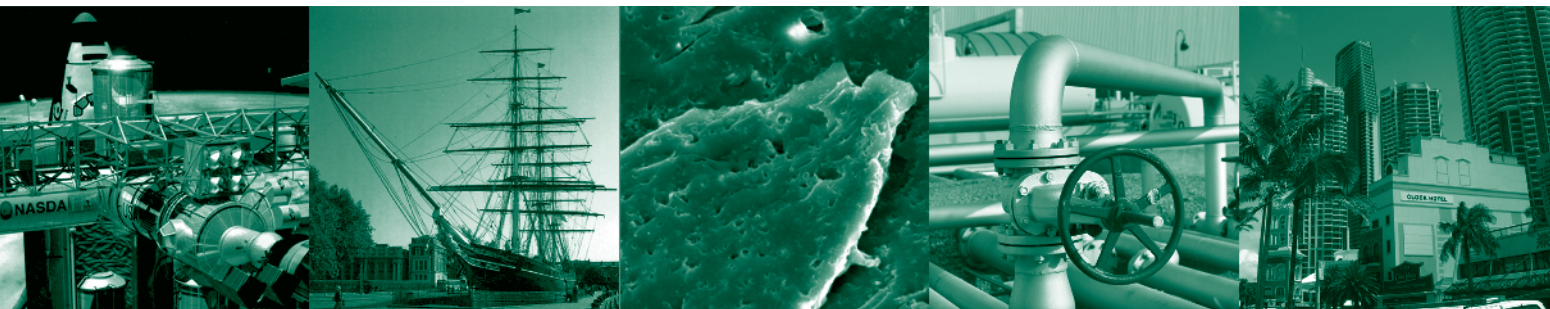




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It was said...



PROFESSOR HORST KÖHLER

Federal President of Germany

Re-elected for this function at 23rd May 2009

(...) Now, the big wheels have broken down and we are experiencing a crisis, the outcome of which may define the 21st century. I believe this could be for our good, provided we are able to learn from our mistakes. At present, however, the recession continues to unfold. It has reached every continent. The financial crisis has hit the real economy, at lightning speed and hard. (...) So let us face our responsibility. This is in our interests, as we sell half of our economic output abroad. The global economy is our destiny. That is why we must now involve ourselves, actively and constructively, in the efforts made all over the world to overcome the crisis, and must bring our weight to bear. This crisis offers a unique opportunity in that now, it is clear to all of us that no-one can permanently create advantages solely for himself. We, all of humanity, are in the same boat. And people in the same boat must help each other. In the 21st century, self-interest has come to mean that we must take care of one another. In particular, we in the North must learn to rethink. Currently, about 6.5 billion people live on our earth. A mere fifteen percent of them live in the same circumstances we do. More than two billion people live on two dollars a day, and one billion people must make do with one dollar a day. We should stop fooling ourselves into thinking that this is just. Security, prosperity and peace – they will be assured for the industrialized nations only if we achieve greater equity throughout the entire world. We need to have a development policy for the whole planet. This means that the industrialized nations – including Germany – must find out what changes they need to make, in order to ensure there will be a good future for the world. (...)"

From Berlin Address by Federal President Horst Köhler on 24th March 2009 in Berlin, Germany

Editorial

The juxtaposition of a few numbers, as it is necessary to admit the imposing ones: 18 Nobel Prize laureates; 135 members of the National Academy of Sciences; 82 members of National Academy of Engineering; 224 members of the American Academy of Arts and Sciences; 21 recipients of the National Medal of Science; three recipients of the National Medal of Technology; 26 members of the National Academy of Education; 41 members of American Philosophical Society; 4 Pulitzer Prize winners; 23 MacArthur Fellows; 7 Wolf Foundation Prize winners; 7 Koret Foundation Prize winners; 7 Presidential Medal of Freedom winners, it is a characteristics of Stanford's current community of scholars. Leland and Jane Stanford founded the University to "promote the public welfare by exercising an influence on behalf of humanity and civilisation." Stanford opened its doors in 1891, and more than a century later, it remains dedicated to finding solutions to the great challenges of the day and to preparing students for leadership in today's complex world. The pioneering spirit that inspired Jane and Leland Stanford to start this university more than a century ago encourages boldness in everything what they do – whether those efforts occur in the library, in the classroom, in a laboratory, in a theatre or on an athletic field. Stanford University is located between San Francisco and San Jose in the heart of Silicon Valley and recognised as one of the world's leading research and teaching institutions. It helps to build Silicon Valley at the doorstep of the University's campus. Stanford University is one of the outstanding world's example of an enterprising university.

The idea of an enterprising university which aspires to achieve a strong international position, competitive in didactic and research market, achieves advantages from the commercialisation of its research activity, contributes in aid of the surrounding, achieving in return notable advantages, becomes a part of those activities. Surely the way of making real of something which often stays only on bookshelves of the university libraries or laboratories and carrying out the researches in such a way that they will result from the real business needs is worth looking for. The essential progress comes from two interconnected fields of science and economy, so that one resulted from the other and they influence each other. The identity of business and scientific ideas is possible through the concept of the scientific and research project as a business project for the creation of business and scientific innovations and creative thinking during the realisation of the application scientific, research and developmental projects and the administration of scientific work which is to plan the sale results, select the target groups and sale the effects of scientific, research and developmental works.

An enterprising university is one of the elements of the knowledge-based economy. Knowledge-based economy depend on the creation treated as production and distri-



bution and practical application of knowledge and information. Knowledge-based economy is one of tasks resulting from the requirements of scientific, scientific and technical and innovative politics for the European Union written in so call Lisbon Strategy. The base of the economic development is then production, distribution and implementation, and knowledge being a product is a main reason for sustainable development. Surely one of the patterns from which the European Universities must be inspired is just Stanford University. The discussion about alleged fundamental researches and application ones which are financed by businessmen and economy is useless. It is necessary to join those two aims, not forgetting that knowledge has its market value, and the market waits for innovative solutions. Of course, it must be a base of developmental strategies of individual universities.

As usual I invite PT Authors for the publication of their papers in the journal and PT Readers for the critical analysis of its contents. Delivering the present issue of the Journal AMSE I am sure that the papers published in the given Journal and its whole activity are the input to the development of knowledge-based economy. I wish a nice reading.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'L. Dobrzański'.

Prof. Leszek A. Dobrzański M. Dr hc
Editor-in-Chief of the AMSE
President of the WAMME
President of the ACMS&SE

Gliwice, in 2009