of universities which performed the largest number of mobilities in the years 1998-2012". This shows that the Erasmus student mobility programme, which has been conducted at Adam Mickiewicz University over the recent ten years, is considered to be almost the most effective nationwide. We are ranked second in terms of funds distributed.

I strongly believe that from the European perspective the programme is among European Commission's most successful undertakings, as it provides opportunities to young people to follow in the footsteps of their medieval counterparts who would travel around Europe seeking teaching from many masters. For the current generation of young Poles this means a unique chance to effectively join the mainstream of the European life. For the generation of their parents, the possibility of sending their children to study abroad often signifies an indirect fulfilment of their own dreams, ever so unrealistic only 25 years ago.

Owing to the commitment of many people, including departmental coordinators, students representing the ESN network, the staff of the central university Erasmus Office and International Office, as well as individual coordinators, a total of 4,900 AMU stu-

dents have gone to study at other European universities over the last decade. At the same time we have received 780 foreign students. Each year, around 100 academic teachers visit foreign universities to give lectures under the Teaching Staff Mobility programme, while 80 international academics are hosted by AMU. The mobility of administrative staff is also on the rise, with 100 employees participating each year in traineeships and training abroad.

The success is a result of work done by very many people and it's hardly possible to thank them all by name, but let me just mention those who have successfully managed the programme and brought it to this excellent level. I would like to extend my thanks to Prof. Jan Milecki, Prof. Tomasz Kaczmarek, Jerzy Laskowski and Iwona Borkowska. The Erasmus programme could not have

worked so effectively but for the AMU-PIE, its complementary programme of study in English at our university, developed by the initiative of Hanna Mausch and further expanded by Rafał Witkowski. It is only by well-organised, consistent and concerted efforts of many people that this unquestionable and measurable success could be achieved. It's a common belief that this kind of action is rather alien to the Polish mentality and yet here, at AMU, we have proved that we understand well the meaning of teamwork where there's room for all interested enthusiasts and leaders.

I think we have good reasons to look with optimism into the future, at further stages of the programme development in its revised form as the Erasmus for All.

Yours faithfully
Prof. dr hab. Jacek Witkoś

An anniversary is a good opportunity to sum things up. What has the Erasmus changed during the 25 years? says Iwona Borkowska, AMU President's representative for the LLP-Erasmus,

Erasmus has raised a new generation of staff members who, through their own professional experience of mobility – either as programme participants or coordinators – have understood the importance of a foreign scholarship for students' development. We are talking about dozens of staff members, including deans, who favour international cooperation, easily establish and maintain new contacts, speak foreign languages perfectly and look across borders with confidence. The programme made them wonder about the outcomes of education. The 25 years of the Erasmus adventure have also resulted in the presence of international students and the consequent internationalisation of our university as plainly manifested by the activity of the AMU PIE, foreign lan-

guage courses, but also Polish students' commitment in volunteering initiatives. Finally, speaking about benefits, it needs to be mentioned that Erasmus has provided us with substantial funds of nearly 2.5 million Euros. This money is not only spent on mobility, but also on promotional materials and AMU itself. Erasmus has set a direction of development for us; hence actions under the programme (intensive programmes, multilateral projects, cooperation networks, accompanying activities) are often referred to in the AMU strategy. Regrettably, there are also some scars on the Erasmus portrait. Staff mobility, the growth of which made us happy so far, may, as it seems, give rise to some abuse. Certainly, a vast majority turned their visits into useful purposes to develop methodology or network of contacts; but there have also been few who used their business trips as a cheap kind of holiday. Our partners have informed us about it feeling a bit awkward to do so. Therefore, rather than focusing on figures and statistics, we should thoroughly examine, critically review and make a proper use of the potential behind the nearly 900 Erasmus agreements.

PHOTO: MACIEJ IMCZYŃSKI



Dean: prof. dr hab. Katarzyna Dziubalska-Kořaczyk

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PHOTO 3X MACIEJ MĘCZYŃSKI



About the Faculty:

The youngest of all faculties, transformed from the School of English: since 2011, Poland's only and one of the world's few faculties of English. As a course of study, it has always been top scored by accreditation commissions. The Poznań Faculty of English is the largest centre of English Studies in Poland. It is famous (also internationally) for its great care of the quality of English teaching being the only school to offer students a choice between the British and American department. Its specialisations also include Dutch, Celtic and South African studies.

Specialisations:

language study (employing modern language laboratories); literature; translation and interpreting with particular stress on conference interpreting; English teaching methodology.

Plans for the future:

Prof. Katarzyna Dziubalska-Kořaczyk wishes to make a good use of the potential of the Language Teacher Training College acquired by the Faculty and to form a new English teaching training section; she would also like to maintain and expand the cooperation with the AMU Faculty of Modern Languages and Literatures, and by further improving the quality research and education she wants – following the example of her master teacher, Prof. Jacek Fisiak – to develop international contacts with a view to ensure a better mobility of scholars and students, promoting their work worldwide and strengthening the interdisciplinary dimension of research projects.

MAJ



Dean: prof. dr hab. Bogdan Jackowiak

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PHOTO BY MACIEJ MIECZYŃSKI

About the Faculty

For the second time in a row, ranked first of all the AMU Faculties both in terms of the number and the value of grants awarded – every fourth zloty awarded to the AMU goes to the biologists. Apart from the long established traditional in natural sciences, it also runs a number of unique courses, such as Bioinformatics, Hydrology and Ecology. The Institutes of Molecular Biology and Experimental Biology conduct modern research at the cellular level using state-of-the-art equipment and in cooperation with other academic institutions. Among its members, the Faculty has a co-winner of the Polish Nobel Prize, Prof. Piotr Tryjanowski, an ornithologist studying birds' behaviour. Well known are the achievements of the Institute of Anthropology (including excavations in Egypt), of Poznań acarologists or those of Zofia Szweykowska-Kulińska's team in the study of gene regulation mechanisms.

Specialisations:

detailed study of origins of certain genetic diseases; study of genetic variation in plant and animal populations, study of environmental stress responses; bioinformatics, genomics, phytoremediation, study of animal social behaviour

Plans for the future:

The Faculty has developed a development strategy for the years to come. It is a programme with a vision, where openness to modern solutions and usefulness of research outcomes are put in the forefront. Apart from general aims, the document sets a number of specific tasks, such as encouraging students to undertake scientific work and engaging them to such work by linking topics of their theses with subjects of study; monitoring legal acts related to natural sciences or transforming the departmental library into a scientific information centre.

MAJ



Dean: prof. dr hab. Henryk Koroniak

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About the Faculty

Recognised as one of Poland's best, if not the very best faculty of chemistry, rewarded with the highest accreditation rates, the Faculty employs two winners of Poland's highest scientific reward, the so-called Polish Nobel Award, Prof. Mariusz Jaskólski and Prof. Bogdan Marciniec. The former specialises in crystallography of proteins, the latter in silicoorganic compounds, both recognised as world's authorities in their respective disciplines. The Faculty carries out an extensive international cooperation, its students being granted with European Eurobachelor and Euromaster certificates. It is at this Faculty, that the first business was once founded to link academics with practitioners, the so-called spin-off, a practice that has grown to be an established tradition up to date.

Specialisations:

Apart from the above mentioned specialities of the two 'Polish Nobel' winners' teams, the Faculty focuses on stereocontrolled synthesis of macro molecules for purposes of medicine and agriculture, synthesis and properties of nanostructures, methods of determination of trace elements and noxious substances, luminescence of lanthanide-ion systems and quantum chemistry.

Plans for the future:

We want to be the best chemistry department between Moscow and Berlin and we have all the chances to achieve that. We are already perceived internationally as a strong centre, for example in the fields at the interface of chemistry, biology and medicine, which are the most rapidly developing areas of knowledge, says Prof. Henryk Koroniak. The technologies and the Wielkopolska Centre of Advanced Technologies, being founded nearby, may not forgotten either. It has already become a tradition for the whole community of Poznań chemists to work closely together. Each good cooperation produces a substantial synergy, meaning that total effects are much better than a simple sum of components. Involved in the cooperation are the institutes of the Polish Academy of Sciences, University of Technology, University of Life Sciences, University of Economics and University of Medical Sciences. It is the Dean's dream that the cooperation comprises not only research but also broadly comprehended education at all three levels of studies. No other chemistry department in Poland offers studies of such diversity and completeness as the Faculty of Chemistry at the AMU, hence a high level of enrolment. Students are given more and more opportunities to take individual programmes and study abroad.

The research activity is manifested with a large number, that is over 500, publications in renowned journals. The Dean's ambition for the new term is to improve the quality of those publications, even at the expense of the quantity. *It is the quality of work that is going to matter*, he underlines.

The Faculty has been moved to a new modern facilities at the Morasko campus.

MAJ



Faculty of Polish and Classical Philology

Dean: prof. dr hab. Bogumiła Kaniewska

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PHOTO 3X MACIEJ MIECZYŃSKI

About the Faculty

It is a faculty comprising a wide range of research areas and study programmes. The Institute of Classical Philology is the only one in Poland to offer tutorial studies for small groups of students headed by a master teacher. Regardless of particular curricula, all philology students are covered by an umbrella programme of competence raising, including a widely understood IT education, but also meetings with people who have developed an interesting professional career having graduated from philology studies. Among its teachers and lectures are poets, writers, literary critics and many persons of interesting background. For several years now, the Faculty has been housed at the beautiful, historical edifice of Collegium Maius, with a modern, architectural prize winning building of the Faculty library attached to it. Prof. Pokrzywniak views the rooms there as being 'spaces of culture' rather than merely classrooms.

Specialisations:

from ancient Greek and Roman drama to modern theatre and film studies; from sociology of literature to the identity of Slavs; high achievements in the areas of onomastics, toponymy and modern phraseology. The Faculty features a Literary Documentation Department and a wide variety of programmes, including gender studies.

Plans for the future:

The Mickiewicz Lobby is being founded under the dome of the building and 'summer lobbies', or internal courtyards of Collegium Maius, are being redecorated to form elegant parts of the Faculty interior. *As far as research is concerned, we would li-*



ke to apply for a grant from the Seventh Framework Programme thus show, against the deeply enrooted stereotypes, that such grants are available to philologists as well, not just representatives of exact sciences, says Prof. Kaniewska. Prof. Kaniewska is committed to further raise of students' competences. Therefore, we are going to develop cooperation with a number of institutions and businesses to generate meetings, discussion, traineeships and practical training for philology students to become acquainted with the world of business. All interested will have an opportunity to learn the sign language and Braille alphabet at the Owińska school for the blind.

MAJ

Dean: prof. dr hab. Antoni Wójcik

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PHOTO 3X MACIEJ MECZYŃSKI



About the Faculty

The oldest of Morasko-based faculties, its corridors and halls decorated with art pieces provided by the University of Arts. Among its members, is the winner of the Polish Noble Prize, or the Foundation for Polish Science Award, Prof. Józef Barnaś. The Faculty also features a Foucault pendulum, or a silence chamber, one of the largest in this part of Europe. It educates both high-class theoreticians and market demanded practitioners, for example in the areas of audiometry or optometry. The unique programme in sound direction attracts crowds every year. The Faculty collaborates with many businesses and is famous for its science promotion activities (a pioneer in this area). Scored high by the State Accreditation Commission, it is among Poland's top 25 university faculties awarded for their quality with a special subsidy from the Ministry of Science and Higher Education.

Specialisations:

solid-state physics and quantum optics, including the theory of information; physical and biophysical phenomena at the nanometric level; ultrafast spectroscopy; high temperature superconductivity; acoustics; audiometry; in the field of astronomy: study of the nature of asteroids approaching the Earth and space 'litter'.

Plans for the future:

Along with the reform of science being implemented, we are launching a true teaching revolution. We have decided to abandon the traditional division into lectures and practical classes. Each topic will now be discussed from theory to practice, beginning with a lecture, through a blackboard-based analysis and computer simulation to laboratory practice, so as to form a module of a kind. For our teachers, this meant a total change of methodology. This seems to be the most serious challenge for the next year. As regards research, we will certainly promote our involvement in grant-winning projects and combine them flexibly. Also, what we need to do is to set rules of cooperation with the nearby NanoBioMedical Centre, says Prof. Wójcik.

MAJ



Dean: prof. dr hab. Kazimierz Ilski

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PHOTO: 3X MACIEJ MECZYŃSKI

About the Faculty

Distinguished with high diversity, the AMU Institute of History is world's famous for its research into Antiquity and Middle Ages. Among its members are the winner of the Polish Nobel Prize, Prof. Jerzy Strzelczyk, author of a book about women's creative work from the Antiquity to Middle Ages, or Prof. Hanna Kočka-Krenz, whose archaeological discoveries made a breakthrough in the knowledge of the beginnings of the Polish state.

Specialisations:

ancient and medieval studies; archaeology (including Poland's only aerial archaeology); military history; pre-history and history of the Wielkopolska region; cultural archaeology; Eastern studies; studies of modern art; history and theory of opera

Plans for the future:

The Faculty is preparing to move to the Morasko Campus in 2014. *I want to make a good use of the option offered by the new Higher Education Act to quickly establish new programmes and courses. New times call for new skills,* says Prof. Ilski. Opening the programme in military history, for example, proved to be a success attracting a great deal of interest from students. The areas of archiving and document management will be further developed. Both require a lot of competence today as new standards are being introduced and new media deployed. A strong emphasis will continue to be put on the cooperation with secondary schools with a view to raise young people's interest in history.

MAJ



Dean: prof. dr hab. Jerzy Kaczorowski

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PHOTO 3X MACIEJ MECZYŃSKI

About the Faculty

The Faculty holds a tradition of commemorating its prominent professors with series of lectures – hence memorial lectures named after Władysław Orlicz (an outstanding mathematician, founder of the post-war mathematics faculty in Poznań), Wojtek Pulikowski (a talented young scientist, who died in an accident) or Rajewski, Różycki and Zegalski (the three legendary cryptologists who broke the code of a German cipher machine). Students of that Faculty are regularly ranked among the top three of international IT competition, Imagine Cup. As one of few faculties in Poland, it is authorised to award doctoral titles in computer science. Among its staff, is a Polish Nobel winner, Prof. Tomasz Łuczak, once the youngest professor in Poland. Ranked among Poland's top 25 university faculties, it is awarded for their quality with a special subsidy from the Ministry of Science and Higher Education.

Specialisations:

both theoretical and applied mathematics are strongly represented here. Worth mentioning are cryptology (with an active Centre of Cryptology), functional analysis, philosophy of mathematics, mathematical linguistics and theory of numbers.



Plans for the future:

Systematic upgrade of the computer hardware. Progress in IT is very fast and students need to be given opportunities to work on the most advanced equipment. The university computer science has been derived from mathematics rather than technology, and it is that aspect that we are going to focus on. In mathematics, Poznań scientists have both a long established tradition and world-class achievements. Therefore, we need to take care of the 'mathematical trunk' from which grow many branches of computer science and applied mathematics, says Prof. Kaczorowski.

MAJ



Faculty of Geographical and Geological Sciences

Dean: prof. dr hab. Leszek Kasprzak

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PHOTO: 3X MACIEJ MECZYŃSKI

About the Faculty

Students advertise it by jumping with parachutes bearing banners with the Faculty name on them. It reaches high up but also far out, up to the polar zone, where its academic staff conduct research. Many of its students organise a variety of geographical expeditions and events and participate actively in a number of scientific associations. The Faculty closely cooperates with practitioners by carrying out studies and preparing expert opinions for local authorities or businesses. It is perfectly equipped laboratories (some say better than any other European faculty of geography) for geomorphological, hydrobiological or palynological research and holds a number of study programmes, not just classical ones. The Faculty is famous for its discovery of a big meteorite. One of its professors, Jerzy Fedorowski, is the initiator of a unique project of Poland's first Earth Park.

Specialisations:

hydrology, climatology, geoinformation, spatial management, issues of tourism, palaeogeography, environmental threats and impacts and methods of monitoring such threats and changes.

Plans for the future:

We want Poznań community to become better acquainted with our Faculty. To this end, we have developed an interesting educational trail to the Warta River, which is close to us and yet for many seems to be almost non-existent. The Rector has even mentioned a possibility to invest in a small marina. Promotion is of great importance for the Faculty as it wishes to show what modern geography really means and what impact it has on the world we live in.

MAJ



Dean: prof. dr hab. Tadeusz Wallas

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PHOTO 3X MACIEJ MĘCZYŃSKI



About the Faculty

The Faculty is famous not only for the fountain standing at its courtyard. Its corridors are always busy, with notice boards full of ads for a variety of events. Its students shot the first ever libdub featuring a university faculty. It hosts the most prominent figures from the worlds of politics and journalism and has its own TV and radio studios to provide practical training and to produce its own programmes. Poznań's Faculty of Political Science and Journalism is one of the few humanity faculties to receive ministerial subsidy for the quality of its education.

Specialisations:

issues of security and terrorism; issues of globalisation, civil society and political education; countries' development perspectives and threats; issues of journalism and social communication

Plans for the future:

Wishing to go more international, we are going to publish our four journals in English, and beginning with the next academic year we are offering 2nd level programmes of political studies entirely in English. Certainly, it also about winning grants for international research projects, such as the one concerning elections in the countries of the Central and Eastern Europe. We are introducing more e-learning components to all our curricula. Gradually, all the first level studies will develop a clear practical profile so as to provide our students with a full professional competence right after they graduate. We will also endeavour to have our hardware and software regularly upgraded to prevent them from becoming out of date. The Faculty will apply for authorisation to conduct PhD courses in the areas of media, security and public policy, says Prof. Wallas.

MAJ



Dean: prof. dr hab. Zbigniew Drozdowicz

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PHOTO BY MAGIEL MECZYŃSKI

About the Faculty:

The faculty holds six major fields of study. It is here that Hyde Park Szamarzewo was founded as a discussion forum, but also the Kulminacje culture festival and, most recently, the Academic Gallery. It is highly international, with 70 cooperating universities from around Europe; 26 lectures in English; 6 monographs published in English last year alone; rapidly growing number of outgoing and incoming students under international exchange projects. The Faculty has its own publishing house where the best doctoral dissertations were released last year among other publications. It accommodates the Quality of Life Research Centre, but also the Business Ethics Society.

Specialisations:

cognitive science, the Faculty's unique programme recently supplemented with neuroscience; sociology with a great tradition; psychology; culture studies, philosophy and social work. A new, interesting discipline is visual sociology, a discipline studying society based on images rather than written sources.



Plans for the future:

Further care and development of the infrastructure – modernisation works at the Szamarzewo Campus have considerably improved study conditions, but the competition is still strong as many private institutions offer similar studies with very good teaching facilities. *We are happy with the grants won by both our young and older academics. We have also received the biggest grant under the National Programme for Development of Humanities to be used for publication of 13 books by our professors in a publishing house in Duisburg, Germany,* says Prof. Drozdowicz. The Dean would also like to arrange some space for meetings and rest in the refurbished seat of the Faculty. **MAJ**

Dean: prof. dr hab. Teresa Tomasziewicz

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PHOTO 3X MACIEJ MECZYŃSKI



About the Faculty

Most exotic of all Faculties, its corridors filled with languages from around the world. Owing to the national days it organises at the University, we have an opportunity to learn more about distant cultures.

Specialisations:

German studies including Austrian culture, Romance language studies, Russian studies; translation and social communication.

Plans for the future:

What matters most for the future is to maintain our unique profile, because no other faculty in Poland offers such a wide range of research and education fields, covering 35 different programmes. I wish we focus on both our flagship specialisations and those of a niche nature, such as Baltic studies or Poland's only programme in Romanian studies. We will develop Indian and Hebrew studies, too, says Prof. Tomasziewicz. Another area of speciality is conference interpreting. The first group of students have already received their European certificates having passed very demanding exams. There are perhaps two other centres in Poland to teach conference interpreting at that level. The newly established programme of audio description, the translation of image into words, is also being developed with a view to support the blind people. Following a competition won, the Faculty will receive a 1-2 million worth of specialised equipment for recording and linguistic analysis.

MAJ



Faculty of Pedagogy and Fine Arts in Kalisz

Dean: prof. dr hab. Mirosław Śmiałek

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PHOTO 3X MACIEJ MECZYŃSKI



About the Faculty

The Faculty has been derived from art and music teacher training studies; therefore, art and pedagogy are bound strongly together here. The Faculty organises a number of exhibitions and concerts and is marked with a friendly atmosphere and openness to students' initiatives. It delivers art works for auctions held at AMU charity concerts.

Specialisations:

In art: textile art, painting, and ceramics; in music: organ, oratorio and cantata music. The Faculty trains art teachers and art therapists; specialises in librarianship, preservation of cultural heritage, social communication, solving problems of adolescence, penitentiary education.

Plans for the future:

The Faculty aims to make its educational offer even more attractive: we plan to introduce programmes in choir conducting and art design. *We wish to make close contacts with Kalisz business people and encourage them to cooperate with our designers to bring more duty to Kalisz interiors*, says Prof. Śmiałek.

MAJ



Dean: prof. dr hab. Roman Budzinowski

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PHOTO BY MACIEJ MĘCZYŃSKI

About the Faculty

The Faculty is housed in a magnificent building distinguished with Poznań's highest architectural prize, the Jan Baptisty Quadro Award. Highly reputed and regarded by many as Poland's best law faculty, it has a great tradition and history marked with names of many prominent lawyers. Today its Faculty members participate, as recognised experts, in the major law-making bodies in Poland. Among them, are many opera and classical music lovers. It is the only Faculty to publish a collection of anecdotes about its professors.

Specialisations:

administrative law, including patient rights or legal issues of energy industry; civil law, including copyright protection; financial and international law; agricultural law; labour law; history of law; criminalistics; and philosophy of law, the latter of great tradition in Poznań.

Plans for the future:

The main goal is to further strengthen the position of the Faculty of Law and Administration by implementing the adopted strategy and using better the staff potential. The way to achieve that goal will be by: improving the competitiveness of education offered (e.g. by adapting the teaching contents and methodology to the demands of the labour market or setting up new programmes and courses), strengthening the intensity and international dimension of research activity (e.g. by undertaking significant research projects and participating in or managing international research teams), and increasing the use of external sources of financing, both Polish and international. The point is not only to win grants but also to become involved in international academic consortia.

MAJ





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About the Faculty

Together with the Faculties of Sociology and Psychology, it makes a vivid community at the Szamarzewo Campus. Its students are full of enthusiasm and teachers open to their initiatives. The seat of the Faculty has grown much prettier recently, and the re-decoration is not over yet. Great many exhibitions, events and meetings are held here with a group of active volunteers. The Faculty's advertising slogan is diploma-prestige-success. Its scholars are often seen and heard in the media as experts of education and Prof. Irena Obuchowska has for many years written popular educational columns for newspapers.

Specialisations:

history of education; transformation of Polish education; problems of disabled children; issues of young children's development; social rehabilitation; penitentiary education; teaching of adults; vocational counselling; but also sexuality or gerontology

Plans for the future:

With 27 research directions, we are one of the country's leading centre of educational studies. We wish to maintain that position, while keeping abreast with the challenges of the modern times. We aim to keep the strong dynamism of academic career development, says Prof. Melosik.

And it is in order to respond to the challenges of the modern times that the Faculty intends to launch two new programmes: education of young disabled children and health promotion with elements of dietetics.

MAJ

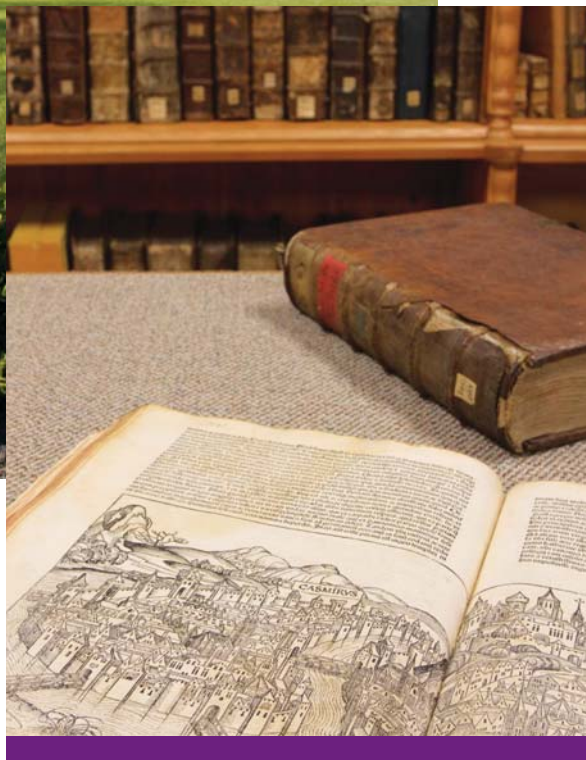


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About the Faculty:

Located a little bit off the busy parts of the city, it lives its own unique kind of life. The Faculty uses its extensive biblical knowledge to hold a unique religious and cultural event called Verba Sacra. It is famous for the achievements of its professor, Piotr Nawrot, a priest, discoverer and researcher of Bolivian Indians' Baroque music, and for its new translations of the Bible, e. g. that by farther Adam Sikora into the Kashubian language. The one of a kind library with unique books and atmosphere is reminiscent of the "Name of the Rose". Many of its students are socially committed volunteers. The Faculty has its own publishing house, although teaching space and facilities are not among its strongest assets.

Specialisations:

biblical studies, patristics, moral theology, Catholic social science and, recently, history of the Church; Poland's strongest centre of catechetics, Poznań has played a leading role in religion teaching since the 19th century. It is here that the most modern handbooks have been developed, that conferences are held and journal published for religion teachers.

Plans for the future:

Last year saw a number of our academics being awarded habilitations and professor titles. We are now ranked first among theology faculties in Poland. Many of our staff members are involved in significant projects and associations at both the Church and university level, says Prof. Szpet. The Faculty is adapting its curricula to the National Qualifications Framework and plans to establish a new programme of study: socially engaged dialogue to prepare graduates for work in consulting, social welfare and other areas. Its wishes to continue its series of open lectures and aspires to become a centre of integration for theologians of the East and West.

MAJ

Is a zero balance possible?

Magda Ziótek speaking with Iwona Borkowska, AMU President's representative for the LLP-Erasmus programme

Do we need foreign students as a university?

We send twice as many students as we receive, but the numbers are growing. Suffice to compare with the results from 2000, when a total of 600 young people came to study at all Polish universities, whereas nine years later the number rose to 5,600. Now, Poland receives almost the same number of foreign students as Belgium, Denmark, Portugal or Finland. On top of that – as indicated by the European Commission's statistics – no other country has witnessed such a rapid growth in popularity. But the disproportions you are talking about are certainly there, typically for the former communist countries. It is a matter of concern for the European Union, and efforts are being made to level that disparity. But that is something you cannot simply impose. Now, coming back to your question – the very presence of foreign students is necessary and we should do our best to attract them.

What are the benefits?

The very fact of their being present here spurs our strategy of internationalisation and enables a transfer of experiences, while encouraging our teaching and administrative staff to raise their language skills. The students can teach us a lot. Multiculturalism increases the value of our university. Interviews with students show that large-scale mobility is what attracts them to AMU. They know that coming here they have a big chance to receive a scholarship. The activity of the AMU-PIE, Polish language courses, summer schools – all of these actions are meant to attract foreign students.

Are we, as a university, ready to receive foreign students? Are those students left to their own devices?

The Erasmus Student Network section operating at the AMU is an international organisation based in Brussels. Just as the ESN Poland excels compared to such sections in other countries, the ESN AMU excels nationwide. We have 130 volunteers. The ESN takes educational and cultural initiatives and organises social and charity actions. Each student coming to AMU has his or her own mentor. The mentor is responsible for receiving a newco-

mer at the airport and assisting him or her in all sorts of urgent matters, such as contact with the health care service. Special trips or visits to inclusive schools and special education classes are also there to take part in, as are collections of gifts for orphanages. So as you see, we have much more to offer than just clubs.

And how about the educational offer?

In this respect we also perform well compared to other European countries. Developing a programme in a foreign language is a complex challenge that not all universities are able to handle. The process is coordinated by the AMU-PIE centre. Last year, a total of 234 courses were offered; this year we hold 184 of them. That's a little fewer, but it's not our last word. So, the offer is by all means large. Actually, the main criterion our university has failed to meet so far is that of foreign language teaching. The interest in language courses is so high that we are not able to cater for it, if only for the shortage of rooms. Students want to learn English, German and French. And while they are referred to language courses under other university programmes, these prove to be overcrowded and often conducted in Polish.

The university has been struggling with the language teaching issue for years...

A possible solution of that problem would be to form a language centre not only to teach languages for academic and professional purposes but also to educate in intercultural communication in foreign languages. Students coming back from Erasmus have often underlined a high quality of language teaching at foreign universities and the innovative character of their educational offer in this field. It is something they would like to see more of after returning to Poznań. The Centro de Lenguas Modernas at the University of Granada, a leader in terms of the number of students received, educates yearly around 80,000 students from 40 countries. Students choose to go to Granada actually to learn foreign languages. Whereas AMU's offer in this regard is very limited and raises all sorts of objections. Students are not properly divided by their language competence and thus frustrate one another as some feel their skills are too high, while

PHOTO: MACIEJ MECZYŃSKI



others feel that they are too low. Whether the University should provide language education or not is still a matter of controversy. At the same time, academic institutions are legally obliged to ensure that students are brought to a strictly defined level of a foreign language competence.

So, what are the ideas to attract international students?

The point is always to build trust in the quality of education. We also need to invest in services and events, as well as to promote them properly. The next year will be a great opportunity to do that as we are hosting a big conference, ERACON with around 400 Erasmus coordinators expected to arrive from all participating countries from EU and beyond. We hope our invitation will be accepted by representatives of the Ministry of Science and the European Commission. The city authorities have promised to support the event as they, just like us, see it as a great opportunity to promote the city and the university. The event will receive an honorary patronage of the City Mayor. I hope the visiting coordinators will see that Poznań is a great place to send students to.

America rediscovered



Agnieszka, Katarzyna, Marcin, Andrzej, Kasia and Piotr are all AMU students. Last year, they visited the US under the cooperation agreement with the Northern Essex Community College, Haverhill near Boston, MA.

They independently applied for an English course, then met on site and have become good friends ever since.

The English course is held under the cooperation agreement with the NECC signed in 2011. So far, two groups of students have attended the course. For many of them, the trip was an unforgettable experience and a venture into the unknown but, fortunately, they were assisted by the American project coordinator who had provided all the necessary instructions to the Polish students before they left home. Kasia, a student of Italian, immediately found everything oversized: the roads, cars, meals and the Americans themselves. *I had never seen so many obese people before*, she says. Piotr has fond memories of everyday shopping. Things which are quite normal to us caused a sensation. They did their shopping in a store some 15-minute walk from where they stayed. As they walked back carrying their shopping bags, the locals leaned out of their windows, children waved at them, drivers pulled up and blew their horns. *During our one-month stay we didn't see anybody on pavements, except some dog owners or joggers. All others move by cars. Haverhill is a small, uneventful town, with nothing ever going on there*, adds Kasia. Smiling, they tell of the problems they had in having a trip around the neighbourhood. They were surprised to see public transport buses running every two hours and train tickets outrageously expensive, way beyond what they could afford.

The course takes 4 weeks and is based on a fixed pattern: first language lessons, then classes with American students and activities led by the coordinator. Agnieszka was surprised that the college offered hardly any social events, so they spent afternoons taking some trips together. The classes they took with American colleagues were so devised as to be interesting for

all: they learned about the American parliamentary system, history and literature. But most interesting were the occasions when they could confront their knowledge with Americans. *Some Americans don't know whether Poland is a country or what continent it lies on*, says Agnieszka. *They asked us if there are any multi-storey buildings in Poland or if we had been to McDonalds before. We felt a bit embarrassed to be asked if we hunt... cows. On the other hand, Piotr says, we found that Americans are very nice and friendly. On the day of our trip to New York, when we had to leave the student hostel very early, they prepared breakfast especially for us. That was something we did not expect at all, very nice, indeed.*

When asked if it was a good idea to take the course in the US, they all answer 'yes'; if only to confront the image they had had about that country with the reality, to test their language skills or to feel the magic of New York City.

Magda Ziółek

