



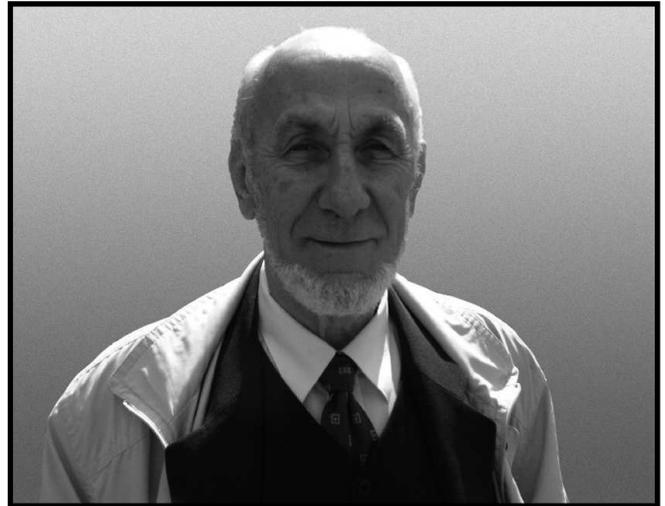
Recollection of Prof. J. Gronostajski

Prof. Jerzy Gronostajski, Dr hc, passed away on 14th November 2007. He was born on 28th October 1933 in Chelm (Poland). He has connected his entire adult life with the Wrocław University of Technology when in February 1951 he begun his studies at the Faculty of Mechanics, and in 1955 he begun his professional career, to become in 1963 an assistant professor after defending his PhD thesis, and to get the Associate Professor's position in 1967 after the DSc colloquium. In 1976 he was awarded the title of the professor, and in 1987 he was awarded the title of the full professor. In 2001 he was granted the title of doctor honoris causa at the University in Bacau (Romania). He worked at his University until the last moment of his life.

The late Professor Jerzy Gronostajski was the creator of the Scientific School dealing with research and design on the plastic forming processes, physical metallurgy, and mechanics of the metals plastic working processes. The original results of his research have added to the progress of science in the area of plastic working and physical metallurgy, in which he was the prominent expert. He presented his outstanding achievements in 13 books, monographs and textbooks, in more than 350 publications in foreign and domestic journals, as well as in conference proceedings and about 30 patents. He published in the renowned journals indexed by Thomson Scientific where more than 50 of his contributions appeared. One should mention among his most important achievements the development of a new method for determining the total stress diagrams for sheets with the anisotropic properties, development of the original investigation method for phenomena causing weakening of material during and after its plastic hot deformation, using stress relaxation, investigation of transformations occurring in solid state in copper alloys, and in particular his discovery of the isothermal martensitic transformation in silicon bronzes and investigation of its mechanism, crystallography, and kinetics, development of the new method for analysis of the loss of stability of sheets eliminating the friction influence, and also development of the original recycling method for chips and fabricating the sinters and composites and development of the chips bonding criterion in the high plastic deformation conditions. The late Professor Jerzy Gronostajski participated in more than 100 symposia and conferences abroad and at home, where his contributions attracted always interest and were met with approval. He collaborated with the prominent scholars from many countries, among others from France, Portugal, Romania, United Kingdom, Finland, Denmark, Belgium, Germany, Sweden, Egypt, China, and United States. He was also a coordinator of the international projects within the framework of the European TEMPUS, and COPERNICUS programmes and of the 5th Framework Programme. He created the Transfer Centre for Plastic Forming Technology and Powder Metallurgy. Moreover, he headed 11 domestic research projects.

He was the outstanding preceptor of scientific cadres. He promoted 23 doctors, including two from abroad. Five of his associates were awarded the Dsc degree, and four from among them got the professor positions. Three from the mentioned DSc theses were distinguished with awards of the IV Department of Technical Sciences of the Polish Academy of Sciences. His alumni achieved high scientific level of their research work, which is confirmed by their many citations and invitations to co-operation with other scientific centres. He was the reviewer of many PhD and DSc theses and well as of proceedings for awarding the title of professor, by which he also added to development of the scientific environment of the materials engineering, mechanics and machine design, as well as manufacturing engineering in Poland. I do belong myself to the group of people whom he helped in their scientific careers with his sober, yet kind opinion.

The late Professor Jerzy Gronostajski was the editor-in-chief of "Archives of Civil and Mechanical Engineering" of the Polish Academy of Sciences,



a member of the editorial board of "Archives of Metallurgy" indexed by Thomson Scientific and a member of the editorial boards of "Metallurgy and Foundry Engineering" and "Machines Engineering" journals. He was the chairman of the Civil Engineering and Mechanics Commission of the Polish Academy of Sciences in Wrocław, a member – for many years – of the Committee of Metallurgy of the Polish Academy of Sciences and Sections of the Committees of Materials Science and Machine Design of the Polish Academy of Sciences, a chairman of the Scientific Board of the Military Institute of Technical Engineering, a member of the Boards of Directors of the international ESAFORM Scientific Society, a member of the International Deep Drawing Research Group and of the International Culture and Philosophy Society. He was the organiser of some international and domestic scientific conferences. For his merits for Science he was awarded many state distinctions, including the Officer's Cross of the Order of Poland Reborn, the Honorary Distinction of the Polish Society of Mechanical Engineers and Technicians (SIMP), and the Honorary Medal of the University in Bacau (Romania).

He was consigned to his last resting place in the Parish Churchyard of the Saint Family Church at Smętna Street in Wrocław, where on 23rd November 2007 he was followed to his grave by the Family plunged into mourning, Friends, Authorities of the Wrocław University of Technology, and the large number of representatives of the World of Science from the entire Country.

He will remain in our memory as the outstanding Scholar, the sprightly Man of the eminent intellect, cheerful and witty, well-disposed to people and sensitive to their problems, very active and effective in his activities, known not only in Poland but also abroad, of rare influence and having the respect of Professors, Alumni, and Students, being self effacing at the same time. A Remarkable Man has passed away.

Peace to Your Memory Jurek!

On behalf of your Friends plunged into mourning and sorrow, from whose circle you have been taken away so suddenly
Leszek. A. Dobrzański