

Farewell to the First Great Chancellor 619th academic year at the Pontifical University of John Paul II in Krakow

Among the many events that occurred during the past academic year, it is especially worth noting Cardinal Franciszek Macharski's passing away on August 2, 2016, at the age of 89. Cardinal Macharski was our university's first Great Chancellor starting in 1981, when Pope St. John Paul II established it as the Pontifical Academy of Theology. Our community was greatly saddened to learn about this. However, this sadness was mixed with joy resulting from the conclusion of World Youth Day, the international meeting of Catholic youth. In his communiqué, His Excellency Rev. Prof. Dr. Hab. Wojciech Zyzak, Rector of our university, wrote: “The academic community of the Pontifical University of John Paul II in Krakow learned of the passing of Cardinal Franciszek Macharski – Archbishop of Krakow in 1979-2005, Great Chancellor of our university, pastor, and continuer of the legacy of Cardinal Karol Wojtyła – with great sadness [...] In 1981, when the Pontifical Academy of Theology [presently the pontifical University of John Paul II] was founded, he became the Great Chancellor of our university. He holds an honorary doctorate from the Pontifical Academy of Theology, the Jagiellonian University, and the Academy of Catholic Theology in Warsaw among others.”

Cardinal Franciszek Macharski's funeral took place in Krakow, first in the Franciscan basilica (on August 4, 2016), and next in the Wawel Cathedral (on August 5, 2016). Cardinal Stanisław Dziwisz, Archbishop of Krakow, celebrated the ceremonious funeral Mass. In his speech, he recalled that Cardinal Franciszek was a man of deep faith, one that shaped his spirituality, prayer, contemplative immersion in prayer, and his “pastoral sensitivity to the other person and image of mercy that accompanied the lives of other people as well as the spirit of service and sacrifice.” For him, faith “meant accepting responsible and engaged participation in Christ's triune mission: the mission of a teacher-prophet, priest-Messiah, and shepherd-king.” Cardinal Dziwisz also recalled his engagement in the complicated era of Poland's transition from communism to democracy: “His deep faith and hope as well as his understanding of social issues allowed him to lead God's people of the Archdiocese across the Red Sea of the complex Polish reality, both during martial law and during the difficult moments of

political change.” In addition to Cardinal Macharski’s relatives, the funeral ceremonies in Wawel were also attended by the President of Poland Andrzej Duda and his wife, Prime Minister Beata Szydło, Marshal of the Senate Stanisław Karczewski and Deputy Marshal of the Sejm Małgorzata Kidawa-Błońska, as well as members of parliament, the representatives of local government, representatives of Krakow’s academic community, representatives of our university including His Excellency Wojciech Zyzak, a large part of the Polish Bishops’ Conference, many priests, and numerous inhabitants of Krakow. Cardinal Macharski’s physical remains were placed in the crypt next to Cardinal Adam Stefan Sapieha, and the Sigismund Bell tolled.

An event that without a doubt will not be forgotten by all of our university’s staff and students was World Youth Day in Krakow, which took place from Monday July 25 to Sunday July 31 with the participation of Pope Francis. Although the Pontifical University of John Paul II was not one of the official organizers of this event, many people from our university community became actively involved in its organization and later its realization. Students were engaged mostly as volunteers, while academic staff did tasks indicated by the organizers, such as the organization of the Silence Zone (which was part of the Festival of the Young), a place of prayer in silence in the presence of the relics of St. Therese of Lisieux, in the Church of St. Mark the Evangelist (our university’s academic church). (This took place on July 26-29 from 9:00 AM until 2:00 AM). Just before World Youth Day in Krakow our university’s Academic Press published a monograph titled: *World Youth Day: A Testimony to the Hope of Young People* (Eds. J. Stala, Andrzej Porębski, Krakow 2016, pp. 555), which was intended to be an aide in preparing pilgrims for fruitful participation in World Youth Day. It contains the testimonies of academics, bishops, the representatives of religious organizations, as well as the organizers of several previous editions of World Youth Day. It is especially worth emphasizing the engagement of staff and students from the Inter-University Institute of Church Music, which put much effort into preparing the music for the liturgy and other prayer meetings. That this was a major contribution to the most recent World Youth Day is attested to by the letter of thanks written by the Archbishop of Krakow and Great Chancellor of our university Cardinal Stanisław Dziwisz to our university’s Rector. In a letter dated September 1, 2016, the Cardinal wrote: “I would like to send my thanks to the Rector for the efforts of the staff and students of the Pontifical University of John Paul II in organizing World Youth Day. Your work and devotion, experience and engagement in the work of the Organizing Committee allowed this event to be successful. Both Pope Francis and the millions of young pilgrims from all over the world will long remember their time spent in Krakow as a blessed one.” In a separate letter written on that same day to the Director of the Institute of Journalism and Social Communication Rev. Prof. Dr. Hab. Michał Drożdż,

the Cardinal expressed his gratitude: "As an academic institution with unique human, infrastructural, and equipment facilities (it is enough to name the university television station JP2TV) you created a thread of cooperation with the World Youth Day 2016 Organizing Committee, which led to the success of this initiative." The Cardinal also wished the university that the experience it gained during World Youth Day would bear fruit in its everyday work.

Other Important Events

The tradition of common prayer to start the new academic year took a slightly new form this year. Instead of to the Shrine of Our Lady in Kalwaria Zebrzydowska, our university went on a pilgrimage to the Shrine of St. John Paul II in Krakow in the so-called White Seas. The program of the pilgrimage, which took place on September 30, 2015 (Wednesday), was analogous to the program undertaken in Kalwaria Zebrzydowska. The first point of the program was a conference titled: "Sacred Scripture as a Tool for Dialogue with God" ("Pismo Święte narzędziem dialogu z Bogiem"), which was given by Rev. Dr. Hab. Stanisław Wronka of the Faculty of Theology. Next, there a concelebrated ceremonious Mass was led by the university's Rector, Rev. Prof. Wojciech Zyzak. The homily was given by Rev. Dr. Hab. Krzysztof Gryz, Rector of the Major Seminary of the Archdiocese of Krakow. After a break for lunch, there was a light procession in the rosary garden prepared and led by theology students. Professors, administrative staff, and our university's students (diocesan and regular seminarians in Krakow, nuns, and lay students) took part in the pilgrimage. During the pilgrimage, prayers through the intercession of St. John Paul II to the patrons of the university for a good preparation for World Youth Day in Krakow and God's blessings for the entire university were said.

The ceremony inaugurating the 2015-2016 academic year took place on October 16, 2015 (Friday). The inauguration date is a reference to the anniversary of the election of St. John Paul II to the Throne of St. Peter (October 16, 1978). As usual, the inauguration ceremony consisted of a liturgical part celebrated in the Collegiate Church of St. Anne, and of an academic one in the auditorium of the Krakow Philharmonic. The ceremonious Mass was celebrated by Cardinal Stanisław Dziwisz, Archbishop of Krakow and Great Chancellor of our university. The homily was given by Rev. Bishop Jan Piotrowski, Bishop of Kielce. The central event of the academic part was the presentation of an honorary doctorate to Archbishop Celestino Migliore, Apostolic Nuncio to Poland.

After the Mass, the participants of the inauguration went in a procession to the auditorium of the Krakow Philharmonic, where the university's Rector, Rev. Prof. Dr. Hab. Wojciech Zyzak, spoke after the singing of *Gaude Mater Polonia*. First, he greeted the university's Great Chancellor Cardinal Stanisław Dziwisz, and later the gathered guests, who included representatives of the Polish Bishops' Conference:

Rev. Archbishop Stanisław Budzik, Rev. Archbishop Tadeusz Gocłowski, Rev. Archbishop Józef Kowalczyk, Rev. Bishop Andrzej Jeż, Rev. Bishop Jan Kopiec, Rev. Bishop Adam Lepa, Rev. Bishop Roman Pindel, Rev. Bishop Jan Piotrowski, Rev. Bishop Henryk Tomasiak, Rev. Bishop Piotr Turzyński as well as Rev. Bishop Grzegorz Ryś and Rev. Bishop Tadeusz Pieronek. Those present also included Members of Parliament and Senators: Senator Kazimierz Wiatr; Member of Parliament Ireneusz Raś; and Member of Parliament Piotr Ćwik; as well as Wojciech Szczepanik, Deputy Voivode of the Lesser Poland Region. It is especially worth emphasizing the presence of the representatives of various secular and Catholic academic communities, including Rectors or their Delegates: Prof. Ewa Kutryś, Rector of the Ludwik Solski Academy for the Dramatic Arts; Prof. Mariusz Cygnar, Rector of the State Higher Vocational School in Nowy Sacz; Prof. Jadwiga Laska, Rector of the State Higher Vocational School in Tarnow; Prof. Jacek Popiel, Vice-Rector of the Jagiellonian University; Prof. Florian Gambuś, Vice-Rector of the University of Agriculture in Krakow; Prof. Jan Suchanicz, Vice-Rector of the Pedagogical University of Krakow; Prof. Mirosław Karbownicz, Vice-Rector of the AGH University of Science and Technology; Dr. Hab. Jan Tutaj, Vice-Rector of the Jan Matejko Academy of Fine Arts; Andrzej Białkiewicz, Vice-Rector of the Tadeusz Kosciuszko University of Technology; Prof. Edward Mleczko, Vice-Rector of the University School of Physical Education in Krakow; Prof. Barbara Stoczewska, Plenipotentiary of the Andrzej Frycz Modrzewski Krakow University; Rev. Prof. Antoni Dębiński, Rector of the John Paul II Catholic University of Lublin; Prof. Jerzy Cytowski, Vice-Rector of the Cardinal Stefan Wyszyński University in Warsaw; Bożena Sieradzka-Baziur, Vice-Rector of the Jesuit University Ignatianum in Krakow; Rev. Prof. Jerzy Tupikowski, Vice-Rector of the Pontifical Faculty of Theology in Wrocław; Peter Šturák, Dean of the Greek-Catholic Theological Faculty of the University of Prešov in Prešov, Slovakia, along with the Vice-Dean of that Faculty, Docent Marek Petro; and Rev. Dr. Mikołaj Węgrzyn, Vice-Director of the Institute of Theology in Czestochowa. Also present were our university's past rectors: Rev. Prof. Dr. Hab. Jan Maciej Dyduch and Rev. Bishop Prof. Dr. Hab. Tadeusz Pieronek; as well as Prof. Andrzej Borowski, Deputy Chairman of the Polish Academy of Learning, and Prof. Franciszek Ziejka, Chairman of the Social Committee for the Restoration of Krakow's Historic Monuments, also the recipient of an honorary doctorate from our university. The international nature of this ceremony was underlined by the presence of consuls: Mr. Werner Köhler, General Consul of the Federal Republic of Germany; Mr. Thierry Guichoux, General Consul of France in Krakow; Ms. Agnieszka Kamińska, Honorary Consul of the Republic of Malta; and Mr. Viktor Kolesnikov, General Consul of the Russian Federation. Krakow's clergy was also well represented. Those present included Rev. Dr. Bronisław Fidelus as well as the representatives of the Diocesan Capitulary as

well as members of the Collegiate Capitulary of St. Anne, above all Rev. Prof. Tadeusz Panuś, who hosted us in the Collegiate Church. Also present were the representatives of Krakow's Metropolitan Curia, Deans from the Archdiocese of Krakow, and the Rectors of major seminaries: Rev. Dr. Hab. Krzysztof Gryz, Rector of the Major Seminary of the Archdiocese of Krakow; Rev. Robert Ptak, Rector of the Missionary Major Seminary of the Priests of the Sacred Heart in Stadniki; Rev. Dr. Damian Stachowiak, Rector of the Major Seminary of the Resurrectionist Congregation; And Rev. Jacek Pawłowski, Rector of the Major Seminary of the Missionaries of La Salette. The inauguration's participants also included: Jacek Kopeć, Director of the St. Stanislaus Kostka Catholic High School in Kielce; Ms. Jolanta Satława, Director of the Father Józef Tischner Third School District in Wadowice; and Sister Grażyna Chrobak, Director of the St. Jadwiga Queen of Poland Catholic High School and Gymnasium in Sandomierz. Also present were the representatives of uniformed services and of Bank BPH: Mr. Grzegorz Brach, Director of the BPH Business Park in Krakow and Mr. Krzysztof Czuba, as well as Mr. Antoni Rączka, Director of Konspol Holding, and Ms. Elżbieta Kaźnica, Director of Bank PKO S. A. The presence of representatives of the media should also be noted. Finally, the presence of the members of our university senate, Vice-rector and deans, lecturers, administrative staff, and librarians from our university, as well as our retired staff, should also be noted. All those present were met with thunderous applause.

On this occasion, we should also note that telegrams and letters of congratulations were sent to us from members of the Polish Bishops' Conference and representatives of Polish universities as well as the government: Mr. Andrzej Duda, President of Poland; Mr. Marek Sowa, Marshal of the Lesser Poland Region; Cardinal Zenon Grocholewski, former Prefect of the Congregation for Catholic Education; Cardinal Henryk Gulbinowicz; Rev. Archbishop Wojciech Polak, Archbishop of Gniezno and Primate of Poland; Rev. Archbishop Józef Michalik, Archbishop of Przemyśl; Rev. Archbishop Marek Jędraszewski, Archbishop of Lodz; Rev. Archbishop Henryk Józef Muszyński, Archbishop-Emeritus of Gniezno; Rev. Archbishop Jan Babjak, SJ, Archbishop of Prešov and Metropolitan of the Greek-Catholic Church in Slovakia; Rev. Bishop Prof. Dr. Hab. Andrzej F. Dziuba, Bishop of Lowicz and Chairman of the Academic Council of the Polish Bishops' Conference; Rev. Bishop Artur G. Miziński, Secretary General of the Polish Bishops' Conference; Rev. Bishop Józef Guzdek, Bishop of the Military Ordinariate of Poland; Rev. Bishop Włodzimierz R. Juszcak, OSBM, Bishop of the Wrocław-Gdańsk Diocese of the Greek-Catholic Church in Poland; Rev. Bishop Ignacy Dec, Bishop of Swidnica; Rev. Bishop Tadeusz Pikus, Bishop of Drohiczyń; Rev. Bishop Józef Zawitkowski, Auxiliary Bishop of Lowicz; Rev. Bishop Piotr Greger, Auxiliary Bishop of Bielsko-Zywiec; Rev. Bishop Stanisław Napierała, Bishop-Emeritus of Kalisz; Rev. Bishop Kazimierz Górny, Bishop-Emeritus of Rzeszów; Prof. Dr. Hab. Wiesław

Banyś, Rector of the University of Silesia in Katowice and Chairman of the Conference of Rectors of Academic Schools in Poland; Prof. Dr. Hab. Engineer Kazimierz Furtak, Rector of the Tadeusz Kosciuszko University of Technology; Prof. Dr. Hab. Engineer Tadeusz Słomka, Rector of the AGH University of Science and Technology; Prof. Dr. Hab. Marek Bojarski, Rector of the University of Wrocław; Prof. Dr. Hab. Andrzej Drop, MD, Medical University of Lublin; Prof. Dr. Hab. Med. Marek Krawczyk, MD, Rector of the Medical University of Warsaw; Prof. Dr. Hab. Med. Przemysław Jałowicki, MD, Rector of the Medical University of Silesia; Prof. Dr. Hab. Ryszard J. Górecki, Rector of the University of Warmia and Mazury in Olsztyn; Prof. Dr. Hab. Zdzisław Łapiński, Academy of Music in Krakow; Prof. Ewa Kutryś, Rector of the Ludwik Solski Academy for the Dramatic Arts in Krakow; Prof. Tadeusz Kuczyński, Rector of the University of Zielona Góra; Prof. Edward Włodarczyk, Rector of the University of Szczecin; Prof. Dr. Hab. Bronisław Marciniak, Rector of the Adam Mickiewicz University in Poznań; Prof. Dr. Hab. Grzegorz Przebinda, Rector of the Stanisław Pigoń State Higher Vocational School in Krosno; Dr. Elżbieta Cipora, Docent of the Jan Grodek State Higher Vocational School in Sanok; Dr. Hab. Med. Iwona Grys, MD, Rector of the Podhale State Higher Vocational School in Nowy Targ; Prof. Dr. Hab. Witold Stankowski, Rector of the Witold Stankowski State Higher Vocational School in Oświęcim; Rev. Prof. Dr. Hab. Jan Szpet, Dean of the Faculty of Theology of the Adam Mickiewicz University in Poznań; Rev. Piotr Bajor, Congregation for Catholic Education; and Mr. Marian Cycoń, Member of Parliament of the Republic of Poland.

In his speech, His Magnificence Rector Rev. Wojciech Zyzak recalled the most important events of the past academic year, which included the bestowing of honorary doctorates upon Pope Emeritus Benedict XVI and Prof. Elie Wiesel. Next, Rev. Zyzak emphasized the fact that the Faculty of Canon Law, an Academic Business Incubator, as well as the online television program JP2TV were launched and several new international agreements were signed. In the past year, our university was the main organizer of the Tischner Days as well as the international conference titled: “The Role of the Catholic Church in the Process of European Integration” (“Rola Kościoła katolickiego w procesie integracji europejskiej”). Furthermore, a digital repository increasing access to the academic output of our university’s staff was created, and the Pontifical University of Children and Parents, which organizes workshops for children and lectures for parents, inaugurated its activity. At the end of the inauguration speech, the Rector referred to St. John Paul II’s words directed to Polish academia in his 1997 speech in Krakow’s St. Anne’s Collegiate Church. The Rector recalled that: “St. John Paul II was fully convinced that a harmonious relation between faith and reason is possible. In light of his teachings, one can see the positive role that the Church plays

in the sphere of culture and science as well as the need for the constant growth of our pontifical university.”

The next important part of the inauguration was the matriculation of first-year students of the university's four faculties (Theology, Philosophy, History and Cultural Heritage, and Social Sciences). This part of the ceremony was led by Rev. Prof. Dr. Hab. Janusz Mastalski, Vice-Rector for Student Affairs and Didactics. As was the tradition in previous years, the President of the Students' Union, Ms. Justyna Lusio, spoke, encouraging her youngest colleagues to make the best use of the time of their studies and to become engaged in the Students' Union.

Awards and distinctions were presented after matriculation. The Rector gave the “Gold Medals for Those Who Have Made Contributions to the Pontifical University of John Paul II in Krakow.” They were received by: Rev. Prof. Dr. Hab. Adam Kubiś (the former Rector of our university), Rev. Prof. Dr. Hab. Józef Krzywda (who for many years served as the Director of the Institute of Canon Law) as well as Rev. Pronotary Apostolic Bronisław Fidelus. Medals from the President of Poland for many years' service were also presented. Gold medals were received by: Rev. Prof. Dr. Hab. Tomasz Bolesław Jelonek, Rev. Prof. Dr. Hab. Józef Makselon, and Rev. Dr. Józef Morawa. Rev. Dr. Hab. Stanisław Wronka received a gold medal. Mr. Wojciech Szczepanik, Deputy Voivode of the Lesser Poland Region, presented the medals in the name of the President of Poland.

In accordance with tradition, the Rector's awards for contributions to our university as well as for the best dissertations were presented. Thus eighteen people received awards for achievements in didactic-scientific as well as organizational work. Two people received awards for the best doctoral dissertation, one person received an award for the best Licentiate of Sacred Theology dissertation, nine people received awards for the best Master of Arts dissertation, and five people received awards for the best Bachelor of Arts dissertation. Sixteen people received the Rector's awards for administrative work.

The last part of the inauguration ceremony was the already-mentioned bestowing of an honorary doctorate upon Rev. Archbishop Celestino Migliore. Archbishop Migliore has been the Apostolic Nuncio in Poland since 2010; previously, in 1989-1992, he worked as the Secretary of the Apostolic Nunciature in Poland. In deciding to give him this doctorate, our university's Senate expressed its gratitude to the Apostolic Nuncio in Poland above all for representing the Holy See in the international arena in a responsible way, for defending the most important values in the forum of the United Nations Organizations, for his active participation in numerous conferences and academic summits, for his contribution to the work of the Catholic Church in

Poland, for his promotion of papal documents in the local Church, and for his positive influence on the shape of contemporary Church-state relations.

Reviewers in the process of giving the honorary doctorate were: Rev. Prof. Dr. Hab. Tomasz Rozrut (from our university) as well as Rev. Prof. Dr. Hab. Henryk Stawniak (from the Cardinal Stefan Wyszyński University in Warsaw). The Senate appointed Rev. Prof. Dr. Hab. Jan Maciej Dyduch (from our university) as the person who gave the laudation. In his laudation, Rev. Prof. Dyduch recalled that as Secretary of the re-activated Apostolic Nunciature in Warsaw Rev. Archbishop Migliore collaborated in the preparation of a concordat between the Holy See and the Republic of Poland. The concordat was signed on July 28, 1993, but it was ratified several years later, in 1998. In the conclusion of his laudation, Rev. Prof. Dyduch emphasized that Archbishop Migliore is not only “a prominent diplomat, but also a good pastor who leads the people of God to salvation in accordance with the traditional canonical principle of *salus animarum suprema lex esto*.”

After the ceremony of the presentation of the honorary doctorate, the distinguished laureate spoke, giving his *lectio magistralis*, which at the same time was the inaugural lecture about “The Social Format as the Area of Life in Relationship to Others and to the Transcendent” (“Format społeczny jako przestrzeń życia w relacji z innymi i transcendencją”). In reference to the migration of “millions of Muslims and Africans to Europe,” he noticed that present-day democracy is confronted with “hitherto unknown needs of citizens and newcomers.” In this context, he reminded the audience that: “the fall of a civilization is not caused only by external factors; rather, it is the internal disintegration of the culture that has a decisive impact.” At the conclusion of the lecture, he referred to Pope Francis, who speaks of “the central place of the poor [...] and does not engage in simple pauperism, but interprets the human reality in the light of Christ’s teaching.” Thus Archbishop Migliore expressed his conviction that “Christian and Catholic centers dealing with research, education, and formation should create a new, creative vision of the world with a program, thus contributing its efforts to the creation of a better world to live in.”

The entirety of the inaugural ceremony was interspersed with the singing of the *Psalmodia* Choir of the Pontifical University of John Paul II, directed by Włodzimierz Siedlik. The inauguration began with an organ improvisation and the hymn “Gaude Mater Polonia.” Next, Romuald Twardowski’s “Alleluia” and “Gaudeamus Igitur” were sung. After Archbishop Migliore’s lecture, the choir sang Henryk Mikołaj Górecki’s hymn “The Blessed Virgin Mary” (“Zdrowaś bądź Maryja”), after which Mr. Krzysztof Michałek gave an organ improvisation to conclude the inauguration ceremony.

Among the important events in the previous year were the Days of John Paul II. They were an important not only for the university, but for the city of Krakow as

well. The days are a mutual undertaking of the universities represented in the College of the Rectors of Post-Secondary Schools of Krakow. They are of an academic, interdisciplinary, popular, and cultural nature. They have been the inspiration for undertaking academic research to popularize Pope St. John Paul II's legacy. This even takes place each year at the beginning of November (in reference to the liturgical feast of St. Charles Borromeo, St. John Paul II's patron, as well as the anniversary of John Paul's priestly ordination). This year's Days of John Paul II, held for the tenth time, took place on November 3-5, 2015. Their leading theme was "Sanctity" ("Świętość"), because the Pope frequently reminded the faithful to aim for sanctity. For example in Nowy Sacz on June 16, 1999, he expressed his desire that "there be a desire for sanctity in the hearts of all the faithful, a desire that not only shapes their private lives, but also influences all of society." As in previous years, the Days of John Paul II took place on the campuses of several universities belonging to the aforementioned College. Also this year, the honorary patrons were Cardinal Stanisław Dziwisz, Archbishop of Krakow; Cardinal Franciszek Macharski, former Archbishop of Krakow; Mr. Jerzy Miller, Voivode of Lesser Poland; Mr. Marek Sowa, Voivode of the Lesser Poland Region; and Jacek Majchrowski, Mayor of Krakow.

This year's Days of John Paul II began with a press conference of the organizers of the tenth Days of John Paul II in connection with the bestowal of the "Prix Jean-Paul II Europe Chrétienne" award, which took place in the Krakow Archbishop's Palace. Several academic sessions took place as part of this event: "Sanctity Today" ("Świętość dzisiaj," November, 3, 2015), organized by the State Higher Vocational School in Tarnow; "Sanctity and Witness" ("Świętość i świadectwo," November 3, 2015), organized by the Jesuit University *Ignatianum* in Krakow; the academic session "Music in Relation to Poetry in the Teaching of Karol Wojtyła and John Paul II" ("Muzyka wobec poezji i nauczania Karola Wojtyły i Jana Pawła II," Part Six, November 3-4, 2015), organized by the Academy of Music in Krakow; and the academic symposium titled: "Sanctity" ("Świętość," November 3, 2015), organized by the International Scientific Association *Fides et Ratio*. The main academic event was the international symposium titled: "Sanctity" ("Świętość," November 5, 2015), organized by the Organizing Committee of the Tenth Days of John Paul II, which took place in the auditorium of the *Collegium Novum* of the Jagiellonian University in Krakow. Papers were devoted to such topics as: John Paul II – The Pope of Prayer (His Excellency Cardinal Stanisław Dziwisz); St. John Paul II – The Brilliant Beauty of Sanctity (Rev. Dr. Hab. Michał Drożdż, Professor of the Pontifical University of John Paul II); The Saints of Rus' in John Paul II's Slavonic teachings (Prof. Dr. Hab. Grzegorz Przebinda); The Entrepreneur as a Good Samaritan (Prof. Dr. Hab. Andrzej Kaźmierzak); Money Is Holy, or Jesus' Concept for Making Use of Money in

the Path to Sanctity and the Growth of the Church (Rev. Jacek Stryczek, Minister to Businesspeople and Initiator of the Noble Box project).

Furthermore, there were many other events, such as student workshops, exhibits, and a concert performed by the Choir of the Academy of Music in Krakow; the Vocal Group of the Composition, Interpretation, and Musical Education Faculty; and the Chamber Orchestra of the Academy of Music in Krakow (on November 4, 2015). Contests were an integral part of the most recent edition of the Days of John Paul II; there were literary and photographic contests for students from across Poland promoting art inspired by the thought and legacy of Karol Wojtyła and Pope John Paul II. The awards were presented after the Mass in the Have No Fear! John Paul II Center in Krakow in the White Seas, at the conclusion of the event on November 5, 2015).¹

As part of their concern for preserving and passing the legacy of John Paul II on to the young generation, the Have No Fear! John Paul II Center organizes a series of open lectures as part of the “Service in Thinking” (“Posługa myślenia”) cycle. They take place once a month on Thursdays in the headquarters of the Have No Fear! John Paul II Center on 18 Kanonicza Street in Krakow. They are organized by the Center for Studies on the Thought of John Paul II, which is part of the Pontifical University of John Paul II. The following lectures, given by the representatives of various academic and cultural milieus, took place during the past academic year: “Czy Kościół odwraca się od nauczania Jana Pawła II?” (“Is the Church Abandoning the Teachings of John Paul II?”), Rev. Dr. Mirosław Ostrowski, OP (the former minister to non-sacramental marriages and relationships in Wrocław); “Synod biskupów o rodzinie – próba bilansu” (“The Bishops’ Synod on the Family: An Attempt at Making a Balance Sheet”), Rev. Dr. Hab. Antoni Świerczek, Professor of the Pontifical University of John Paul II (our university); “Czy Polska staje się państwem wyznaniowym?” (“Is Poland Becoming a Theocracy?”), Rev. Dr. Hab. Henryk Sławiński, Professor of the Pontifical University of John Paul II (our university); “Wiara i seks” (“Faith and Sex”), Rev. Dr. Hab. Robert Skrzypczak, Pontifical Faculty of Theology in Warsaw; and “Dzisiejsze problemy w recepcji nauczania Jana Pawła II” (“Present-day Problems Related to the Reception of the Teachings of John Paul II”), Dr. Michał Łuczewski (University of Warsaw).

Furthermore, the center publishes books in the “Studia nad Myślą Jana Pawła II” (“Studies on the Thought of John Paul II”) editorial series, whose editor is Rev. Prof. Dr. Hab. Jarosław Kupczak, OP. The most recently published volume, seventeenth in

¹ For more information (in Polish), see: http://www.http://jp2.krakow.pl/_2015/?program,8 (26. 10. 2016).

the series, was titled: *Jan Paweł II. Posługa myślenia* ("John Paul II: Service in Thinking;" eds. B. Kastelik, A. Krupka, R. Woźniak, Krakow: Pontifical University of John Paul II Academic Press, 2015, 383 pp.), which contains the texts of the open lectures given in 2011-2015.

In addition to Pope St. John Paul II, our university is also proud of Rev. Prof. Józef Tischner, a philosopher known in Poland and across Europe. His philosophical and socio-political thinking are popularized through the organization of the Tischner Days. The organizers of this event are: the Józef Tischner Institute, the Ludwik Solski Academy for the Dramatic Arts; the Jagiellonian University; the Pontifical University of John Paul II; and the "ZNAK" Social Institute of Publishing. The event's honorary patron was Cardinal Stanisław Dziwisz.

This year's Tischner Days, held for the sixteenth time, took place on April 4, 2016, under the lead theme of "Drogi wolności" ("Roads to Freedom"). The Tischner Days began with Mass in St. Anne's Collegiate Church for Rev. Prof. Tischner. As in previous years, the Mass was celebrated by Bishop Prof. Dr. Hab. Grzegorz Ryś, who also gave the homily. This year's Tischner Days included: a debate on "The Unfortunate Gift of Freedom" ("Nieszczęsny dar wolności"); a retrospective of documentary films featuring Rev. Prof. Józef Tischner titled: "Tischner na ekranie" ("Tischner On-Screen"); three discussion panels under the common title "Roads to Freedom" ("Drogi wolności;" the panels were titled: "Współczesne wizje wolności"/"Contemporary Visions of Freedom," "Wolność sumienia a autorytet kościoła"/"Freedom of Conscience and the Authority of the Church," and "Wychowanie i wolność"/"Education and Freedom") and a lecture from the "Colloquia Tischneriana" cycle titled: "Will History Free or Enslave Us? Tischner-Style Reflections" ("Czy historia nas oswobodzi czy zniewoli? Refleksje Tischnerowskie"), which was given by Prof. Timothy Snyder (Yale University, United States). The lecture took place on April 22, 2016 (Friday) in the Kino Kijów Centrum cinema. Professor Snyder said: "You cannot run from history, but what can you expect of it? Why is it so that history as a science never meets the expectations of witnesses or the desires of governments? Should history legitimize the existing status quo, or should it instead bring meaning to each individual life? Is memory an ally of history, or rather its enemy?" The topic of the lecture was thus the relationship of knowledge about the past to the development of society. After the lecture, there was a "Jaskinia Filozofów" („Cave of Philosophers") discussion meeting. The next day, there was a philosophical youth meeting about „Freedom on the Internet" ("Wolność w sieci"). On the last day of the Tischner Days (April 23, 2016), a gala in which the "Znak and Hestia Józef Tischner Award for 2016" ("Nagrody Znaku i Hestii im. ks. Józefa Tischnera za rok 2016") was presented took place in the Stanisław Wyspiański Stage of the Ludwik Solski Academy

for the Dramatic Arts in Krakow. Afterwards, a concert titled: "Poeci Tischnera" („Tischner's Poets") took place.²

Undoubtedly, one of the most important events of the previous year was the bestowing of an honorary doctorate upon Rev. Prof. Dr. Hab. Michał Heller by our university. Our university's senate made a decision on this on April 18, 2016, upon the request of the Faculty of Philosophy and after receiving a *nihil obstat* from the Congregation for Catholic Education as well as two positive reviews, which were requested of Prof. Dominique Lambert (University of Namur) and Prof. Dr. Hab. Andrzej Staruszkiewicz (Jagiellonian University in Krakow). Prof. Dr. Hab. Alicja Michalik of our university gave the laudation. Rev. Prof. Heller is a priest of the Diocese of Tarnow and a Professor of Philosophy. He specializes in the philosophy of science, physics, relativity and cosmology, and in studies on the relationship between faith and reason. He is a staff member of our university's Faculty of Philosophy and of the Vatican Observatory. He is also the founder, patron, and director of the Copernicus Center for Interdisciplinary Studies and a member of the Polish Academy of Sciences. In 2008, he received the prestigious Templeton Prize, which is given for efforts at breaking down the boundaries between faith and reason. He used the prize to fund the establishment of the aforementioned center. The Pontifical University of John Paul II is the eighth Polish university to give him an honorary doctorate.

The ceremony of the bestowal of this distinction took place on June 6, 2016, in our university's main library on Bobrzyńskiego Street during an extraordinary session of the university senate presided over by the Rector of our university, His Magnificence Rev. Prof. Dr. Hab. Wojciech. Zyzak. After the senate session commenced, he greeted the guests, the first of whom was Cardinal Stanisław Dziwisz, Archbishop of Krakow and our university's Great Chancellor. The remaining guests were: Rev. Archbishop Józef Kowalczyk, Archbishop-Emeritus of the Archdiocese of Gniezno; Rev. Bishop Stanisław Salaterski, Auxiliary Bishop of the Diocese of Tarnow; Prof. Dr. Hab. Aleksander Bobko, Secretary of State in the Ministry of Science and Higher Education; Mr. Paweł Mucha, General Director of the Lesser Poland Provincial Office in Krakow; and representatives of the diplomatic corps: Mr. Oleh Mandiuk, Consul General of Ukraine; Mr. Ivan Škorupa, Consul General of the Slovak Republic; Ms. Agnieszka Kamińska, Consul General of the Republic of Malta; and Mr. Kazimierz Karasiński, Consul General of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland. The academy community was represented by: Prof. Dr. Hab. Stanisław Kistryn, Vice-Rector for Academic Research and Structural Funds of the Jagiellonian University; Prof.

² For more information on the "Sixteenth Tischner Days," see: <http://dni.tischner.pl/program> November 26, 2016).

Dr. Hab. Piotr Bożyk, Vice-Rector for Research and International Affairs at the Jan Matejko Academy of Fine Arts in Krakow; Rev. Dr. Hab. Marcin Tkaczyk, OFMConv, Vice-Rector for Research and Development at the John Paul II Catholic University of Lublin; Dr. Wergiliusz Gołąbek, Vice-Rector for Development and Cooperation at the University of Information Technology and Management in Rzeszow; Dr. Hab. Zdzisław Golda from the Jagiellonian University Astronomical Observatory; and Rev. Dr. Hab. Andrzej Michalik, Rector of the Diocesan Major Seminary in Tarnow. Rev. Prof. Heller's collaborators were also present: Mr. Jacek Włodarczyk, President of Copernicus Press; CEO of the "ZNAK" Social Institute of Publishing; and his colleagues from the *Tygodnik Powszechny* magazine.

After greeting all the invited guests and all those present, the university's Vice-Rector Rev. Prof. Dr. Hab. Janusz Mastalski read the text of senate resolution nr. 22/2016, dated April 18, 2016, which dealt with giving an honorary doctorate to Rev. Prof. Heller. Next, Prof. Michalik gave the laudation, in which he developed the motivations for giving this distinction. One of them was "having built and continuing to build bridges between science and philosophy as well as between science and religion." After the laudation Vice-Rector Rev. Prof. Józef Stala read the Latin text of the diploma, after which His Magnificence Rector Zyzak ceremoniously gave Rev. Prof. Heller a tube with the diploma.

Cardinal Stanisław Dziwisz first congratulated the laureate; Prof. Aleksander Bobko was the next to do so. Afterwards, Vice-Rector Rev. Prof. Stala read letters of congratulations from: Rev. Archbishop Wojciech Polak, Archbishop of Gniezno; Cardinal Kazimierz Nycz, Archbishop of Warsaw; Rev. Bishop Jan Piotrowski, Bishop of Kielce; Rev. Bishop Stefan Regmunt, Bishop-Emeritus of Zielona Gora-Gorzow; Rev. Bishop Alojzy Mering, Bishop of Włocławek; Mr. Jacek Krupa, Marshal of the Lesser Poland Region; Prof. Edward Włodarczyk, Rector of the University of Szczecin; Prof. Zdzisław Łapiński, Rector of the Academy of Music in Krakow; Prof. Włodzimierz Sady, Rector of the Agricultural University of Agriculture in Krakow; Prof. Stanisław Sławomir Nicieja, Rector of the University of Opole; and Prof. Przemysław Jałowiecki, Rector of the Medical University of Silesia.

The last part of the ceremony of bestowing the honorary doctorate was the laureate's *lectio magistralis* titled: "Theology Today: The Dethroning of a Queen?" ("Teologia dzisiaj – detronizowanie królowej?"). First, he recalled the doubts that are often formulated with regards to theology: "If you were to ask someone who the queen of the sciences is, 'mathematics' would invariably be the answer. But theology? Is theology even a science? Even some theologians have doubts about this." However, Rev. Prof. Heller has no doubts that it is, because he believes that theology is capable of defending itself with its own scientific worth and its credibility. "If theology," he said, "is to

gain credibility in the eyes of today's educated person, it must present itself to him or her as rationally organized cognition. In other words, it should use the same methods as the sciences in the layer that binds theology to them. However, it must maintain its own uniqueness under the threat of losing its sameness. The core of this uniqueness is the event. Through an event, theology opens itself up to something that transcends all methods of purely human cognition."

His Magnificence Rector Zyzak spoke at the conclusion of the ceremony, congratulating the laureate and wishing him the best, as well as thanking all those present. The entire ceremony had added splendor thanks to the singing of the "Psalmody" Choir of the Pontifical University of John Paul II.

Other important events that took place during the past year include the opening of the Academic Media Center at the Institute of Journalism and Social Communications at our university's Faculty of Social Sciences. The development of media studies and broadly understood media education is one of the institute's priorities. The Academic Media Center is located at our university's building on 1 Franciszkańska Street. It was opened on March 3, 2016, by our university's Great Chancellor Cardinal Stanisław Dziwisz with the participation of the university administration and numerous guests.

The center's activity encompasses education in such fields as: journalism, the new media, media education, radio and television direction and production, media logistics, public relations, media graphic design, and management in media and the culture. The Academic Media Center is also the headquarters for university and student media: Radio Bonus and JP2TV. It was used for media coverage of World Youth Day 2016 in Krakow in collaboration with the World Youth Day Organizational Committee, Telewizja Krakow, and Radio Krakow. It is also the basis for cooperation with companies and institutions that could be the institute's graduates' potential employers. In addition to Radio Bonus and JP2TV, the center includes the Laboratory of Media Graphic Design as well as a modern center for new media studies: the Educational Laboratory of Social Media, which is one of the newest such research institutions in Lesser Poland.

The Academic Media Center is part of the realization of the key project "Modernization of Media-Technical Infrastructure for the Needs of Innovative Education and Professional Activation in the New Media in the Digital Society" ("Modernizacja infrastruktury medialno-technicznej dla potrzeb innowacyjnego kształcenia i aktywizacji zawodowej w zakresie nowych mediów w społeczeństwie informacyjnym") as part of the Regional Operational Program for the Malopolska Region, 2007-2013. This is the third program realized by the Pontifical University of John Paul II in Krakow as part of this program.

Another important event that attests not only to the development of the university but also to its openness to social needs is the Bioethical Consultation Point on

3 Bernardyńska Street. The opening ceremony took place on March 19, 2016. The Bioethical Consultation Point is the first such institution in Poland, which is a point for consultation and gaining information on topics related to bioethics. In the consultation point, one can receive support and assistance in solving difficult moral dilemmas. A team of qualified bioethicists-physicians and health care professionals, theologians, lawyers, and family specialists provide free consultations and information related to the protection of human life at every level (from conception to natural death) and to infertility (*in vitro* fertilization, NaPROTECHNOLOGY, and adoption), prenatal diagnosis, abortion, ectopic pregnancy, transplantation, medical ethics, and opinions about terminal patients (futile medical care, sedation, the use of painkillers, resuscitation, and euthanasia). These consultations respect the teachings of the Catholic Church as well as the principles of Christian personalism.³

Finally, an important event that impact our university's future growth was gaining the right to bestow the academic title of PhD in the humanities in the field of Family Studies by the Faculty of Social Sciences. The faculty received this capacity as a result of a decision of the Central Committee for Degrees and Titles (Centralnej Komisji ds. Stopni i Tytułów Naukowych) on May 5, 2016.

Jubilees and Promotions

The most important cyclical events include jubilees. It is especially worth noting the anniversary of the erection of the Faculty of Theology in Krakow (which took place on January 11, 1397). The central point of these celebrations was the promotion of academic degrees. This year's jubilee ceremonies took place on Monday January 11, 2016, in the Collegiate Church of St. Anne (instead of in Wawel Cathedral, as was the case in previous years). The university expressed its gratitude to God for providentially looking over the faculty for 619 years by celebrating a special Mass, which was celebrated by the university's Great Chancellor, Cardinal Stanisław Dziwisz. Rev. Prof. Dr. Hab. Tomasz Rozkrut, Dean of the Faculty of Canon Law at our university, gave the homily. After the Mass, promotion ceremonies took place, during which eleven people received doctoral degrees (nine received them from the Faculty of Theology, one from the Faculty of Philosophy, and one from the Faculty of History and Cultural Heritage). Meanwhile, four people from the Faculty of Theology received the title of habilitated doctor: Rev. Dr. Hab. Jerzy Buczek, Sister Dr. Hab. Anna Klich, Rev. Dr. Hab. Jan Nowak, and Rev. Dr. Hab. Damian Wąsek. Cardinal Dziwisz (as opposed to the President of Poland, due to an agreement between the Polish government and the Polish Bishops' Conference) then proceeded to give the academic title of Professor to

³ You can find more information on the consultation point's website: www.poradniabioetyczna.pl

two people: Rev. Prof. Dr. Hab. Tadeusz Dzidek and Rev. Prof. Dr. Hab. Jerzy Szmulewicz. Rev. Prof. Dr. Hab. Tadeusz Dzidek expressed gratitude in the name of all who were promoted.

The second round of promotions in the past academic year took place on Thursday June 6, 2016, in the Collegiate Church of St. Anne in relation to the liturgical feast of St. Jadwiga, Queen of Poland, which takes place on June 8. They are also an opportunity to recall the anniversary of the erection of the university (then the Pontifical Academy of Theology) by Pope St. John Paul II (on December 12, 1981), and then raising it to the status of a university by Pope Benedict XVI (on June 19, 2009). The dean of the Collegiate Church of St. Anne, Rev. Prof. Dr. Hab. Tadeusz Panuś, led the morning ceremony of liturgical prayer. Our university's Great Chancellor, Cardinal Stanisław Dziwisz, also took part in the ceremony. Our Rector Rev. Zyzak gave the "Gold Medals for Those Who Have Made Contributions to the Pontifical University of John Paul II in Krakow, which were received by: Arnold Chrapkowski, OSPPE; Rev. Prof. Dr. Hab. Tomasz Bolesław Jelonek; Rev. Dr. Józef Morawa; and Rev. Dr. Piotr Steczkowski. Next, the aforementioned promotions took place. Doctoral diplomas were received by ten people (three from the Faculty of Theology, six from the Faculty of Philosophy, and one from the Faculty of History and Cultural Heritage). They were ceremonially given by their promoters. Our university's Great Chancellor gave the diploma of habilitated doctor to: Rev. Dr. Hab. Wojciech Grygiel of the Faculty of Philosophy; Rev. Dr. Hab. Tomasz Gałuszka, OP, of the Faculty of History and Cultural Heritage; and Rev. Dr. Hab. Jerzy Bruisło, OFMConv, Rev. Dr. Hab. Janusz Mieszkowski, Rev. Dr. Hab. Witold Ostafiński, and Rev. Dr. Hab. Krzysztof Sordyl of the Faculty of Theology. Janusz Mieczkowski gave thanks in the name of all who were promoted.

International and Domestic Cooperation

Not only the development of our academic staff, but also cooperation with international academic centers impacts the flourishing of our university. Our academic contacts with universities in Bochum (Germany), Ružomberok and Prešov (Slovakia), and in Kyiv and Lviv (Ukraine) continue to be vibrant. The signing of new agreements of cooperation between our university and eight international universities attests to our constantly expanding international cooperation. Thus on December 14, 2015, our university's senate made a decision to sign a new agreement concerning cooperation with Tbilisi Sulkhan Saba Orbeliani Teaching University (Georgia). Prof. Dr. Vaja Vardidze represented the Georgian side, while our Rector Wojciech Zyzak represented our university. The agreement concerns the exchange of didactic and research staff as well as students; the exchange of academic publications and the results of research; and the sharing of knowledge related to didactics and training, undergraduate and graduate students,

advanced didactic materials, and the application of modern methods of teaching. On the part of our university, this cooperation is coordinated by the Center for Scientific Research and International Cooperation, and on the Georgian university's side it is coordinated by its public relations office. The first fruit of this signed agreement has been the participation of one of our professors (Rev. Prof. Dr. Hab. M. Ostrowski) and his graduate student in an international interdisciplinary Catholic-Orthodox seminar organized on March 28-April 3, 2016, in Tbilisi.

Partners in other bilateral agreements signed in the previous academic year are: the Salesian Pontifical University (Rome, Italy), June 20, 2016; Brandenburg University of Technology Cottbus-Senftenberg (Cottbus, Germany), June 20, 2016; the Catholic Institute of Toulouse (Toulouse, France), October 19, 2015; the University of Zagreb (Zagreb, Croatia), November 16, 2015; Vytautas Magnus University (Kaunas, Lithuania), April 18, 2016; and Ukrainian Catholic University (Lviv, Ukraine), December 12, 2015.

Furthermore, our university continues to realize previously signed agreements with: the Catholic University of the Sacred Heart (Milan, Italy), the Theological Faculty of Central Italy (Florence, Italy), Sophia University Institute (Loppiano, Italy), the University for Foreigners of Perugia (Perugia, Italy), the Theological-Philosophical Academy (Brixen-Bressanone, Italy), the Edith Stein Institute of Philosophy (Granada, Spain), the Pontifical University of Salamanca (Salamanca, Spain), Ruhr University (Bochum, Germany), the University of Würzburg (Germany), the University of Split (Croatia), Pázmány Péter Catholic University (Budapest, Hungary), Ovidius University of Constantza (Romania), Constantine the Philosopher University in Nitra (Slovakia), the University of Prešov (Slovakia), the Catholic University in Ružomberok (Slovakia), Thomas Aquinas Institute of Religious Studies in Kiev (Ukraine), Zhytomyr Ivan Franko State University (Zhytomyr, Ukraine), the Russian Christian Academy for the Humanities (St. Petersburg, Russia), and the Catholic University of Croatia (Zagreb, Croatia).

Our university also participates in the EU program ERASMUS+ (from December 2013 until the end of the 2020-2021 academic year). As part of this program, during the 2015-2016 academic year we had a total of eighty-seven agreements signed with international universities that realize them with the following organization units of our university (some were signed in the 2015-2016 academic year):

- With the Faculty of Theology: University of Prešov in Prešov (Slovakia), Charles University in Prague (Czech Republic), Universität Wien (Austria), Philosophisch-Theologische Hochschule Sankt Georgen (Germany), Newmaninstitutet (Sweden), Ruhr-Universität Bochum (Germany), Univerza v Ljubljani (Slovenia), the Catholic University in Ružomberok (Slovakia), Universidad de Navarra (Spain), Albert-Ludwigs-Universität Freiburg (Germany), the University of Split (Croatia), the University of

Malta (Malta), Katholische Hochschule Nordrhein-Westfalen (Germany), Theologische Fakultät Trier (Germany), Pontifical University St. Patrick's College (Maynooth, Ireland), Westfälische Wilhelms-Universität Münster (Germany), Comenius University in Bratislava (Slovakia), Universidad Pontificia de Salamanca (Spain), Universität Würzburg (Germany), the University of Tilburg (Holandia), University of Tübingen Eberhard Karls (Germany), Institut Catholique de Toulouse (France);

- with the Faculty of Theology – Theological Section in Tarnow: the University of Ljubljana (Slovenia), Charles University in Prague (Czech Republic), Universität Eichstätt (Germany), University of Huelva (Spain, 2015/2016, only academic staff);

- with the Faculty of Philosophy: Univerzita Konstantina Filozofa v Nitre (Slovakia), Università degli Studi di Trento (Italy), Vilniaus Universitetas (Lithuania), Trnavská Univerzita v Trnave (Slovakia), Philosophisch-Theologische Hochschule Sankt Georgen (Germany), Newmaninstitutet (Sweden), Kaunas University of Technology (Lithuania), Albert-Ludwigs-Universität Freiburg (Germany), Università degli Studi di Napoli Federico II (Italy), Università degli Studi di Verona (Włochy), University of Fribourg (Switzerland), Università degli Studi Roma Tre (Włochy), University of Würzburg (Germany), University of Prešov (Slovakia), Institut Catholique de Toulouse (France – 2015/2016), University of Bremen (Germany – 2015/2016), University of Granada (Spain– 2015/2016);

- with the Institute of Journalism and Social Communications: the University of Limerick (Ireland), Universidade Católica Portuguesa (Portugal), the Catholic University in Ružomberok (Slovakia), Università degli Studi „Suor Orsola Benincasa” (Italy), Vilniaus Universitetas (Lithuania), Universidad Complutense de Madrid (Spain), Università Cattolica del Sacro Cuore (Italy), Universidad a Distancia de Madrid (UDIMA, Spain), University of Pisa (Italy), Univerza v Ljubljana (Slovenia – 2015/2016), Universidade Lusófona de Humanidades e Tecnologias (Lisbon, Portugal – 2015/2016), Institut Catholique de Toulouse (France – 2015/2016); Instituto Politecnico de Lisboa (Portugal – 2015/2016), University of Perugia (Italy – 2015/2016), University of Bremen (Germany – 2015/2016), Universidade de Santiago de Compostela (Spain– 2015/2016);

- with the Institute for Family Studies of the Faculty of Social Sciences: the Catholic University in Ružomberok (Slovakia), the University of Pisa (Italy);

- with the Institute of Social Work of the Faculty of Social Sciences: the University of Prešov (Slovakia), Brandenburg University of Technology Cottbus-Senftenberg (Germany), the Catholic University in Ružomberok (Slovakia), Karl-Franzens-Universität Graz (Austria);

- with the Faculty of History and Cultural Heritage: University of Prešov (Slovakia), Yıldırım Beyazıt University (Turkey, only academic staff), the University of Pisa (Italy), Universidade Lusófona de Humanidades e Tecnologias (Lisbon, Portugal – 2015/2016),

University of Bremen (Germany – 2015/2016), Catholic University of Croatia (Croatia – 2015/2016), Universidade de Santiago de Compostela (Spain – 2015/2016);

– with the Institute of History of Art and Culture of the Faculty of History and Cultural Heritage: Charles University in Prague (Czech Republic), Comenius University in Bratislava (Slovakia), the Katholieke Universiteit Leuven (Belgium), the University of Ostrava (Czech Republic), Institut Catholique de Paris (France), University of Pisa (Italy), Universidade Lusófona de Humanidades e Tecnologias (Lisbon, Portugal);

– with the Inter-University Institute of Church Music: Hochschule für Musik Würzburg (Germany), Univerza v Ljubljani (Slovenia), the Escola Superior de Musica de Catalunya (Spain – 2015/2016).

As part of the “Erasmus+” program, during the 2015-2016 academic year seventeen of our students spent part of their studies abroad, while twenty-five students did professional internships abroad. Meanwhile, fifteen students from various partner universities visited us as part of this exchange program. Furthermore, thirteen of our didactic staff gave lectures at international partner universities. Meanwhile, ten academic and administrative staff visited our university.

It is also worth noting that from the beginning of our participation in the Erasmus program (during the 2009-2010 academic year), more than 360 people, including staff, took advantage of this program’s offerings. Among the students, more than 240 traveled abroad to study or complete internships, to such countries as: Spain, Croatia, France, Italy, Germany, Malta, Portugal, and Slovenia. Currently, we offer stipend trips to sixty-nine universities in sixteen countries of the European University and one offering in Turkey. Our university has also signed agreements regarding international cooperation related to internships for undergraduate and graduate students as well as graduates with the company Sistema Turismo – Education and Training Network in Rimini (Italy), in which students complete internships as part of the Erasmus+ program.

It is especially worth noting the already-mentioned collaboration with the Faculty of Catholic Theology of the Ruhr University Bochum, which has continually gone on since the signing of an agreement on November 2, 1982. Recently, from the German side, Prof. Joachim Wiemeyer has been responsible for this exchange, while from our university this exchange has been coordinated by Rev. Dr. Hab. Jan Dziejczak, Professor of the Pontifical University of John Paul II. In relation to the preparations for World Youth Day, an international academic symposium devoted to the topic of the youth was organized last year. The German side also was involved in organizing this. This symposium, titled: “Młodzież nadzieją Kościoła – czy Kościół nadzieją młodzieży?” (“Are the Young the Hope of the Church, or Is the Church Hope for the Young?”) took place at our university on April 13-16, 2016. It was organized by our Faculty of Theology’s Institute of Practical Theology as well as by the Department of Pastoral Theology

at the Johannes Gutenberg University of Mainz in Germany (Institut für Pastoraltheologie der Johannes Gutenberg-Universität in Mainz, Germany) in collaboration with Ruhr University Bochum (Ruhr Universität Bochum, Germany), the Greek-Catholic Faculty of Theology at the University of Prešov (Gréckokatolícka Teologická Fakulta Prešovskej Univerzity v Prešove, Slovakia), and the St. Józef Bilczewski Theological Institute in Lviv (Ukraine).

The Honorary Committee included: His Eminence Cardinal Stanisław Dziwisz, Archbishop of Krakow; His Eminence Cardinal Stanisław Ryłko, President of the Pontifical Council for the Laity (Vatican); His Eminence Cardinal Karl Lehman, Archbishop of Mainz (Germany); His Excellency Archbishop Ján Babjak, SJ, Greek-Catholic Archbishop of Prešov (Slovakia); His Excellency Archbishop Mieczysław Mokrzycki, Archbishop of Lviv (Ukraine); Rev. Prof. Dr. Hab. Wojciech Zyzak, our university's Rector; and, representing secular authorities, Prof. Dr. Jacek Majchrowski, Mayor of Krakow, and Mr. Jacek Krupa, Marshal of the Lesser Poland Region. Meanwhile, the Academic Council of the symposium included: Prof. Dr. Philipp Müller (Johannes Gutenberg Universität Mainz, Germany), Prof. Dr. Bernhard Grümme (Ruhr Universität Bochum, Germany), Prof. Dr. Joachim Wiemeyer (Ruhr Universität Bochum, Germany), Rev. Docent Peter Tirpak (Gréckokatolícka Teologická Fakulta Prešovskej Univerzity v Prešove, Slovakia), as well as professors from our university: Rev. Prof. Dr. Hab. Tadeusz Panuś; Rev. Prof. Dr. Hab. Maciej Ostrowski; and Rev. Dr. Hab. Jan Dziedzic, Professor of the Pontifical University of John Paul II.

The symposium consisted of two parts. Professors from the aforementioned universities presented papers in the first part, and in the second part undergraduate and graduate students from these and other universities (in Krakow, Lublin, Germany, Belarus, and even Cameroon) gave papers. The topics of the professors' papers were such topics as: The Youth as Seen by the Popes Based on Their Speeches during World Youth Day; Youth Ministry in Germany; The Concept of Pluralism of Religious Pedagogy and Its Persistence with Regards to New Research on Youth; Pope Francis' Inspiration for Youth Ministry; Youth Unemployment as a Social and Ethical Problem; The Image of Contemporary Youth in Slovakia and New Pastoral Initiatives Directed towards Slovak Youth; The Youth in Germany and Contemporary Challenges: The Role of Faith and the Church; Catechesis as an Opportunity for the Formation of Today's Youth; The Profile of the Participants of World Youth Day Based on a Survey of Polish Pilgrims Traveling to Sydney, Madrid, and Rio de Janeiro; Religiosity and the Shaping of Moral Attitudes among the Young Generation; and Religious Education in School: A Bridge between the Youth and the Church.

Meanwhile, the undergraduate and graduate students presented on the following topics: Young Germans and Poles as the Addressees of the New Evangelization; The

Christian Formation of Youth in Western Ukraine (The Current State and Future Perspectives); The Results of the U27-Sinus-Milieustudie Institute's Research; Projects of the Church of the Youth and Nightfever; Catechesis in Preparation for Confirmation in Germany; The New Evangelization: A New Style, New Paths, New Communities; The Activity of the Church among Young People in Cameroon; The Religious Formation of Youths through Theater; Centers for the Deepening of the Religious Lives of the Youth in the Greek-Catholic Church in Slovakia; The Activity of Young People in the Catholic Church in Romania; The Youth as the Springtime of the Church: A Multimedia Pastoral Project as the Fruit of the Experiences of Student Chaplaincies in Krakow; and The Religiosity of the Youth in Present-day Belarus. A publication containing materials from this symposium is under preparation.

The symposium was accompanied by a cultural program, which was realized on April 15-16, 2016. It consisted of visiting the Krakow city center, Wawel Cathedral, the Shrines of Divine Mercy and St. John Paul II, and Nowa Huta, including the Shrine of the Holy Cross in Mogila. The symposium was an opportunity to tighten our years-long collaboration with Bochum.

It was also an opportunity to develop our cooperation in the fields of research and didactics with Mainz. The next step of this cooperation will be a return visit by our undergraduate and graduate students to the Johannes Gutenberg University of Mainz in November 2016. There are plans for a jointly undertaken seminar devoted to an evaluation of World Youth Day in Krakow. The symposium in Krakow and the seminar in Mainz are realized thanks to the support of the "Renovabis" foundation in Germany as well as the Foundation for Polish-German Cooperation.

Meanwhile, an expression of our openness to academic cooperation with partners from beyond our eastern border is the tightening of our university's bonds with the Catholic academic community in Ukraine, especially in Lviv. An expression of this cooperation is the signing of an agreement concerning cooperation with the Ukrainian Catholic University in Lviv. On April 4, 2016, Vice-Rector Rev. Józef Stala gave Rev. Prof. Bohdan Prachow, Rector of the Ukrainian Catholic University in Lviv, a written agreement concerning cooperation between our universities. The Ukrainian Catholic University in Lviv is a post-secondary theological school that was founded in 1994. It initially was the Lviv Theological Academy, but since 2007 it has had the status of a university. Approximately 2,000 students study there. The university offers education in many fields, including: philosophy, theology, history, pedagogy, psychology, Classics, and foreign languages. It is also involved in various research programs related to the culture of the Ukrainian language, management, ecumenism, and Christian ethics. The transmission of the aforementioned document took place on the first day of the international conference titled: "Churches in Peace-Building: Ecumenical Engagement for Peace and

Reconciliation,” which was organized by the European Society for Catholic Theology (ESCT) and took place at the Ukrainian Catholic University in Lviv on April 4-5, 2016.

In the context of cooperation with Catholic university, it is also worth noting our university’s engagement in the forum of secular universities. Our university maintains regular contacts with all the universities in Poland through its participation in the Conference of Rectors of Universities in Poland (CRUP). As a result of amended rules, the Rector of the Pontifical University of John Paul II has been a member of this conference since March 4, 2006.

Naturally, our university is glad to begin cooperation with domestic institutions as well. In the previous year, an especially important opportunity for this was World Youth Day in Krakow. On October 21, 2015, our university, TVP Krakow, and the World Youth Day 2016 Organizing Committee signed a letter pledging mutual promotion and media coverage of this unique event. An analogous letter was also signed with Radio Krakow, which took place on May 12, 2016.

It is especially worth noting our agreement on cooperation signed with the company called Grupa Azoty. It was signed on February 4, 2016, in Krakow. The company produces artificial fertilizers and is the largest such group in Poland. It is also one of the most dynamic Polish companies in the international arena. The agreement concerned cooperation in promotion, mainly during academic conferences and during World Youth Day 2016 as well as the organization of trainings and workshops. Thanks to this agreement, the cooperation of students in the field of media marketing and public relations will be possible. The company will be the strategic partner in our university’s cooperation with businesses. On the occasion of signing this agreement, Grupa Azoty gave the university financial support intended for the growth of the Institute of Journalism and Social Communications.

Furthermore, during the past academic year our university’s Center for Scientific Research and International Cooperation along with the Inter-University School of Foreign Languages began to cooperate with the Jesuit University Ignatianum and with the Polish-American Fulbright Commission. The fruit of this cooperation is giving our university and the Jesuit University Ignatianum a Fulbright scholar who in the 2016-2017 academic year will teach or co-teach language classes and lead linguistic-discussion clubs for students and our university’s staff.

In addition, agreements concerning cooperation related to research and didactics with the State Higher Vocational School in Tarnow (on October 19, 2015); the Jesuit University Ignatianum in Krakow (on April 4, 2016); the Tadeusz Manteuffel Institute of History at the Polish Academy of Sciences in Warsaw (February 22, 2016); the 35th Military Economic Department in Rząska near Krakow (September 9, 2016); and the University of Silesia in Katowice (September 9, 2016).

Guest lectures are also part of international cooperation and inter-university exchange. The following open guest lectures that took place in the past academic year should be noted. The Faculty of History and Cultural Heritage organized a guest lecture titled: "Raz jeszcze o kwestii polskiej" ("Once More about the Polish Question") by Dr. Larisa Arzhakova, which took place on October 28, 2015. Dr. Arzhakova is a docent at the Chair in the History of Slavic and Balkan Countries at the Institute of History at the Saint Petersburg State University (Russia) and the editor of the Historiography Section of the international academic journal *Studia Slavica et Balcanica Petropolitana*. Meanwhile, the Institute of History of that Faculty organized a lecture titled: "Państwo Moskiewskie oraz Imperium Rosyjskie wobec Cerkwi prawosławnej w Rzeczypospolitej w XVII – pierwszej połowie XVIII w." ("Muscovy and the Russian Empire with Regards to the Orthodox Church in the Polish Republic from the Seventeenth to the Early Eighteenth Centuries"), which was given by Dr. Kiryło Koczegarow on June 8, 2016. Dr. Koczegarow is an academic staff member at the Institute of Slavic Studies at the Russian Academy of Sciences (Russia).

Meanwhile, the Chair in the Philosophy of Religion at the Faculty of Philosophy organized guest lectures given by Prof. Tomas Sodeika of Vilnius University (Lithuania) on June 8-10, 2016, in the Dominican Basilica in Krakow. The following were the topics of the lectures: "Martin Buber: dwa typy samoświadomości a język dialogu" ("Martin Buber: Two Types of Self-Awareness and the Language of Dialogue"), "«Sprachdenken» Franza Rosenzweiga" ("Franz Rosenzweig's *Sprachdenken*"), and "Emmanuel Levinas a język etyczny człowieczego oblicza" ("Emmanuel Levinas and the Ethical Language of the Human Face"). The lectures took place as part of a series of open lectures about "The Philosophy of Dialogue: Buber, Rosenzweig, Levinas" ("Filozofia dialogu: Buber, Rosenzweig, Levinas"). Prof. Tomas Sodeika is a phenomenologist and philosopher of dialogue. He has translated works by Edmund Husserl, Martin Heidegger, Hans-Georg Gadamer, and Martin Buber into Lithuanian.

The Church's Concern for European and Inter-Religious Unity

A very important international event was the Pontifical University of John Paul II's organization of the Seventeenth International Conference from the cycle: "The Role of the Catholic Church in the Process of European Integration" ("Rola Kościoła katolickiego w procesie integracji europejskiej"). The conference took place in the Krakow Conference Center in Tomaszowice outside Krakow on September 21-22, 2016. It was devoted to the topic of "European Solidarity" ("Solidarność europejska"). Our university in collaboration with the Robert Schuman Foundation in Luxembourg and the Konrad Adenauer Foundation organized the conference. The European People's Party (Christian Democrats) fraction in the European Parliament; the Commission

of the Bishops' Conferences of the European Union – COMECE in Brussels; and the "Wokół nas" publishing house in Gliwice also participated in the organization of this conference. Approximately 250 audience members took part in this year's conference. Twenty-six experts and seven professional moderators presented. It should definitely be emphasized that this year Ukrainian members of parliament participated in the conference for this first time.

Cardinal Stanisław Dziwisz, Archbishop of Krakow, opened the conference. Subsequently, the following proceeded to greet the guests: Rev. Bishop Prof. Dr. Hab Tadeusz Pieronek, Chairman of the organizing committee; Father Olivier Poquillon, OP, Secretary General of COMECE; Prof. Jerzy Buzek, Member of the European Parliament; Mr. Horst Langes, Honorary President of the Robert Schuman Foundation in Luxembourg; Archbishop Dr. Silvano M. Tomasi, C.S., former Representative of the Holy See at the United Nations Organization in Geneva; and Mr. Andrzej Grzyb, Member of the European Parliament and Vice-President of the Polish Delegation in the European People's Party.

Presentations were devoted to the following topics: "Solidarność europejska w polityce bezpieczeństwa" ("European Solidarity in Defense Policy," Dr. Hans-Gert Pöttering, former President of the European Parliament and Chairman of the Konrad Adenauer Foundation); "Solidarność europejska wobec problemu migrantów i azylantów" ("European Solidarity with Regards to the Problem of Migrants and Asylum Seekers," Rev. Archbishop Silvano M. Tomasi, C.S.); and "Solidarność europejska w polityce energetycznej i klimatycznej" ("European Solidarity in Energy and Climate Policy," Prof. Jerzy Buzek, Member of the European Parliament, former President of the European Parliament, and former Prime Minister of Poland). Next, discussions in three topical groups related to the topics of the three first introductory papers took place. Mr. Marek Sarjusz-Wolski (Editor-in-Chief of the monthly *Para Bellum*) headed the discussion in the first group; Mr. Marek Orzechowski (a journalist and commentator) headed the discussion in the second group; and Dr. Andrzej Godlewski (a journalist and former Assistant Director of TVP1) headed the discussion in the third group. In the evening, a Mass for the participants of the conference was concelebrated in the Bernardine church in Krakow. Cardinal Stanisław Dziwisz headed the concelebration, and Rev. Bishop Tadeusz Pieronek gave the homily.

On the second day of the conference, the results of the discussions in the working groups were presented, and the next day a special session on "Solidarity between the Churches and Religious Communities" ("Solidarność między kościołami i wspólnotami religijnymi") was held. Representatives of various religious communities spoke: Rev. Prof. Józef Budniak (University of Silesia in Katowice, former President of the International Ecumenical Fellowship); Rev. Mykoła Danilewycz (Ukrainian Orthodox

Church, Moscow Patriarchate); Rev. Bohdan Dziurach (Secretary of the Bishops' Synod of the Ukrainian Greek-Catholic Church); and Archbishop (Jewstratij Zoria, Archbishop of Chernihiv and Nizhyn of the Ukrainian Orthodox Church of the Kyiv Patriarchate and Secretary of the Holy Synod of the Kyiv Patriarchate). Dr. Ewa Czaczowska (a journalist, commentator, and lecturer at the Cardinal Stefan Wyszyński University in Warsaw) headed the session.

Our university's Rector Rev. Prof. Dr. Hab. Wojciech Zyzak spoke at the conclusion of the conference. He encouraged the participants to ask if "the message of Pope Francis' pontificate does not makes us more aware that solidarity as a form of love should be an essential element of properly understood justice, including between countries, especially during this Year of Mercy." Our Rector also thanked everyone who somehow contributed to the organization and undertaking of this conference.⁴

Increasing concern for the unity of Christians is one of the main missions of the Institute of Fundamental Theology, Ecumenism, and Dialogue. For this reason, the institute participates in the organization of the Week of Prayer for Christian Unity and the accompanying Day of Judaism in the Catholic Church and Day of Islam in the Catholic Church. Thus like last year the institute was the co-organizer of the aforementioned Week of Prayer for Christian Unity, which took place in Krakow on January 17-24, 2016. The lead theme was words referring to the First Letter of St. Peter: "Called to proclaim the Lord's great works" (see 1 Peter 2:9). The co-organizers of this year's Week of Prayer for Christian Unity also included the Ecumenical Ministry of the Archdiocese of Krakow, the Krakow Chapter of the Polish Ecumenical Council, the "Voice in the Wilderness" ("Głos na pustynia") Community, and the Catholic Intellectuals Club in Krakow. The ecumenical service of the Word of God took place in various churches and chapels belonging to the following Churches: Orthodox, United Methodist, Polish Catholic, Evangelical of the Augsburg Confession, and Roman Catholic. The ceremony inaugurating last year's Week of Prayer for Christian Unity took place in an Orthodox church on Sunday January 17, 2016. The service was led by Rev. Jarosław Antosiuk, Dean of the Orthodox Church of the Dormition of the Mother of God in Krakow (24 Szpitalna Street). Rev. Paweł Kubani, Dean of the Roman Catholic Holy Cross parish in Krakow, once again gave encouragement for mutual prayer for unity. Meanwhile, the Week of Prayer for Christian Unity concluded with an ecumenical service that took place on January 24, 2016, in the St. John Paul II Sanctuary in Krakow (32 Totus Tuus Street, the so-called White Seas), which was led by Cardinal Stanisław

⁴ You can read more about this conference (in Polish) at: <http://www.kosciol-europa.org.pl/program.php> December 17, 2016. You can also find the original recordings of all the presentations on that page.

Dziwisz. The representatives of several Christian churches participated, and Bishop Grzegorz Ryś as well as Rev. Roman Pracki of the Evangelical Church of the Augsburg Confession gave a shared homily. During the service, a collection for the needs of the Syriac Catholic Church in the Archdiocese of Mosul, Kirkuk, and Kurdistan was held. The service concluded with the blessing of marriages that are mixed with regards to denomination, which was a special event of this year's Week of Prayer for Christian Unity. Participants who exited the shrine were able to pass through the Holy Door.

Meanwhile, the Nineteenth Day of Judaism in the Catholic Church in Poland took place in Krakow before the Week of Prayer for Christian Unity, that is on January 14, 2016, under the slogan "What are you doing here, Elijah?" ("Co ty tu robisz, Eliaszu?"). (1 Kings 19:9). The Institute of Fundamental Theology, Ecumenism, and Dialogue as well as the Ecumenical Ministry of the Archdiocese of Krakow organized the week. After a prayer led by Cardinal Stanisław Dziwisz with the participation of Bishop Grzegorz Ryś in the Franciscan basilica, a meeting with Ms. Bella Szwarcman-Czarnota – a writer, translator, editor, and philosopher – took place. It was titled: "How Did the Eternal God Speak to Elijah?" and dealt with the Jewish interpretation of the figure of Elijah, to whom the slogan of the Nineteenth Day of Judaism referred.

Meanwhile, the Krakow celebrations of the Sixteenth Day of Islam in the Catholic Church in Poland took place on January 28, 2016. Their lead theme consisted of the words: "Christians and Muslims Together Against Violence Committed in the Name of Religion" ("Chrześcijananie i muzułmanie razem wobec przemocy popełnianej w imię religii"). The celebrations were organized by the Institute of Fundamental Theology, Ecumenism, and Dialogue of the Pontifical University of John Paul II in Krakow; the Ecumenical Ministry of the Archdiocese of Krakow; and the Franciscan friars. They began with a service of the Word of God in the Franciscan basilica led by Rev. Bishop Grzegorz Ryś. After the service, the meeting's participants went to the university's building, where they listened to a lecture on "The Problem of Christian-Muslim Relations Yesterday and Today" ("Problem relacji chrześcijańsko-muzułmańskich wczoraj i dziś"), which was given by Rev. Dr. Stanisław Grodź, SVD, from the Chair in Missiology and Religious Studies at the John Paul II Catholic University of Lublin and a member of the board of Poland's Common Council of Catholics and Muslims.

Popularizing the Results of Academic Research

In addition to the above-mentioned cyclical events, symposia, conferences, and guests lectures that are at the same time a form of popularizing the results of academic research undertaken by various academic-didactic staff from our university, also serve to deepen the knowledge transmitted in regular didactic classes. Some were organized

with the participation of institutions separate from our university. These are some of them, presented in chronological order.

The question of the moment of the death of a person is not only a medical one, but one that also touches many other anthropological disciplines. Thus our university along with the Jesuit University Ignatianum organized an interdisciplinary academic conference devoted to "The Faces of Brain Death" ("Oblicza śmierci mózgowej"), which took place on October 6, 2016 in the academy's building. Papers were presented by staff from both universities, the Jagiellonian University, and the Pontifical Faculty of Theology in Warsaw. They dealt with some of these topics related to medicine, psychology, philosophy, and theology: The Criteria and Methods of Stating the Permanent Cessation of Brain Activity; The Death of the Human and the Death of the Person; Brain Death and Transplantology; The Harvard Definition of Death; The Psychological Way of Seeing Death; The Death of the Person from a Theological Perspective; and The Definition of Brain Death and the Related Ontological Controversies. There are plans to publish the presented papers.

From the initiative of the Institute of Practical Theology, our university organized the "Twenty-Third International 'Sacrum and Nature' Seminar" ("XXIII Międzynarodowe Seminarium «Sacrum i Przyroda»,) titled: "The Environment and the Person's Psychiatric Health" ("Środowisko a zdrowie psychiczne człowieka") in collaboration with the Dr. Józef Babinski Specialized Hospital and the Tomasz Dec Foundation for the Mentally Ill. It took place in Krakow at the hospital on October 15, 2015. Papers were presented by academic staff from our university, the aforementioned hospital, and specialists from the field of environmental protection. Papers dealt with such topics as: Physical Suffering as the Place of Encounter with God; Nature and Man's Personal Development; The Influence of Ergotherapy and Work on Patients' Psychiatric Well-being; The Therapeutic Function of the Natural Space and the Example of the Ojcow National Park; and Social Education as a Method of Teaching about Psychiatric Health. Materials from the symposium were published in the book: *Środowisko a zdrowie psychiczne człowieka*, eds. J. Berlińska, J. Klimek, Krakow: Szpital Specjalistyczny im. dr. J. Babińskiego w Krakowie; Uniwersytet Papieski Jana Pawła II w Krakowie 2015, pp. 250.

The liturgy is an important element of our religious life. Last year's "Annual International Liturgical Symposium «Ad fontes liturgicos»,” held for the sixth time, was devoted to the topic of "The Psalms as the Source of Liturgical Life" ("Psalmy jako źródło życia liturgicznego"). The symposium took place at the University of Prešov (Slovakia) on October 20-21, 2015, and was organized by the Chair in Systematic Theology at that university's Department of Theology with the participation of the Liturgical Institute active at our university as well as the Ukrainian Catholic University in Lviv (Ukraine) and the Greek-Catholic Theological College of St. Athanasius in Nyíregyházi (Szent

Atanáz Görögkatolikus Hittudományi Főiskola, Hungary). Papers were presented by academic staff from those university as well as the School of Theology, University of Eastern Finland in Finland and the Cluj Napoca Medical University in Romania. The papers dealt with such topics as: Biblical and Patristic Approaches to the Psalms; Praying the Psalms in the Life of the Church; Selected Psalms and Their Theology; The Psalter in the Life of the Byzantine Church Today; and Psalms in the Life of the Greek-Catholic Church in Slovakia. Materials from this symposium were published in: *Ad fontes liturgicos 6. Žalmy ako prameň liturgického života. GTF PU v Prešove 20.-21.10.2015*, published by Vojtech Boháč, Marcel Mojzeš, Martin Tkáč; Gréckokatolícka teologická fakulta Prešovskej univerzity v Prešove, Pápežská univerzita Jána Pavla II. v Krakove, Ukrajinská katolícka univerzita v Lvove, Gréckokatolícka teologická vysoká škola sv. Atanáza v Nyíregyházi, Prešov: Prešovska univerzita v Prešove, Gréckokatolícka teologická fakulta 2015, pp. 287 (*Międzynarodowe Sympozjum Liturgiczne «Ad fontes liturgicos» 6/2015, Prešov*).

Ethics is of great consequence in the life of any community of people, both religious and secular. The Chair in Ethics and the Chair in Social and Political Philosophy at the Faculty of Philosophy organized another academic conference from the cycle: “Ethics and Public Life” (“Etyka i życie publiczne”). Its topic was “Indifference and Sensitivity in Public Life” (“Obojętność i wrażliwość a życie publiczne”) and took place on October 27-28, 2015. Papers were presented by academic staff from our university as well as the following universities: Rzeszow University, Katholische Universität Eichstätt (Catholic University of Eichstätt-Ingolstadt, Germany), Jesuit University Ignatianum, University of Prešov (Slovakia), the Jagiellonian University, the Medical University of Białystok, the Rzeszow University of Technology, Bogdan Janski University of Management and Entrepreneurship in Łomża, Nicolaus Copernicus University in Torun, and the University of Warsaw. The subject matter of the papers dealt with the following topics: The Idea of Sensitivity and Indifference in the Socio-political Sphere; Indifference and Sensitivity in the Socio-economic Sphere; and Indifference and Sensitivity in Extreme Situations. Papers presented during this conference will be published in the next volume in the “Etyka i życie publiczne” (“Ethics and Public Life”) series (Volume IX).

The problem of economic emigration is a serious problem in our country. The results of research on this topic became the topic of a conference titled: “Ekonomiczne i prawne konsekwencje migracji Polaków ze szczególnym uwzględnieniem rodziny: optyka Polski i krajów migracyjnych” (“The Economic and Legal Consequences of the Migration of Poles with Particular Emphasis on the Family: The Perspective of Poland and Countries of Migration”). It took place on November 12, 2015, and it was organized by our university with the participation of the Krakow University of Economics, the

European Commission, and the National Chamber of Legal Advisors. The representatives of these institutions as well as the Wrocław University of Economics, the University of Arizona (USA), and the University of Silesia in Katowice presented papers. Papers dealt with the following topics: Polish Emigration after Poland's Accession to the European Union; The Migration of Youth after High School; The Image of Re-immigration on the Example of Silesia; Migration in the USA; Social Policy towards the Phenomenon of Migration; European Citizens in Search of the Proper Law; Limits Related to the Defense of Interests in the Context of "Common Law" Systems; New Immigration Laws in Great Britain; and The Influence of Migration on Legislation.

Ecumenical dialogue is not limited to the organization of the Week of Prayer for Christian Unity, which has already been mentioned. Without a doubt, the international conference titled: "Ewangelia w języku matki. Inspiracje dziedzictwem św. Cyryla i Metodego w wychowaniu i edukacji – wschodnioeuropejskie doświadczenia w kontekście aktualnych wyzwań" ("The Gospel in the Mother's Language: Inspiration by the Legacy of Saints Cyril and Methodius in the Sphere of Education – Eastern Europe's Experience in the Context of Contemporary Challenges"), which took place on November 16-17, 2015, made a large contribution to this dialogue. It was organized by our university's Institute of Fundamental Theology, Ecumenism, and Dialogue as well as the Chair in Ukrainian Studies at the Jagiellonian University's Faculty of International and Political Studies, the "Rebirth" Movement of Christian Culture (Ruch Kultury Chrześcijańskiej „Odrodzenie”), the Krakow chapter of the Polish Ecumenical Council, and the Foundation of St. Vladimir the Baptist of Kievan Rus' in Krakow ("Włodzimierza Chrzyciciela Rusi Kijowskiej w Krakowie"). The subject matter of papers and discussions included topics related to history, theology, philosophy, linguistics, literary science, ethnography, cultural studies, ethics, psychology, and even law. Thus the papers dealt with such topics as: The Meaning of St. Paul's Teaching in the Maternal Language in Ukraine; The Uniqueness of Christian Radicalism; The Identity of Saints Cyril and Methodius in the Context of Ukraine's Current Problems; The Relevance of the "Unusual" Martyrdom of Saints Boris and Gleb; The Value of Personal Recollections; Ukrainian Linguistic Identity and the Christian Word; The Ukrainians' Spiritual Rebirth in Bohdan Antonenko-Dawidowicz's Artistic Legacy; The Spirituality of Ok-sana Laturyńska's Poem "Jeronim;" The Significance of the Translations of the Gospels to the Development of Ukrainian Literary Language and Educational-Formative Literature, Taking into Consideration the Legacy of Saints Cyril and Methodius in the Formation of the Ukrainian and Russian Languages; Folklore as a Form of Preserving Tradition; Religious Upbringing in the Gospels and the Contemporary Challenges of Multiculturalism; The Significance of Peter Mogila's "Trebnik" to Receiving the Sacrament of Baptism in Ukraine; Exchanging Wedding Vows and Participation in

Services of Mourning; Christian Values as the Talisman of Ukrainian Identity during Military Conflicts (Based on Orally Transmitted Work); The Perception of the Bible in the Symbolism of Ukrainian Baroque Poetry; Cyril and Methodius' Khazar-Ruthenian Mission in Works by Vladimir Ivanovich Lamanskii; Vladimir Parkhomenka and Anton Kartashev; Ukrainian Legal Regulations concerning the Use of Indigenous Languages by Ethnic Groups; and Biblical and Marian motifs in Ukrainian poetry. Throughout the symposium, detailed analyses of many highly complicated matters were interspersed with numerous references to the difficult socio-political reality in which Ukraine finds itself today. This was an opportunity to exchange not only research experience, but to also give personal testimonies.

Responsibility is not always the dominant value in the sphere of public life. Efforts to bring it back to the awareness of people participating in public life were undertaken during the academic conference "Człowiek – media – państwo: korelacje odpowiedzialności" ("The Person – The Media – The State: The Correlations of Responsibility"), which was organized by the Institute of Journalism and Social Communications and took place on November 17, 2015. The conference's participants included Hans-Adam II, Prince of Lichtenstein, the country's head of state, along with his wife Marie. In addition to the aforementioned guest, papers were presented by illustrious researchers who deal with topics such as political theory, media studies, and ethics in the media. They represented numerous academic centers in Poland: the University of Warsaw, the Jagiellonian University in Krakow, the John Paul II Catholic University of Lublin, Maria Curie-Skłodowska University in Lublin, the Jesuit University Ignatianum in Krakow, and our university. The subject matter of the papers included such topics as: The Responsibility of the Media to the Citizens; Passivity or Activity of the Catholic Media?; The Truth of Reporting and Its Connotations as the Basis for the Building of Interpersonal Relationships That Transcend Traditional Boundaries; Shared Responsibility for the Potential of the Media: The Topic of Religion, the Media, Government, and the Crisis of Values; Politics 2.0: The Correlation between Government and Civil Society; and Civic Education as an Ethical Duty.

Discussions related to the topics undertaken at the most recent synod of bishops devoted to the family in the apostolic adhortation *Amor Laetitia* also brought attention to the juridical aspect of these matters. For this reason, our university's Faculty of Canon Law organized a symposium titled: "Wiara i małżeństwo. Czy pożądana jest zmiana prawa?" ("Faith and Marriage: Is a Change in the Law Desirable?"). It took place on November 11, 2015, in the auditorium of the Theological Institute of the Congregation of the Mission in Krakow. In terms of subject matter, it was above all devoted to topics related to the faith of prospective spouses as a prerequisite for the validity of a marriage. This is related to the topic of the sacramentality of marriage

as well as the place and conditions of its celebration and the impact of being civilly married on the possibility of becoming a member of the Catholic Church. There were attempts at answering the question of if new social phenomena related to marriage require a change in canon law. Although matters related to the amendments to canon law with respect to proclaiming the invalidity of a marriage published in Pope Francis' *motu proprio* apostolic letter *Mitis Iudex Dominus Iesus* from September 8, 2015, were not directly tied to the papers, they also tied into the symposium's main topic, which emphasized its relevance. Meanwhile, the subject matter of the papers concentrated on attempts at answering the following questions: From a theological perspective, can one say that faith is necessary to be validly, sacramentally married? What is the relationship between faith and marriage from the perspective of contemporary Lutheran theological thinking? Does religious indifference make it easier to preclude the sacramentality of marriage? If Catholics get married without celebrating the Eucharist outside of a holy place, is that a violation of the sacred? Could marriage be an obstacle to joining the Catholic Church? Papers were presented by academic staff from our university as well as the University of Opole, Adam Mickiewicz University in Poznan, and the John Paul II Catholic University of Lublin. Materials were published in the most recent volume of *Annales Canonici: Monographiae* 4 (2015) titled: "Wiara i małżeństwo" („Faith and Marriage”).

In order to faithfully fulfill the mission that Christ gave to the Church (see Matthew 28:19n), one requires not only good theological knowledge, but good pedagogy as well. The mutual relationship between these disciplines was the subject of an international academic conference titled: "Pedagogy and Theology for the Future of Europe," which took place on November 20, 2015, in our university's library building. It was organized by the Research Section of Pedagogical and Catechetical Studies at the Faculty of Theology, Section in Tarnow, and also by the Department of Theology of the State Higher Vocational School in Tarnow as well as by the Faculty of Catholic Theology at the University of Split (Croatia). Papers were presented by academic staff from those universities as well as from the University of Ljubljana (Slovenia). They dealt with such topics as: The Gender Ideology in Relation to Church Teaching; Poles and the Transformation in Political and Social Life during the Past Quarter-century; The Interrelatedness of Religious Education and Family Pedagogy; Theology and Models of Catholic Religious Education; The Indissolubility of Marriage at the Beginning and in the Present Day; The Role of Religion in the Process of Coping with Divorce; and Education for Families in the Transition of Divorce. The conference's participants tried to diagnose the educational activities of families, deal with contemporary challenges related to them, and to together try to find solutions in the axiological, cultural, ethnic, social, religious, and educational spheres.

The continuation of this conference dealing with pedagogy and theology was an international academic conference titled: "The Family and Education in the Struggle for the Future of Europe." It took place on November 21, 2015, at the State Higher Vocational School in Tarnow. It was organized by the Department of Polish Philology at the State Higher Vocational School in Tarnow in collaboration with the Faculty of Theology, Section in Tarnow, as well as the Faculty of Catholic Theology at the University of Split (Croatia). Papers were presented by academic staff from these universities as well as from the University of Ljubljana (Slovenia), the Jagiellonian University, the Catholic University of Leuven (Katholieke Universiteit Leuven, Belgium), Charles University in Prague (Univerzita Karlova v Praze, Czech Republic), and the John Paul II Catholic University of Lublin. Papers dealt with such topics as: Markers of European Cultural Identity; The Gender Ideology in Relation to Church Teaching; The Family – Hope for Europe, Home-School Cooperation in a Diversified Europe; Religious Education Curricula in Croatia and Europe, a Corpus-based Approach; Family, Community and Education in the USA and the YMCA; The Family amidst Global Changes; Divorce Adjustment and Spirituality; The Indissolubility of Marriage – and Possible Solutions; How Society Can Help Children, Families and Individuals Cope With Divorce; The Need for a Rebirth of Europe's Spirit; The Right to Identity in the Convention on the Rights of the Child – Multicultural Children and Right to Speak their Parents Language; The Family in Educational Policy: The Present State and Perspectives; Support for the Family in the Process of Religious Education; The Upbringing and Lifestyle of Czech Families; Threats to the Contemporary Family in the Polish Realities of the Twenty-first Century; The Catholic Family as the Future of Europe based on the Pastoral Letters of the Polish Bishops' Conference from the Communist Era; Family ministry in Switzerland as Spiritual Formation; The Family and Education as Values, based on the Biography of a War Hero; The Image of the Family in Pupils' Thematic Vocabulary; and Education as a Value in the Context of Students' Statements. The topics that were dealt with in the papers became the inspiration for lively discussion, during which topics not only related to the family in itself as a formative community, but also related to the relationship between family and education were noted. The organizers plan on publishing two post-conference publications (one in English and one in Polish) that would be a point of reference for those topics that were touched upon during the conference.

Philosophical reflections on God remain relevant and continue to arouse interest. In response to the needs of Krakow's philosophical community, an international conference titled: "Bóg i mistyka – w kręgu fenomenologii" ("God and Mysticism: In the Sphere of Phenomenology") was held on December 17-18, 2015, at the Pedagogical University of Krakow. The conference was organized by the aforementioned university's

Institute of Philosophy and Sociology, the Chair in the Philosophy of Religion at our university's Faculty of Philosophy, the Polish Association for the Philosophy of Religion, and the nationwide academic seminar "Filozoficzne aspekty mistyki" ("The Philosophical Aspects of Mysticism"). Papers were presented by philosophers from those universities as well as those representing: the University of Szczecin, Adam Mickiewicz University in Poznan, the Jagiellonian University in Krakow, the University of Gdansk, the Jesuit University Ignatianum in Krakow, the Higher School of Humanities in Leszno, the University of Silesia in Katowice, the University of Warmia and Mazury in Olsztyn, Cardinal Stefan Wyszyński University in Warsaw, the University of Philosophy and Theology in Münster (Philosophisch-Theologischen Hochschule in Münster, Germany), the Wrocław University of Science and Technology, the University of Opole, the Polish Air Force Academy in Deblin, the Krakow University of Economics, and the John Paul II Catholic University of Lublin. The papers dealt with topics including: Was Rudolf Otto, the Father of Phenomenology, a Phenomenologist? Is Gabriel Marcel's Phenomenology Mystical? The Superficial Impossibility of God? (The Image of God based on Jean-Paul Sartre's Radical Ontology); Is Xavier Zubiri a Phenomenologist-Mystic? Is Heidegger's Philosophy of Being (*Sein*) Mysticism? Various detailed topics in the field of phenomenology were also discussed: Scheler's Phenomenology of Unification; Dietrich von Hildebrand's Philosophical and Religious Thinking; Georg Simmel's "Positive Mysticism;" Deconstruction and (Neo) Phenomenology; The Constitution of the Religious Subject in Mystical Experiences; The Meaning of Suffering according to Max Scheler; Between the gnosis and "mysticism" of life from the perspective of Michel Henry's Radical Phenomenology; The Phenomenology of Anna Teresa Tymieniecka's Life and God in Her Philosophy; The Mystical Experience and Philosophical Cognition in the Philosophy of Karol Wojtyła; From the Inspection of Things to Hypothesis to God; The Synthesis of Phenomenology and Hassidism in Abraham Joshua Heschel's Philosophy of Religion; Edmund Husserl's Students' Road to Faith; Gerda Walther's Phenomenology of Mysticism; Meister Eckhart's *Abgeschiedenheit* in B. Welte's Phenomenological Interpretation; Husserl's "Epoché" and Mystical Experience; Discussions on Anthropological Topics and the Mystical Implications of Edmund Husserl's Phenomenology; Husserl's Phenomenology and the Function of the God of the Philosophers; "To Encounter God Means to Know What to Do": Emmanuel Lévinas' Atheistic Religion; The Influence of the "Other" in Emmanuel Lévinas' Philosophy on Religious Ethical Norms; The Problem of the Transcendental Trace in Lévinas' Later Philosophy; Heidegger and Rhineland Mysticism; Martin Heidegger's "Invisible Phenomenology;" From Conversion to the Depths of Meeting God in Edith Stein; St. Therese of Lisieux's Mystical Experience of the "Dark Night of the Soul" in Relation to Bernhard Welte's Analogous Experience; and

The Concept of Experienced Mysticism in William P. Alston. There are preparations to print the materials from the conference in *ARGUMENT: Biannual Philosophical Journal* (Vol. 6/2, 2016).

Concern for peace is a great challenge for contemporary Catholicism. In order to facilitate solutions for the search for peace, an international conference titled: “Kościół i pokój” (“The Church and Peace”) was organized by our university’s Faculty of Theology’s Chair in Ecclesiology as well as the Committee on Theological Sciences of the Polish Academy of Sciences (supported by the Scientific Centre of the Polish Academy of Sciences in Rome). The conference took place on February 4-5, 2016, in Rome (Vicolo Doria 2 [Piazza Venezia]). Cardinal Gerhard Ludwig Müller, Prefect of the Congregation for the Doctrine of the Faith, gave a theological introduction to the conference. Papers were presented by academic staff from our university, the Pontifical Urban University in Rome, the John Paul II Catholic University of Lublin, the University of Warmia and Mazury in Olsztyn, the Jagiellonian University, Cardinal Stefan Wyszyński University in Warsaw, and the Pontifical Faculty of Theology in Warsaw. The papers dealt with the following topics: Blessings for the Peacemakers; The Greek Fathers on Soldiers, Military Service, and War; The Ideal of the Soldier and Monk in Medieval Monasticism; Doctrinal Polemics in the Writings of Cardinal Stanisław Hozjusz; The Understanding of War in Islam’s Source Texts; Struggle in the Church; The Church in Poland’s stance towards the evil of war in the twentieth century – the Theological-Fundamental Aspect; German Language Theologians during the Second World War; The *Architectura Militans* of the Orders of Knights and of Monastic Orders in Poland during the Thirteenth and Fourteenth Centuries; and Peace in the Franciscan Tradition. Most of the presented papers can be found (in Polish) in: *Kościół i dar pokoju*, eds.: M. Chojnacki, J. Morawa, A. Napiórkowski, Krakow: Wydawnictwo Salwator 2016, pp. 373 (*Cracoviensis Cogitatio Ecclesialis*, 7).

A nationwide conference titled: “Media – kultura – dialog” (“Media – Culture – Dialogue”) commemorating the academic, didactic, and pastoral activity of the late Rev. Archbishop Dr. Hab. Józef Życiński, Archbishop of Lublin, was held on the fifth anniversary of his death. The conference took place on February 11, 2016, in the auditorium of the *Collegium Novum* at the Jagiellonian University. It was organized by our university in collaboration with the Jagiellonian University, the National Assembly of Attorneys in Warsaw, the District Assembly of Attorneys in Krakow, and the Jesuit University Ignatianum in Krakow. The conference’s participants included Rev. Archbishop Celestino Migliore, Apostolic Nuncio to Poland, and Cardinal Stanisław Dziwisz. Papers were presented by staff from the institutions organizing the conference as well as from other universities: the John Paul II Catholic University of Lublin, Maria Curie-Skłodowska University in Lublin, Cardinal Stefan Wyszyński University in

Warsaw, the Medical University of Lublin, the University of Szczecin, and the University of Social Sciences and Humanities in Warsaw. The presented papers essentially dealt with two areas: the archbishop-philosopher's views on various matters as well as topics related to contemporary cultural dialogue. The first area encompassed such topics as: The Platonic View of the World; The Need for Legal Protection of Worship; The Concept of the Relationship between Christian Spirituality and the Media; Love of Poetry; Philosophy and Humanity; The Universality of Christianity in the Social Dimension; The Controversy Concerning the Understanding of Folklore; The Minister in Today's Areopagi; Media Language as the Basis for Social Communication; The Problem of Martial Law; The Biblical Interpretation of Reality; The attitude towards Transplantology; Meaning and Value; and The Culture of Everyday Life. Meanwhile, the second field touched upon such matters as: The Search for Meaning amidst Postmodernism, Relativism, and Irony; The Media Civilization and Medical Practice; and An Attempt at Answering the Question of if a Philosopher Can Be a Bishop. After the conference, the participants were invited to a conference that took place in the auditorium of the Jagiellonian University's *Collegium Maius*.

The place of the religious orders in the life of the Church is documented and popularized by a cycle of academic conferences titled: "Duchowość Klasztorów Polskich: Przekaz i komunikacja" ("The Spirituality of Polish Monasteries: Message and Communication"). Last year's edition of this conference was devoted to the Resurrectionist Congregation and was titled: "Ks. Stefan Pawlicki CR: człowiek nauki i wiary w służbie odnowy społecznej i duchowej" ("Rev. Stefan Pawlicki, CR: A Man of Faith and Science in the Service of Social and Religious Renewal"). Rev. Pawlicki, CR, was a Rector of the Jagiellonian University in 1905-1906. The conference took place on February 17, 2016, in the *Centrum Resurrectionis* in Krakow. Its organizers were our university as well as the Polish province of the Resurrectionist Congregation. Papers were presented by staff from our university as well as: the University of Wrocław, Bogdan Jański University of Management and Entrepreneurship in Warsaw, the University of Zielona Góra, the Jagiellonian University, the Historical Commission of the Polish Academy of Sciences in Katowice, and the State Archives in Opole. Papers encompassed four thematic groups concerning the legacy of Rev. Pawlicki, CR: his overall, social, philosophical, and historical legacy. The first group discussed his life and work, his attitude towards the social challenges of those times (materialism, socialism, and Nietzscheanism), and his contribution to the popularization of the figure of Xanthippe. The group dealing with social topics discussed such topics as: the social dimension of culture, wisdom in academic communication, the purposes of the Catholic press, and the Platonic vision of a just state. The group of philosophical topics touched upon the controversial concept of the history of Greek philosophy, the philosophy of God, philosophical anthropology,

and a defense of anthropological dualism. Finally, the group focused on historical topics dealt with Rev. Pawlicki's *Początki chrześcijaństwa* („Early Christianity”), his influence on Krakow's intellectual community, his impact on the life and activity of Krakow's Bishop Jan Puzyna, and the life of the priest and academic in light of his diary. It is worth mentioning that the conference was connected with the celebrations of the 180th anniversary of the formation of the Resurrectionist Congregation.

Although human rights and freedom are commonly declared as leading values, freedom of conscience is not respected in every instance. For this reason, the graduate students of the Faculty of Canon Law organized a nationwide symposium titled: „Wolność religijna i wolność sumienia w Polsce” („Religious Freedom and Freedom of Conscience in Poland”), which took place on March 3, 2016. Papers were presented by academic staff and graduate students from our university as well as the John Paul II Catholic University of Lublin and the Cardinal Stefan Wyszyński University in Warsaw. The topics of the papers were the following topics: The Right of Parents to Provide Their Children Religious Education in Accordance with Their Convictions (art. 53 of bill 3 of the Constitution of the Republic of Poland); The Crime of Offending Religious Feelings (art. 196 of the Constitution of the Republic of Poland) in the Polish Courts' Most Recent Decisions; Freedom of Conscience and the Possibility of Making Use of the Conscience Clause (art. 53 of bill 1 of the Constitution of the Republic of Poland); and The Catholic's Participation in National Government and the Duty of the State to Be Neutral in Terms of World View (art. 25 bill 2 of the Constitution of the Republic of Poland). There were also attempts to answer the following questions: Is there a right to grant one institutionally coherent marriage? Is the right to quit membership in churches and non-Christian religions respected in Poland? Does canon law ensure Catholics religious freedom? Preparations for a publication with the presented materials are underway.

The „Biblia w kulturze świata” („The Bible in World Culture”) symposia are a form of popularizing the Word of God. On April 6, 2016, the thirteenth symposium from this cycle (titled: „Kulturowa rola Biblii: dziś i jutro,” „The Bible's Cultural Role: Today and Tomorrow”) took place. It was organized by our university's Faculty of Social Sciences. Lectures were given by Biblical scholars from our university as well as invited guests from: the Pomeranian Academy in Slupsk, the Jagiellonian University, and the University of Prešov (Slovakia). The presented papers were devoted to the following topics: „Culture in the Bible, the Bible in Culture” („Kultura w Biblii, Biblia w kulturze”), „*Maximus in minimis Deus*: The Richness of Biblical Motifs in the Documents of Modern Literature” („«*Maximus in minimis Deus*». Bogactwo motywów biblijnych w dokumentach literatury nowożytnej”), „The Ecology of Nature and the Human Spirit in Accordance with the Teaching of St. James the Apostle” („Ekologia przyrody i ducha

ludzkiego zgodnie z nauką św. Jakuba Apostoła”); and “The Bible as the Guarantor of Our Culture” (“Biblia jako gwarancja przetrwania naszej kultury”).

The philosophical study of Russian thinking helps to understand the history and culture of our neighbors. Peter Chaadaev was a famous nineteenth century philosopher who exerted great influence on the development of Russian social and religious thought. His philosophical thought was the topic of an international academic conference titled: “Peter Chaadaev: Between the Love of Fatherland and the Love of Truth,” which took place on April 6-8, 2016, at the Tyniec Abbey in Krakow. The conference’s organizers were our Faculty of Philosophy’s Chair in the Philosophy of Religion as well as the International Academy of Philosophy-Institute of Philosophy Edith Stein in Granada, Spain (Instituto de Filosofía Edith Stein in Granada) and the International Center for the Study of the Christian Orient in Granada (Spain). Papers were presented by academic staff from the universities organizing the conference as well as: the Jagiellonian University in Krakow, Moscow State Pedagogical University (Russia), Almanach “Vtoraja Navigasija” (Munich, Germany), the University of Zielona Gora (Poland), Moscow International Higher Business School MIRBIS (Russia), Novosibirsk State University of Economics and Management (Russia), the University of Warsaw (Poland), the Higher School of Economy National Research University (Moscow, Russia), Opole University (Poland), the University of Turin (Italy), Tver State Technical University (Russia), National Research University Higher School of Economics in Perm (Russia), Moscow Aviation Institute (National Research University, Russia), the University of Fribourg (Switzerland), the Exarchate of Orthodox Parishers of Russian Tradition in Western Europe (Brescia, Italy), the Russian State University for the Humanities (Moscow, Russia), the Aquitaine House of Human Sciences at The Michel de Montaigne University – Bordeaux 3 (France), Zur-Hadassah (Israel), Jan Długosz University in Czeszochowa (Poland), Poltava Yuri Kondratuk National Technical University (Ukraine), St. Tikhon’s Orthodox University (Moscow, Russia), the Bulgakov Museum (Moscow, Russia), Siberian State University of Water Transport (Novosibirsk, Russia), Novosibirsk State University of Economics and Management (Russia), St Petersburg State University (Russia), Università Vita-Salute San Raffaele (Milan, Italy), Comenius University (Bratislava, Slovakia), Odessa I. I. Mechnikov National University (Ukraine), Journal “Voprosy filosofii” (Russia), St. Thomas Aquinas Institute of Religious Sciences (Kyiv, Ukraine), Lomonosov Moscow State University (Russia), Higher School of Economics National Research University (Moscow, Russia), Moscow State Institute of Culture (Russia), Joetsu University of Education (Japan), the University of Information Technology and Management (Rzeszow, Poland), and Saint-Petersburg State Economy University (Russia). In total, forty papers (mostly in Russian, although a few were in English) were presented and seventeen discussions were held. The papers dealt with

such topics as: The Roots of Chaadaev's Philosophical Thought; Conquering a Crisis of Spirituality; Cosmopolitan Patriotism; History – System – Chaos; The Religious Determinant of Russian History; The Founding Myth of Russian Philosophy; The Matter of National Consciousness; The Development of the Russia-Europe Paradigm; Chaadaev's Views on the Individual and the Collective; The Verge of Philosophy and Politics; "Patriotism with Open Eyes" and the Traumas of Historical Memory; The Problem of Philosophy of Religion; "A Healthy National Feeling;" Russian Catholicism; The Phenomenon of "Historical Forgetting;" The Significance of Byzantine Civilization to the Development of Philosophical Thought in Russia; Russian Philosophy of History; Letters to the Woman as a Philosophical Genre; Philosophy as a Spiritual Exercise; Projects of Studying Awareness; Truth and Freedom The Ideal of Truth and Humanism; The Problem of the Consistency of Twentieth Century Russian Philosophy; Love for the Fatherland and "Suspicious" Patriotism; The Problem of Faith and Knowledge; The Conservatism of Chaadaev's Thinking; National Unity and the Post-National Crisis in Europe; Twentieth Century Russian Theological Personalism; Modern Visions of Politics in the Context of Chaadaev's Thought; The "Russian Idea" in Philosophy; The World of Ideas in the Field of the Philosophy of Culture; The Concept of Eternity and Time; and The Analysis of Protests in Russia. The most interesting presented papers will be published as a monograph in the near future.

The 25th anniversary of Pope St. John Paul II's publishing of the encyclical *Centesimus Annus*, which was the culmination of his social thinking, was an opportunity to organize an academic conference titled: "25 lat encykliki «Centesimus annus» św. Jana Pawła II. Inspiracje dla polityki społecznej" ("Twenty-Five Years of St. John Paul II's Encyclical *Centesimus Annus*: Inspirations for Social Policy"). It took place on April 9, 2016. Its main organizer was the Department of Social Policy at the Institute of Social Work at our university's Faculty of Social Sciences. The co-organizers were: the Institute of Sociology at the Faculty of Social Sciences at the John Paul II Catholic University of Lublin, the Department of Statistics at the Krakow University of Economics, the Major Seminary of the Order of Saint Paul the First Hermit, the Pope John Paul II Major Seminary in Lomza, Polonia University in Czestochowa, and the Lomza State University of Applied Sciences. Papers were presented by academic staff from the universities organizing the conference. The papers dealt with such topics related to the encyclical as: The Evolution of Catholic Social Teaching; Social Policy; Legal Culture in Social Policy; Man's Work and a Decent Wage; The Church's Contribution to Political Culture; The Relevance of the Concept of the "Ecology of the Family;" and The Reception of *Centesimus Annus* in Pope Benedict XVI's and Pope Francis' Social Teaching. At the end of the conference a book devoted to the topics that were dealt with in the papers was presented. Its title was: *Polityka społeczna wobec „rzeczy nowych”. 25-lecie encykliki*

'Centesimus annus' św. Jana Pawła II ("Social Policy and 'New Things': Twenty-Five Years of St. John Paul II's Encyclical *Centesimus Annus*"), preface: Gerhard Müller, ed. Jan Mazur OSPPE, Wydawnictwo Naukowe UPJPII, Kraków 2016, pp. 397.

For Orthodox Christians, preparations for the Great and Holy Council of the Orthodox Church and the council itself were momentous events. The Great and Holy Council of the Orthodox Church was the highest congregation of representatives of the Orthodox world. It took place for the first time in more than three centuries. It was summoned from the initiative of Bartholomew I, Archbishop of Constantinople and Ecumenical Patriarch, and was supported by the representatives of fourteen autocephalous Orthodox Churches. Thus it should be noted with pride that on that occasion our university organized an academic conference on April 14, 2016, on our campus. It was titled: "Przed soborem wszechprawosławnym" ("Before the Great and Holy Council of the Orthodox Church") and was organized by the Institute of Ecumenism and Dialogue at our university's Faculty of Theology. Its aim was to present the genesis of this council, its tasks and the hopes related to it, as seen from Orthodox, Catholic, Protestant, and ecumenical perspectives. One of those invited to present a paper was the Bishop of Siemiatycze, Rev. Bishop Prof. Dr. Hab. Jerzy Pańkowski, who represented the Secretariat of the Polish Autocephalous Orthodox Church. In addition to the bishop, papers were presented by professors from our university as well as: the University of Opole, the John Paul II Catholic University of Lublin, the Christian Theological Academy in Warsaw (a multi-denominational university), and the Pontifical Faculty of Theology in Wrocław. During the first session, the authors of the papers tried to answer such questions as: What is the Great and Holy Council of the Orthodox Church from an Orthodox perspective? What is the council from a Roman Catholic perspective? What is the council from a Protestant perspective? From an ecumenical perspective, is there a "hierarchy of councils"? Meanwhile, the following topics were dealt with during the second session: The Orthodox Church's Road to the Great and Holy Council of the Orthodox Church; The Internal Life of the Orthodox Church in the Document Drafts for the Great and Holy Council of the Orthodox Church; The Orthodox Church and the Problems of the Contemporary World from the Perspective of the Great and Holy Council of the Orthodox Church; Ecumenical Hopes Related to the Great and Holy Council of the Orthodox Church; and The Relationship of the Great and Holy Council of the Orthodox Church to the Second Vatican Council. More details concerning the topics undertaken at the conference can be found in the publication: *Przed Soborem Wszechprawosławnym* ("Before the Great and Holy Council of the Orthodox Church"), ed. T. Kałużny, Krakow: Wydawnictwo Naukowe Uniwersytetu Papieskiego Jana Pawła II 2016, pp. 325.

The most recent international academic conference from the “Symbol – Znak – Rytuał” (“Symbol – Sign – Ritual”) cycle was devoted to the topic of “Misericordia Domini.” The conference took place on April 27, 2016, and its organizers were: the Department of Archival Studies and Historical Auxiliary Sciences at our university’s Faculty of History and Cultural Heritage, the Department of Spatial Planning and Landscape Architecture at the University of Agriculture in Krakow, and the Greek-Catholic Faculty of Theology at the University of Prešov in Prešov (Gréckokatolícka teologická fakulta Prešovska Univerzita v Prešove, Slovakia). Papers were presented by academic staff from the above-mentioned universities as well as from the Polish Academy of Sciences, the Jan Matejko Academy of Fine Arts in Krakow, the University of Silesia in Katowice, Jesuit University Ignatianum, Tischner European University in Krakow, the University of Warmia and Mazury in Olsztyn, Charles University in Prague (Czech Republic), the Witelon State University of Applied Sciences in Legnica, Saint Athanasius Greek Catholic Theological College (Nyíregyháza, Hungary), Pavol Jozef Šafárik University in Košice (Slovakia), and the University of Nyíregyháza (Hungary). The results of academic research related to the hermeneutics of the symbol were presented, especially such topics as: Signs of Mercy in Krakow’s Cultural Landscape in the Late Nineteenth and Early Twentieth Centuries; Mercy Revealed through Greenery; Mercy in the “Secret of Life” Tetrptych; Roadside Chapels and Cross in the Cultural Landscape of Rural Areas; The Symbolism of Mercy in the Medieval Monastery; Mercy in the Semantics of Religious Orders; Christian Symbolism in Late Roman Coins; the Soteriological Messages of Early Christian Cemetery Iconography; The Appropriation and Implementation of Elements of Christian Doctrine and Ritual by the Nazis; The Conversion of a Tyrant in Jesuit School Plays Presented in the Polish-Lithuanian Commonwealth; The Right of Clemency in Interwar Poland; The Mercy of Greek-Catholics in Slovakia Given to Jews in 1939-1945; Allegories of Mercy on the Example of Cesare Ripa’s Iconology; The Symbols of the Mercy of God the Father in Paintings and Icons; Christian Symbolism and the Narration of Mercy; Mercy as the Impulse for Change of Mentality; Sociological Studies of Religious Experience in the Post-Optimistic Society; Mercy as a Moral Challenge in the Liturgy of St. John Chrysostom; The “Holy Door” in Light of the History of the Shrine in Máriapócs (Hungary); Clemency and Amnesty in the Slovak Republic’s Legal System; A Stylistic and Iconographic Analysis of the Mosaic in the Hungarian Chapel in the Shrine of Divine Mercy in Krakow-Lagiewniki; Khachkars, Votive Crosses, Epitaphs, Tombstones and Memorial Stones of Polish Armenians; Mercy in the Culture and Customs of China; and New Forms of the Hebrew Semantic חסד (*chesed*) in Judaism. There are plans to publish materials presented during the conference.

The globalized world makes the search for new answers to ancient questions asked since time immemorial necessary. The interdisciplinary academic conference titled: "Umiar i rozsądek w relacjach społecznych" ("Restraint and Reason in Social Relations") was an attempt at answering such ancient questions related to restraint and reason. The conference took place on April 27-28, 2016, and was organized by the Faculty of Philosophy's Department of Social and Political Philosophy. The conference's participants include philosophers, historians, cultural studies scholars, and political scientists from our university as well as Rzeszow University, Adam Mickiewicz University in Poznan, the University of Wroclaw, the University of Silesia in Katowice, and Nicolaus Copernicus University in Torun. The papers touched upon the following topics: The Virtue of Restraint in Life and in Art; The Desert Fathers between the *Polis* and *Eremos*; The Problem of Restraint in Governing a Democratic State; The Limits of Restraint; Visions of Political Wisdom; The Politics of the Lack of Restraint; The Role of Prudence in the Ethics of Choice; The Art of Restraint in the Realities of Consumerism; Restraint and Reason as Altruistic Virtues; Serge Latouche's Concept of "Degrowth;" and Restraint and Reason with Respect to Exaggerated Consumerism.

The Extraordinary Jubilee Year of Mercy celebrated in the universal Church last year was an opportune time for theological reflection on that topic. Thus our university's Faculty of Theology's Institute for Biblical Theology along with the Biblical Section of the Polish Theological Society organized an international conference titled: "Miłosierni jak Ojciec. Miłosierdzie w nauczaniu i praktyce kościelnej" ("Merciful Like the Father: Mercy in Church Teaching and Practice"). It took place on April 28, 2016. Papers were presented by professors from our university as well as Palacký University Olomouc (Czech Republic), the Catholic University in Ružomberok (the Faculty of Theology in Košice, Slovakia), Cardinal Stefan Wyszyński University in Warsaw, the Faculty of Biblical Sciences and Archeology in Jerusalem (Israel), Trnava University in Trnava (Slovakia), and the John Paul II Catholic University of Lublin. Naturally, the topics of the papers dealt with mercy in various Biblical texts, such as: The Expression "Whose Mercy Endures Forever" (see Psalms 106:1); The Book of Tobit; Psalm 89; The Parable of the Unforgiving Servant (Matthew 18:23-35); St. Luke as the Evangelist of Mercy; and the Anthropological Basis of the Parables of Mercy in Luke (Luke 15-16). With regards to the Church's teaching on mercy, the following topics were discussed: Mercy in the Homilies of St. John Chrysostom on the Gospel of Matthew; God the Father's Mercy in Church Teaching; Mercy in Monastic Life; The Revival of Charitable Service of the Church in Poland during the Year of Mercy; and The Social Dimension of Mercy. There are plans to publish materials from the conference.

In our time, there are many potential threats to humanity, and even to the mere further existence of humanity: drastic climate changes, environmental catastrophes,

nuclear weapons, biotechnology, the rise of artificial intelligence, nanotechnology, global markets, the computerization of the lifeworld (*Lebenswelt*), etc. One Swedish philosopher, Nick Bostron, called them “existential threats,” because they appear to cast doubt on the future of all of humanity. Thus “the death of the person” does not just appear to be a philosophical hypothesis, but a social fact and a pedagogical problem. In response to these challenges, our university’s Faculty of Philosophy along with the Jesuit University Ignatianum organized a conference titled: “Crisis of Humanity? Humanism, Transhumanism, Posthumanism.” It took place on May 11, 2016, on Ignatianum’s campus. Papers were presented by staff from both universities as well as: the Jagiellonian University, the Catholic University of Milan (Università Cattolica del Sacro Cuore, Italy), Albert Ludwigs University of Freiburg (Albert-Ludwigs-Universität Freiburg, Germany), the University of Warsaw, the University of Prešov (Slovakia), Adam Mickiewicz University in Poznan, the Jagiellonian University, Samara State Aerospace University (Russia), Ruhr University Bochum (Ruhr-Universität Bochum, Germany), and the CEO of the Polish Transhumanist Association. The topics of the papers encompassed three areas: Between Past and Future – Scenarios of (Post)Humanity; A New Beginning or the Ultimate End? The “Death of Man” and the Problem of Education; Human, All Too Human... About the Fragility of Man’s Identity. The first area consisted of the following topics: “Humans and Machines: Four Future Scenarios;” “Posthumanism: Danger, Change and Challenge;” and “Stanisław Lem: The Futurology of Christianity.” The second area encompassed four topics: “Education and the Art of Conversation: The Hermeneutic Imperative;” “Homo *Perfectus* Versus *Educatio*: A Philosophical Reflection on Transhumanism, Education and Freedom;” “The Educational Contexts of Transhumanism;” and “Transhumanism and Pedagogical Anthropology – How Does the Idea of Human Enhancement Redefine the Idea of Education?” Finally, the third area encompassed the following six topics: “Man and Animal: Martin Heidegger and the Question of Humanism;” “Evolutionary Transhumanism in the Context of Philosophical Anthropology;” “Individuals and Environments: A Postgenomic View on Human Nature;” “Artilect Is (Still) Dead: Does Transhumanism Oppose the Artificial?;” “Disruptive Technologies and R&D as a Tool We Need to Fight the Demographic Crisis: A Glance at the First Half of the Century;” and “A Good Transhuman Life: The Teleological Aspect of Technological Progress.” The raising of these topics led to the discussion of many other philosophical and scientific topics. There are plans to organize more conferences under the common title: “Crisis of Humanity?”

A similar topic was the subject of another conference, one that was held directly before the above-mentioned one. It was titled: “Humanistyka i nauki społeczne wobec «śmierci człowieka»,” (“The Humanities and Social Sciences and the ‘Death of the

Person”) and was the continuation of the search for answers under the shared title of: “Kryzys człowieczeństwa?” (“A Crisis of Humanity?”). It was organized by our university’s Faculty of Philosophy along with the Jesuit University Ignatianum’s Faculty of Education and took place on May 12-13 2016, in the Ignatianum’s building. Papers were presented by staff from both universities as well as: the Jagiellonian University, the Wrocław University of Science and Technology, Adam Mickiewicz University in Poznań, the University of Szczecin, the University of Gdańsk, the John Paul II Catholic University of Lublin, the State Higher Vocational School in Włocławek, the Karkonosze State Higher School in Jelenia Góra, the Pomeranian University in Słupsk, the Academy of Technology and Humanities in Bielsko-Biala, the University of Silesia in Katowice, the Kraków University of Economics, the Wrocław University, the Old Polish University in Kielce, and several other universities. The topics of the papers were divided into four areas with the titles: “The Death of the Person” in Philosophical and Pedagogical Thinking; The Cultural Aspects and Symptoms of “The Death of the Person;” “The Death of the Person” and Technological Progress; and What If the Person Did Not Really “Die”? Towards Hope That Humanity Will Return. In the first area, the featured topics included: Systemological Pedagogy; Man and Technology; The Utopia of Technological Progress; Post-Humanistic Humanization; Post-Anthropocentric Pedagogy; The Effects of Information Technology and the Technologization of Society; Questions Concerning the *Meta*-Physicality of the Subject; and The Anti-Humanistic Interpretation of Reality. In the second area, the following topics were presented: The Power of the Absurd: The Contemporary Faces of the Death of the Person; Digital Brilliance and Intellectual Apathy; The Anthropological Dimension of the “Pivot Towards Things;” The Faces of Cybertheology; and The Dispute about Post and Transhumanism. In the third area, attention was devoted to topics such as: Technological Singularity in the Context of Progress in Research and Technology; The Ethical Problems of Programming Driver-less Cars; Bioethics and Transhumanism; The Internet and Increased Opportunities for Crime; and The Religious Themes of Contemporary Theories of Technological Post-Humanism (Wholly Other). Finally, the fourth area featured topics such as: The Understanding of Oneself and the Problem of Subjectivity; Love as an Opportunity and Source of Salvation for the Dehumanized World; Religion as a Response to the Post-Humanistic Crisis; Bringing up Young People to Positive Freedom; and Pope Francis’ Encyclical *Laudato Si* from the Perspective of the Present Crisis. All the discussed topics became the inspiration for a lively discussion and for the search for answers for the next conference. Preparations for the publication of materials presented by the speakers are underway.

Concern for the ethics of media is the ultimate concern for the good of each person. In light of the numerous threats we are faced with, it is necessary to search for

ways of counteracting them. Thus our university's Institute of Journalism and Social Communication along with the Axiology of Communication Section of the Polish Communication Association organized a jubilee conference from the "Etyka mediów" ("Media Ethics") cycle. The Tenth International Conference on Media Ethics had the title: "Etyka mediów – etyczność w mediach" ("Media Ethics: Ethicality in the Media"). It took place on May 18-19, 2016, in our university's main library building on 10 Bobrzyńskiego Street (first day) and on the didactic building on 3 Bernardyńska Street (second day). The conference's honorary patrons were: our university's Great Chancellor Cardinal Stanisław Dziwisz; Mr. Jarosław Gowin, Minister of Science and Higher Education; Mr. Józef Pilch, Voivode of the Lesser Poland Region; and Mr. Jacek Krupa, Marshal of the Lesser Poland Region. Papers were presented by academic staff from our university as well as: the University of Information Technology and Management in Rzeszów, Cardinal Stefan Wyszyński University in Warsaw, the Jagiellonian University in Kraków, the John Paul II Catholic University of Lublin, Rzeszów University, the University of Warsaw, the University of Silesia in Katowice, Patrick Henry College (Virginia, USA), Kairos Consulting for Non-Profit Organizations (Vienna, Austria), the Catholic University of Eichstätt-Ingolstadt (Katholische Universität Eichstätt-Ingolstadt, Germany), the Catholic University in Ružomberok (Slovakia), Romanian Academy (Iasi, Romania), Jesuit University Ignatianum in Kraków, the Koszalin University of Technology, the Kraków University of Economics in Kraków, the University of Economics and Innovation in Lublin, the Pedagogical University of Kraków, the University of Social Sciences and Humanities in Warsaw, the University of Wrocław, the University of Warmia and Mazury in Olsztyn, the University of Social Sciences in Warsaw, AGH University of Science and Technology in Kraków, the University of Opole, Maria Curie-Skłodowska University in Lublin, the University of Zielona Góra, the Czestochowa University of Technology, and Andrzej Frycz Modrzewski Kraków University. Representatives of Polish Television (TVP) and Poland's Association of Catholic Journalists also shared their experiences.

The conference's program was very extensive. The plenary session consisted of three parts, and the second part of the conference encompassed nine thematic sessions in three simultaneous time frames, thanks to which participants could choose the thematic groups that interested them the most. Thus the topic of the first and second plenary session was "Etyczność w mediach" ("Ethicality of the Media") and the second topic was "Medialny dyskurs etyczny" ("The Ethical Media Discourse"). Meanwhile the thematic sessions had the following titles: "Etyka mediów z perspektywy międzynarodowej" („Media ethics from the international perspective”, an international session; "Etyczność medialnego komunikowania politycznego" ("The Ethicality of Political Communication in the Media"); "Etyczność mediów w kontekście misji

i nauczania kościoła” (“The Ethicality of the Media in Light of the Church’s Mission and Teaching”); “Funkcjonalność kodeksów etyki mediów” (“The Functionality of the Media in the Marketing, Legal, and Psychological Contexts”); “Etyczność w mediach w kontekście dziennikarskim” (“Ethics in the Media within the Context of Journalism”); “Etyczność w mediach w kontekście marketingowym, prawnym i psychologicznym” (“Ethics in the Media in the Marketing, Legal, and Psychological Contexts”); and “Odśłony etyczności w przekazach medialnych” (“The Faces of Ethicality in Media Communications”). In total, almost eighty papers were presented.

During the international part of the plenary session, the following papers were presented: “Media Bias Regarding Family and Sexuality;” “Communicating Christian Values without Getting Nervous or Jangling One’s Nerves: Catholic experiences in a Secular Society;” “Responsibility of the German Media – An Attempt at an Assessment;” “Ethics as a Key Media Competence of Internet Users;” “Professional Standards or Patriotic Duty? Folk Culture as Represented in the Romanian Media;” “Spiritual Ways of Integral Healing of the Disturbed Interpersonal Relationships;” and “Emblem of Good Will: A Polish Declaration of Admiration and Friendship for the United States of America from 1926 as an Example of Diplomatic and International Communication.” Among the remaining papers, it is worth noting the following titles of presented papers: “Etyczna odpowiedzialność internautów w kontekście wskazań Stolicy Apostolskiej” (“The Ethical Responsibility of Internet Users in the Context of the Holy See’s Suggestions”); “Mediofilia i mediofobia w erze medialnej partycypacji” (“Mediophilia and Mediophobia in the Age of Media Participation”); “Cyberstalking jako przemoc w nowoczesnym stylu” (“Internet Stalking as a Modern form of Violence”); “Czy etyka mediów jest utopią?” (“Are Media Ethics a Utopia?”); “Hejt w Internecie – uboczny efekt wolności słowa” (“Online Hate: A Side Effect of Freedom of Expression”); “Medialny *danse macabre*. Śmierć w mediach” (“A Media *Danse Macabre*: Death in the Media”); “Ile jest etyki w kodeksach etyki mediów?” (“How Much Ethics Are There in the Context of the Ethics of the Media”); “Polska antynagroda «Hiena Roku» – problem naruszania zasad etyki dziennikarskiej” (“The Polish Anti-Prize ‘Hyena of the Year’: The Problem of Violating the Principles of Media Ethics”); and “Papież Franciszek – kapłan czy polityk? Obraz medialny” (“Pope Francis: A Priest or a Politician? The Media Image”).

The conference was a forum for the exchange of views, experiences, and research inquiries, as well as a plane of dialogue for between media theoreticians and practitioners. It was also an opportunity to express shared concern for the ethicality of media for the good of all who can be found in the sphere of its influence.

The purpose of the academic conference titled: “Wokół posynodalnej adhortacji papieża Franciszka «Amoris laetitia»,” (“Concerning Pope Francis’ Post-Synodal

Adhortation *Amoris Laetitia*”) was to make better known the teachings confined in Pope Francis’ post-synodal adhortation *Amoris Laetitia*. The conference took place on May 2016, in the building of the Archdiocese of Krakow’s Major Seminary. It was organized by our university’s Faculty of Social Sciences from the initiative of the Pontifical Council for the Family. The President of the council, Rev. Archbishop Vincenzo Paglia, presented the main ideals of this adhortation in the main paper. Next, the Dean of the Faculty of Social Sciences, Rev. Prof. A. Świerczek presented his paper “Perspektywy duszpasterskie adhortacji «Amoris laetitia»,» (“The Pastoral Perspectives of the Adhortation *Amoris Laetitia*”). The second paper was titled: “Tenor adhortacji «Amoris laetitia» w dialogu o trudnych relacjach (moralnych) współczesnego małżeństwa” (“The Voice of the Adhortation *Amoris Laetitia* in Dialogue with the Difficult [Moral] Relations of Contemporary Marriage”) and was given by Rev. Prof. Dr. Hab. Piotr Morciniec of the University of Opole’s Faculty of Theology. After the papers, a discussion took place during which primarily Archbishop Paglia answered questions and doubts.

The acquisition of knowledge is possible only thanks to an appropriate method, one that is suitable for the area of reality under study. The search for the most suitable method for studies in the field of cosmology is one of the main aims of the Copernicus Center for Interdisciplinary Studies in Krakow. Thus the center organizes conferences devoted to precisely this methodology. The topic of last year’s Krakow Methodological Conference, held for the twentieth time, “hinted” at a specific circumstance, namely the jubilee eightieth birthday of Rev. Prof. Michał Heller. It was he who made popular the slogan: “philosophy in science,” which became the main theme of the aforementioned conference and was dedicated to him. It took place in the auditorium of the Polish Academy of Learning in Krakow on May 30-31, 2016. The conference was organized by: the Department of Philosophy of Science at our university’s Faculty of Philosophy, the Copernicus Center for Interdisciplinary Studies, and the Polish Academy of Learning. Papers were presented by academic staff from our university and other Polish universities dealing with philosophy, physics, mathematics, cosmology, and theology, namely from: the Jagiellonian University in Krakow, the University of Silesia in Katowice, the Tadeusz Kościuszko University of Technology in Krakow, Adam Mickiewicz University in Poznan, the John Paul II Catholic University of Lublin, the University of Information Technology and Management in Rzeszow, the University of Warmia and Mazury in Olsztyn, and the University of Warsaw. Papers were devoted to the following topics: Problems with the Unity of the Universe; Michał Heller’s Cosmology; A Colorful University; The Troublesome Axiom of Choice; Cantor and the Theory of Numbers with Respect to Theology and Theologians; The Beginnings of the Greek Concept of the Mathematicality of the World; Doing Philosophy in the Context of Scientific Images of the World; A Defense of Naturalism; Traps of Language; Theism

Is Not an Explanatory Hypothesis; and Michał Heller's Theology as an Open Project. There were also attempts at answering the following questions: Was Stefan Zachariasz Pawlicki (1839-1916) a Precursor of the Krakow Philosophy of Nature? Is the *experimentum* still a *crucis*? Is Mathematics a Description of the Structure of the World, or Also a Tool for Counting? Will We Learn the Shape of the Universe? A Mathematical Reflection. At the end, Rev. Prof. Heller himself spoke, presenting a paper titled: "Nauka dla filozofii – oferta nie do odrzucenia" ("Science for Philosophy: An Offer That Cannot Be Refused").

The Academic Activity of Undergraduate and Graduate Students, and of enior Citizens

Students also engage in activity to popularize their own academic research by organizing conferences and academic symposia. Several following student initiatives can be noted here.

It is especially worth noticing the *Mysterium fascinans* academic symposium, which was tied to a beautiful celebration of the liturgy organized by theology students belonging to the Liturgical Research Club of the Major Seminary of the Archdiocese of Krakow in collaboration with the Dominican Liturgical Center in Krakow and our university's Faculty of Theology. Last year's Eighth *Mysterium Fascinans* Liturgical Retreat was held on September 9-11, 2016, under the slogan: "Duchowość kształtowana przez liturgię" ("Spirituality Shaped by the Liturgy") in the building of the Major Seminary of the Archdiocese of Krakow and was organized by the Dominican Liturgical Center Foundation. The first part of the papers was devoted to the person of Jesus and His prayer. We should learn to pray from the Lord Himself so that prayer shapes man's everyday life. The second part of the presentations was devoted to the liturgy itself and to the place it should have in the spiritual life of every believer. The mystagogical catechesis taught life that was a sacrifice offered up to our Lord Jesus Christ.

Another interesting student initiative is the series of meetings titled: "Ich Areopag wiary" ("Their Areopag of Faith"). They are meetings with famous people who have the courage to publicly talk about their faith. They are organized by seminarians from the Major Seminary of the Archdiocese of Krakow, who at the same time are students of our university's Faculty of Theology. In the previous academic year, several meetings took place as part of this cycle. On November 4, 2015, the guests of the seminary were the Catholic bloggers Mateusz Ochman and Tomasz Adamski, know for their "Bez Imprimatur" ("Without an Imprimatur") YouTube channel. Next, on December 9, 2015, a meeting with Polish film and theater actor and television presenter Piotr Cyrwus took place. The next meeting was with Ms. Anna Dymna and took place on March 8, 2016. Ms. Dymna is a theater and film actor, social activist, and the founder and President

of the Anna Dymna's "Mimo Wszystko" ("Against All Odds") Foundation. Finally, the musician Dariusz "Maleo" Malejonek shared his witness of faith along with his son Bartosz on May 24, 2016.

Our university's Doctoral Students Union organized the first nationwide academic conference titled: "Badania młodych naukowców inspirowanych chrześcijaństwem" ("The Research of Young Academics Inspired by Christianity"). The conference took place at our university on February 26, 2016. The organizers invited doctoral students working in the broadly understood humanities to participate, especially those dealing with: theology (including Biblical, historical, and systematic theology); philosophy (social philosophy, political philosophy, ethics, bioethics, aesthetics, anthropology, ecosophy); history (archaeology; historiography, archival studies, art history); canon law (religious law, concordats); sociology; and other disciplines.

The "Phronesis" Study Circle of Undergraduate and Graduate Students (Studencko-Doktoranckie Koło Naukowe „Phronesis”), which is active at our university's Faculty of History and Cultural Heritage, organized an academic conference titled: "Spory o Rzeczpospolitą: Piłsudski – Dmowski – Kaczyński – Tusk" ("Disputes about the Polish Republic: Piłsudski – Dmowski – Kaczyński – Tusk"). It took place on June 2–3, 2016. Papers were presented by undergraduate and graduate students from our university as well as from the Jagiellonian University in Krakow, the university of Silesia in Katowice, the University of Zielona Gora, Maria Curie-Skłodowska University in Lublin, and the Jan Długosz University in Czestochowa. The conference's program was divided up into six thematic panels, respectively titled: "Spory o drugą Rzeczpospolitą – ustroj" ("Disputes about the Second Polish Republic: The Political System"); "Spory o drugą Rzeczpospolitą – personalia" ("Disputes about the Second Polish Republic: People"); "Spory o drugą Rzeczpospolitą – obozy polityczne" ("Disputes about the Second Polish Republic: Political Camps"); "Spory u progu trzeciej Rzeczpospolitej" ("Disputes on the Threshold of the Third Polish Republic"); and "Spory o trzecią Rzeczpospolitą" ("Disputes about the Third Polish Republic," two panels). During the first panel (dealing with disputes about the political system), topics discussed included: M. Bobrzyński's Survey on the Constitution and The Problem of the Constitution in the Constitutional Debate. During the panel devoted to disputes on people, the subjects under discussion included: Engagement in Work for the Fatherland; R. Dmowski's Political Realism; J. Piłsudski's Federalism and Prometheism; and Women in Politics according to J. Piłsudski. During the panel concerning political camps, the topics under discussion included: The Non-Aggression Pact with the USSR; The Ukrainian and Belarusian Minorities; and Agricultural Reform. The fourth panel dealt with: The Democratic Nature of the State of Rule of Law; Ideological Disputes in Public Debate; and Disputes about Local Government. Finally, the last two panels dealt with such topics as: Several

Systemic Proposals to the 1993 Project of the Polish Constitution; The Pensions Reform of 1997; The Dispute over the Round Table Agreement; The Dispute over the Politics Concerning the Catholic Church in Poland; Concepts of Poland's Foreign Policy; L. Kaczyński's History Policy; and The Evolution of Civilian Control over the Armed Forces in Poland. A discussion took place after each panel.

A special institution called the University of the Third Age aims to increase knowledge among senior citizens. The University of the Third Age has been dynamically expanding its activity at our university since the 2011-2012 academic year. During the past academic year, 504 people studied there. Classes took place on Mondays and Tuesdays and, as in previous years, dealt with topics in the fields of: philosophy, theology, history, and the social sciences. Days of reflection, formative discussions, pilgrimages, cultural events (such as the performance of the play *Poznaj siebie, Hiobie!* "Know Yourself, Job," on March 2, 2016), and visits to monuments of Christian culture (such as a trip to Vilnius, Lithuania, on June 21–25, 2016) took place. Also last year, artistic-technical workshops took place. The subject matter of the workshops was of a practical nature: their participants prepare gifts for various events (such as St. Nicholas Day, Christmas, and Easter), which helps them to develop their creativity. These workshops are very popular, in part because grandparents attend them with their children. Computer courses are also quite popular.

Our university is concerned not only about our present students, but it also desires to spark the interest of children. Thus on November 7, 2015, our university's Rector ceremoniously opened the Pontifical University of Children and Parents (Papieski Uniwersytet Dzieci i Rodziców, PUGiR). The "students" of this university received transcripts and identification cards that allowed them to make use of the university's facilities. The Pontifical University of Children and Parents is an initiative open to children, youths, and parents. In accordance with its regulations, its aim is to develop its participants' interest in the fields of learning and culture at our university; aid in forging new contacts and friendships; improving adults' level of general knowledge; the arousing of children's interest; and the popularization of the teachings of St. John Paul II. Journalism workshops for children took place during the first meeting. Next, there was a conversation lecture for parents titled: "Internet, telewizja, telefon – jak je umiejętnie i bezpiecznie wykorzystać" ("The Internet, Television, Telephone: How to Use Them Skillfully and Safely"). More information about the activity of the "university" can be found online at: www.msp.upjp2.edu.pl.

Distinctions

The above-mentioned activity of the Pontifical University of John Paul II has not been unnoticed in the academic community. In addition to the ordinary gratitude of

people who make use of it each day, we are especially happy and gratified when we receive recognition for both our university and its individual staff members by various institutions.

Among our university's institutions that received distinctions last year are the Copernicus Center for Interdisciplinary Studies, which received the "Popularyzator Nauki 2015" ("Popularizer of Science 2015") award presented in a plebiscite organized by the Polish Press Agency and the Ministry of Science and Higher Education.

It is especially worth noting our Great Chancellor Cardinal Stanisław Dziwisz's distinction. On January 24, 2016, the cardinal received the Order of Merit of the Republic of Hungary from the President of Hungary (*Magyarország*), Mr. János Áder. The ceremony during which the award was presented took place after a religious service that ended the Week of Prayer for Christian Unity. The presentation of this award was requested by Mr. Viktor Orbán, Prime Minister of Hungary, in order to recognize the Cardinal's significant role "in the life of the universal Catholic Church as well as the witness of the path of his life, for his outstanding activity for the strengthening of the bond between the Holy See and Hungary, and for his great merits in the service of the Holy Father Pope John Paul II and as a custodian of his memory." The order was also intended to be an expression of gratitude for the cardinal's achievements in "strengthening the trust and friendly, close contacts between Poland, and Hungary and between the Church and religious communities in Poland and Hungary."

Meanwhile, the following facts are expressions of recognition of staff from our university. Prof. Jacek Majchrowski, Mayor of Krakow, presented Rev. Prof. Dr. Hab. Michał Heller with a medal "For Civic Wisdom" ("Za mądrość obywatelską") on January 20, 2016. Meanwhile, the Regional Economic Chamber in Katowice presented him a Crystal Laurel for Ability and Competence as well as a Diamond Laurel "for breaking down the barriers between science and religion" as well as for "making Polish academic achievements famous in the world." The award was presented on January 16, 2016, in Zabrze. The gala ceremony of the presentation of the award is an annual event during which statuettes expressing recognition for achievements in the fields of economic, academic, and cultural activity. The idea of this award was born in 1992 in the milieu of activists of the economic union belonging to the Regional Economic Chamber in Katowice who decided to express their gratitude to extraordinary people and to distinguished companies, organizations, and institutions in the process of creating and developing the market economy and adjusting the Polish economy to European standards.

Meanwhile, Prof. Dr. Hab. Walery Pisarek, a distinguished staff member of the Institute of Journalism and Social Communications, received the award of "Person of the Year 2015" ("Człowiek Roku 2015") in a plebiscite of the *Gazeta Krakowska* newspaper. The results of the plebiscite were announced on March 22, 2016.

Another expression of recognition of our staff is giving some of them important functions in various government and academic institutions, both domestic and international. Thus Prof. Dr. Hab. Aleksander Bobko became the Secretary of State in the Ministry of Science and Higher Education. Meanwhile, Dr. Lucyna Rotter was elected as a member of the Polish Accreditation Committee for a three-year term (from January 1, 2016, through December 31, 2019). Prof. Dr. Hab. Juliusz Chrościcki and Rev. Prof. Dr. Hab. Andrzej Witko became members of the Polish Committee on Art History of the Polish Academy of Sciences for the 2016-2019 term. Rev. Dr. Hab. Janusz Mączka, a Professor of the Pontifical University of John Paul II, as well as Sister Dr. Hab. Tereza Oblevich became members of the Committee for Philosophy of the Polish Academy of Sciences. Furthermore, Rev. Prof. Janusz Mączka became a member of the presidium of this committee. Finally, Rev. Prof. Dr. Hab. Władysław Zuziak was elected Vice-President of the Federation of European Catholic Universities (FUCU) for another term (2016-2019).

Rev. Dr. Hab. Robert Nęcek, a staff member at our university's Faculty of Social Sciences and the Press Secretary of the Archdiocesan Curia in Krakow, received the Gold Award of St. Florian Mazovia (Złota odznaka Floriana Mazovia). The bestowal ceremony took place on May 4, 2016 in St. Florian's Basilica in Krakow in the presence of Rev. Cardinal Stanisław Dziwisz; Mr. Tadeusz Trzmiel, Deputy Mayor of the City of Krakow; Mr. Józef Pilch, Voivode of the Lesser Poland Region; and numerous faithful. Rev. Nęcek received the award for "achievements in realizing the aims of the mission of the association in the field of making popular service to Poland, related to the name of one of its patrons" and the "skillful ability to put out media fires." The act of decoration was completed by members of the Capitulary of St. Florian Mazovia: Lieutenant Colonel Michał Falat, Colonel Robert Edelwain, and Captain Wiesław Fleszar.

Among our students, it is especially worth mentioning Mr. Jakub Palm, a second year student of Master of Arts Studies in Philosophy. He was awarded with a *Sapere Auso* scholarship for the 2015-2016 academic year, which is presented by the Lesser Poland Scholarship Fund (Małopolska Fundacja Stypendialna).

We are especially proud that two alumni of our university have been beatified: Rev. Zbigniew Strzałkowski, OFMCONV (born July 3, 1958, in Tarnow) and Rev. Michał Tomaszek, OFMCONV (born September 23, 1960, in Lekawica near Zywiec), who were murdered by terrorists from the Luminous Path Communist Party of Peru in Pariacoto (Peru) for their faith and love. The beatification ceremony took place on December 5, 2015, in Chimbote, the capital of the diocese where Pariacoto is found. On December 15, 2015, the Franciscan Provincial Jarosław Zachariasz, OFMCONV, gave our university their first-degree relics: fragments of their bones. They are kept at the chapel of the didactic building on 3 Bernardyńska Street.

Some Numbers...

In order to see a full image of our university, it is worth citing several statistical data. In the 2015-2016 academic year, 2,905 undergraduate and graduate students studied at our university. A total of 396 people (as of January 10, 2016) were employed at our university. They included 271 academic staff, including: fifty titular professors, ninety habilitated doctors, 103 doctors, twenty-nine recipients of master's degrees, and 125 remaining staff (100 of whom are employed in administration and twenty-five in the library). Furthermore, six people who are employees with diplomas and are thus counted as academic staff work in our library (in total, thirty-one people work in the library). Last year, 454 students were admitted to the first year of undergraduate studies. In the past academic year, our university granted 147 Bachelor of Arts degrees that were the culmination of first-cycle studies (four from the Faculty of Philosophy, twenty-five from the Faculty of History and Cultural Heritage, and 118 from the Faculty of Social Sciences), as well as 322 Master of Arts degrees that were the culmination of second-cycle studies (134 from the Faculty of Theology, five from the Faculty of Philosophy, forty-nine from the Faculty of History and Cultural Heritage, ninety-nine from the Faculty of Social Sciences, and thirty-five from the Faculty of Theology Section in Tarnow) and forty Licentiate of Sacred Theology (twenty-seven at the Faculty of Theology, six at the Faculty of Canon Law, and seven at the Faculty of Theology Section in Tarnow). Twenty-two people received the academic degree of doctors (ten at the Faculty of Theology, eight at the Faculty of Philosophy, three at the Faculty of History and Cultural Heritage, and one at the Faculty of Theology Section in Tarnow); eleven became habilitated doctors; and two people received professorial titles.

In order to avoid misconceptions, it should be noted that the presented numbers of degrees and academic titles are not always consistent with those presented during promotion ceremonies, because several months usually pass between the ending of all proceedings (doctoral [the publication of the dissertation], habilitational, and professorial) and the promotion ceremony. Thus it is often the case that proceedings finished in one academic year occur during the next one. Furthermore, people who have received academic degrees or titles from a different university are often employed in a given academic year.

Promotion of the University

At our university, there are institutions that serve to promote it as well as its academic and didactic activity. The Information and Promotion Office, which has been active since the 2004-2005 academic year, is among them. In the past academic year, it undertook various promotional activities, including participation in the Science Festival along with other Krakow universities. The main location of the festival is a tent camp

on our city's Main Market Square. In the previous year, it took place on May 19-21, 2016 (for the sixteenth time) under the slogan: "Czas i przestrzeń" ("Time and Space"). This slogan was a reference to the distinguished Polish science fiction writer, philosopher, and futurologist Stanisław Lem. As in previous years, our university has organized academic panels, art exhibits, workshops, and quizzes. Dozens of volunteers from all four faculties of our university participated in our preparations for the festival.

Radio Bonus, which since 2010 has continually given regular broadcasts online, has been developing its cooperation with Vatican Radio, the radio service of the Catholic Information Agency (Katolicka Agencja Informacyjna, KAI), and with domestic radio stations. Radio Bonus has served as the media patron of numerous conferences and academic symposia. This radio is created by students of journalism and social communications who have at their disposal a professionally equipped radio studio as well as modern reporting equipment. You can listen to it online at: www.radio.upjp2.edu.pl.

In addition to Radio Bonus, the online television station JP2TV, which has been mentioned above, has been active since 2014. It is worth noting here that it is the only student television in Poland that makes use of professional TriCaster equipment for the realization of its programs. You can watch it online at: <http://jp2tv.pl/>. Since January 2016, JP2TV has been expanding its cooperation with Polish Television (TVP). Since then, one of the fruits of this collaboration has been the production of thirteen episodes of the „Dzienniczek 2016” („Diary 2016”) program known in Poland. Additionally, more than twenty-five materials for the „ŚDM Wiadomości” (“World Youth Day News”) program have been produced. What makes JP2TV unique is not only the talented and hard-working students but also the very richly equipped television studio, which is one of the most modern in Poland. This facilitates the professional education of young journalists in every field of editorial work: detailed research, the recording of materials, the editing of materials, and graphic editing. The high quality of education is attested to by the fact that journalists who would later work for Poland's biggest television stations began their journalistic work for JP2TV: JP2TV graduates have worked for TVP 1, TVP Kraków, TVP Kielce, TVN, Polsat News, RMF 4RACING TEAM, and many others.

An especially important means of promoting our university is its editorial activity, which is the domain of the Academic Press. The press publishes academic monographs and periodicals. Above all, *Analecta Cracoviensia*, which contains studies in the fields of philosophy, theology, Church history, canon law, and the social sciences, is a university-wide academic publication that has been published since 1970. So far, forty-four volumes (forty-seven years) of this periodical have been published. In addition to *Analecta Cracoviensia*, each faculty of our university publishes its own publication. The Faculty of Theology has been publishing *Polonia Sacra* since 2013. Furthermore,

it publishes the English language journal *Theological Research: A Journal of Systematic Theology*. Meanwhile, *Logos i Ethos* is a periodical of the Faculty of Philosophy, while the Faculty of History and Cultural Heritage publishes *Folia Historica Cracoviensia*, *Pro Musica Sacra* (since 2004), and *Orientalia Christiana Cracoviensia* (since 2009). Since 2009, the Faculty of Social Sciences has been publishing *Studia Socialia Cracoviensia*, while the Faculty of Canon Law publishes *Annales Canonici*. This is a yearly legal publication directed towards the academic community, practitioners of law, and to all those interested in Church law. The Faculty of Theology – Section in Tarnow publishes two journals: *Tarnowskie Studia Teologiczne* (“Tarnow Theological Studies,” since 1938) as well as *The Person and the Challenges* (since 2011). The Center for Interdisciplinary Studies, which is part of the Faculty of Philosophy, publishes *Zagadnienia Filozoficzne w Nauce* (“Philosophical Questions in Science”). This is a biannual publication devoted to the discovery and analysis of philosophical problems intertwined with the natural sciences. *Semina Scientiarum* is a similar journal; it initially was a supplement to the aforementioned *Zagadnienia Filozoficzne w Nauce*. It is edited by all the participants of the Philosophy of Science Academic Seminar and is devoted to topics on the meeting point of philosophy and the sciences. Since 2011, the Faculty of Philosophy has been publishing a new journal titled: *Racjonalia. Z punktu widzenia humanistyki* (“Rationalia: From the Perspective of the Humanities”). It is edited by our university’s Study Circle of Students of Philosophy and publishes articles by Bachelor of Arts students (first cycle), Master of Arts students (second cycle), doctoral students (third cycle), full Master of Arts students (one-cycle studies), and academic staff from various universities.

Our university’s official informative publication is “*Vita Academica. Biuletyn Informacyjny Uniwersytetu Papieskiego Jana Pawła II w Krakowie*” (*Vita Academica: The Information Bulletin of the Pontifical University of John Paul II*). It is a bimonthly publication and contains information related to the most important events that take place at our university. Students studying for the priesthood also have their own journal: *Novum Tempus Liberum*” (*NTL*), which is edited by seminarians from the Major Seminary of the Archdiocese of Krakow. Presently, it is a yearly publication and contains information about the seminarians’ lives at the university and in seminary.

Our university’s regular publications also include editorial series. It is especially worth noting *Studia nad myślą Jana Pawła II* (“Studies on the Thought of John Paul II”), which is published by the Center for Studies on the Thought of John Paul II. So far, the center has published seventeen volumes of this publication. In total, during the 2015-2016 academic year the Academic Press has published fifty-two publications, including twenty issues of journals and, of course, the *Vita Academica Information Bulletin*. It is especially worth noting *Encyklopedia Ekumenizmu w Polsce (1964-2014)*

(“The Encyclopedia of Ecumenism in Poland, 1964-2014”), which is edited by Rev. Prof. Józef Budniak, Rev. Prof. Zygfryd Glaesler, Rev. Prof. Tadeusz Kałużny, and Rev. Prof. Zdzisław Kijas (Krakow 2016, pp. 560). Furthermore, our press has been systematically increasing the number of publications available online (on the journals’ websites and in the university’s repository). There is also a “Journal Platform”⁵, where journals published by the university (presently, there are fourteen) are published.

In addition to academic and didactic activity, our university also tries to promote Church music, which is an extension of studies on the Church’s liturgy and its musical tradition. Since 1988, our university has been home to the *Psalmodia* Choir, which is under the direction of Dr. Hab. Włodzimierz Siedlik, Professor at the Pontifical University of John Paul II; he has directed the choir since its inception. The singing of the *Psalmodia* Choir graces various academic events, such as the inauguration of the academic year or our university’s anniversary celebrations. The choir also works to promote Polish culture abroad. Thanks to its cooperation with the Queen Jadwiga Foundation, it can take part in various artistic events. Since February 2009, two separate choirs have been active alongside the *Psalmodia* Choir: the Krakow Women’s Choir and the Krakow Men’s Choir, which have performed works written for a mixed choir and have engaged in their own concert activity, which has led them to receive numerous awards (for example, they received the Gold Belt/Złote Pasma award on September 9, 2016, in Niepołomice).

Undoubtedly, one of the most important events in the *Psalmodia* Choir’s activity last year was its performance during the “Wielkie Misterium. Ewangelia rodziny: szkoła człowieczeństwa dla naszych czasów” (“Great Mystery. The School of Christianity for Our Times”) concert, which took place on May 27, 2016. It was given by the famous tenor Andrea Bocelli in the Shrine of St. John Paul II in Krakow and was another level of the realization of the project of the Pontifical Council for the Family. The choir accompanied Bocelli as well as the Czech National Symphony Orchestra. The concert was part of preparations for World Youth Day in Krakow. During the Krakow edition of World Youth Day, most of the *Psalmodia* Choir’s singers sang in the chamber choir that sang during the Stations of the Cross, and some people performed in the main choir during Mass with Pope Francis in Brzegi.

On November 19-21, 2015, the *Psalmodia* Choir participated in the First Prof. Józef Świder International Festival of Music in Cieszyn in which choirs from Poland and Hungary took part. The choir received the most important award, the *Grand Prix* (the Cup of His Magnificence the Rector of the University of Silesia) as well as a Gold

⁵ <http://czasopisma.upjp2.edu.pl/index/index> (31. 12. 2015).

Diploma and a special award (the *Cantus* statuette) for the best performance of works by Prof. Józef Świder.

The choir's activity receives material support from the already-mentioned Queen Jadwiga Foundation.

Concern for Undergraduate and Graduate Students

In its didactic and research activity, the Pontifical University of John Paul II is concerned for the spiritual formation of its students and staff. It is led by the Academic Chaplaincy *Patmos*, which organizes Masses, ascetic conferences, and individual pastoral talks. During Advent and Lent, it organizes a retreat for students. All of these activities of the ministry are coordinated by Rev. Dr. Lucjan Bielas. Students preparing for the priesthood receive spiritual and pastoral formation in their seminaries. Meanwhile, lay students meet for prayer in the Chapel of St. John Paul II, which is located in the university's building at 1 Franciszkańska Street and also in the building at 3 Bernardyńska Street since it has been leased. The chaplaincy organizes the "Zaufanie i Praca" ("Trust and Work") program for those who want to develop their entrepreneurial skills inspired by Christian spirituality.

In addition to *Patmos*, one more chaplaincy functions at our university. The University Christian Outreach (UCO) has been active at our university for some time, but on December 1, 2016, it became a permanent student chaplaincy at our university as a result of a decision by our Rector His Magnificence W. Zuziak from November 30, 2016. The aims of this chaplaincy are expressed in three challenges: "Live life to the fullest!" "Pass it on!" "Grow!" The chaplaincy's mentor is Rev. Dr. Hab. Szymon Dryżdyk.⁶

Concern for our students also encompasses assistance in solving their problems. This is done by the „Ster” ("Rudder") Student Clinic, which has been active since 2014. It is a shared undertaking of the Academic Chaplaincy *Patmos* and the students of the Faculty of Social Sciences). The clinic helps to resolve family crises by looking for an appropriate specialist or the resources for financing a research project, or in any other problem that makes students' lives challenging. The clinic is open to the needs of students from all the universities in Krakow. The clinic offers: counseling concerning aid to the family, elderly persons, and people with disabilities; mediation between students and within families; advice related to natural methods of recognizing fertility and NaPROTECHNOLOGY; aid in resolving administrative or social tasks; psychological and spiritual assistance during times of crisis; and aid in solving problems.

Naturally, good university studies not only provide necessary knowledge; they also develop skills. Since the 2014-2015 academic year, the Academic Business Incubator

⁶ For more information, see: <http://ucokrakow.pl/> (30. 12. 2016).

has functioned at our university. It cooperates with the Academic Business Incubator Foundation. It is an institution that assists students in developing and running their own businesses. Everyone who has an idea for a new business can take advantage of this institution. The “incubator” provides legal assistance, training, and accounting aid, and it also teaches students how to run their own businesses in practice. It also offers the support of specialists who can help to evaluate and test ideas for businesses at minimal costs. The Academic Business Incubator is part of our university’s Career Office.

The university authorities try to provide the best possible conditions for students with disabilities to study. They have the support of the Office for People with Disabilities, which also organizes various meetings of students with disabilities. Throughout the academic year, the office organizes cyclical integration events in collaboration with other Krakow universities. They include the inter-university Christmas and the “Integration Days.” The most recent Krakow Integration Days, held for the ninth time, were held on April 17-23, 2016 in Krakow. They were organized by seven Krakow universities, which had signed an agreement regarding this years ago. As part of this, the Office for People with Disabilities at our university organized professional counseling workshops titled: “Osoba z niepełnosprawnością na rynku pracy – możliwości, przepisy prawa, dokumenty aplikacyjne” (“The Person with Disabilities on the Labor Market: Opportunities, Legal Regulations, Application Documents”). It took place on April 21, 2016.

The university also remembers its graduates. An example of this is the cyclical meetings of lay graduates of the Faculty of Theology, which for some time have been held in January as a Christmas wafer meeting. The last such meeting took place on January 23, 2016. Its topic was Pope Francis’ bull *Misericordiae Vultus*. There are organizational efforts undertaken to create a new association of the graduates of all the faculties titled: The Association of Graduates and Friends of the Pontifical University of John Paul II.

Supporting Research

Our university’s library is a specialized one. It participates in the creation of a nationwide system of library information exchange and in the work of the Krakow Library Organization, the nationwide NUKAT library union catalog, and the Federation of the Polish Church Libraries FIDES. The library continues to expand its catalog in the framework of the integrated vTLS/Virtua information system. As of December 2016, the number of volumes was 219,141, while as of December 2016, the number of volumes of continuing presses was 5,237. The catalog in this form is available online. In 2016, the number of library users was 14,099. In 2016, the library gained 5,949 volumes of books, eighty-five inventory units of multimedia collections, and 655 inventory units of publications. At the end of 2016, the library’s book collection consisted of

150,746 volumes. In 2016, the library gained 572 presently published publications and subscribed to 246 publications (115 of which were foreign). Furthermore, our library received 115 domestic and foreign publications as a result of inter-library exchange. Most of the foreign publications were received in exchange for *Analecta Cracoviensia*.

The acquisition of digital collections of information is a dynamically expanding area of the library's activity. They are systematically used by our library, which has been collecting and making available electronic sources of information for many years. They are above all full-text, bibliographical, and factographic databases as well as publications and books in digital form and information from the internet. From the perspective of access to them, they can be divided into those that are widely available and those that require a license. Access to these resources is possible for our staff and students not only from the computers of the main library, but also from their private computers (after logging in, of course). The library offers access to the following databases: the Polish Virtual Library of Science (Wirtualna Biblioteka Nauki, financed by the Ministry of Science and Higher Education), IBUK Libra (a service that gives access to the publications of the Polish Scientific Publishers PWN), the ATLA Religion Database with ATLASerials, and Communication & Mass Media Complete. It also makes possible access to the most important databases requiring a license: Ebsco, Elsevier, Nature, Science, Scopus, Springer, Web of Science, Wiley-Blackwell, and to the Institute for Scientific Information (which also includes various databases produced by the Thomson Reuters company, and through 2013 the Web of Knowledge platform).

The Queen Jadwiga Foundation for the Pontifical University of John Paul II is responsible for the acquisition of financial resources assisting in the university's activity. Although the university receives subsidies from the state budget, which cover 72 percent of the university's expenses, they do not cover the costs of investments. Thus the remaining financial resources must be financed from other sources. Thus the foundation works to popularize the university's activity through access to various available resources and encourages donors to support it.

The foundation also helps to finance the activity of organized student groups or groups of students that are not organizations according to the binding Guidebook of Helping to Subsidize Student Initiatives and Undertakings, thus supporting their ideas. The Students' Union; Doctoral Students' Union; study circles; theater, sport, and music groups; the Academic Chaplaincy; and other student organizations at our university can request such subsidies.

It accordance with its statutes, the foundation also gives financial support to the university "in its scientific and creative activity." In the previous academic year, the hospice in collaboration with the Polish Hospice and the St. Stanislaus Church in Rome began to co-subsidize a very important and expensive project titled: "Inwentaryzacja

i digitalizacja wybranych archiwaliów Centralnego Ośrodka Duszpasterstwa Polaków za granicą w Rzymie” (“The Inventory and Digitalization of Selected Archival Materials of the Central Pastoral Center of Poles Abroad and in Rome”). This is a project co-subsidized by the Ministry of Culture and National Heritage as part of its “Dziedzictwo kulturowe” („Cultural Heritage”) program, which encompasses the protection of Polish heritage abroad. The archival materials covered by this project are the letters of Rev. Bishop Józef Gawlina, the Military Bishop of the Polish Army during World War II, who corresponded with people and institutions in such countries as: England, Belgium, France, Holland, the United States, and Germany. First, the selection of institutions covered by the program was chosen. Due to the homogeneity of the archival materials, this covered all the materials from Gawlina’s time. The archival materials include documents; newspaper clippings; and photographs and all sorts of materials from various ceremonies in Rome in which Poles participated, such as: the Jubilee Year (1950), the beatification of Maximilian Kolbe (1971), and the 400th anniversary of the consecration of the St. Stanislaus Church (1991).

Initially, the foundation was known as the Foundation of St. Queen Hedwig for the Pontifical Academy of Theology in Krakow. It was established on February 2, 1990, from the initiative of its founders: Cardinal Franciszek Macharski, then the Archbishop of Krakow and Great Chancellor of the Pontifical Academy of Theology; and Rev. Bishop Prof. Dr. Hab. Waclaw Świerzawski, then the Rector of our university.

On this occasion, the foundation’s board expresses gratitude to all its donors for the support, kindness, and readiness to help that they have shown. A Mass in the Church of St. Mark the Evangelist in Krakow was celebrated for all our donors.

In Grateful Memory...

Among the constant events in the life of our university is prayer for its deceased staff and for all the deceased staff of universities in Krakow and in Lesser Poland. Each year in November, a special Mass is said in St. Anne’s Collegiate Church during which those who had passed on to eternity in the previous academic year is said. In the past academic year, this took place on Monday November 16, 2015.

In conclusion, it is also worth mentioning those people who left us forever in the past academic year. In the previous academic year, our university was greatly sad to say farewell to two of its professors.

Rev. Prof. Dr. Hab. Andrzej Baczyński died on December 1, 2015, in Krakow at the age of fifty-eight. He was Vice-Dean of our university’s Faculty of Social Sciences. He had distinguished contributions for the development of journalism studies at our university. In 1995, he was the co-founder of the Post-Diploma Journalism Course at our university’s Faculty of Theology (then the Pontifical Academy of Theology). In 2005,

he became its Director. He worked to create a new course of study in “journalism and social communications,” which was ultimately successful. Thanks to this, the Faculty of Social Sciences was formed. Family Studies and Journalism were transferred from the Faculty of Theology to the new Faculty of Social Sciences, where Bachelor of Arts and Master of Arts degrees began to be offered in journalism and social communications. He mostly taught classes on “The Media in Church Teaching” as well as academic seminars. His contribution to the development of Catholic television programs is valuable. In 1992, he was one of the founders of the Krakow branch of the Editorial Office of TVP Catholic Programs, which he later headed. He was a television commentator during the pilgrimages of Popes John Paul II and Benedict XVI to Poland and an editor and commentator during the broadcast of Masses from the Shrine of Divine Mercy in Krakow-Lagiewniki. He created several hundred television programs and more than a dozen acclaimed documentary films. He was also active in the Foundation of the Centre for Information, Meetings, Dialogue, Education and Prayer; the John Paul II Polish Association of Media and Journalism Education (Polskie Stowarzyszenie Edukacji Medialnej i Dziennikarskiej im. Jana Pawła II); the John Paul II Polish Association of Pastoralists and Ministers (Polskie Stowarzyszenie Pastoralistów i Duszpasterzy im. Jana Pawła II); the John Paul II Institute of Intercultural Dialogue in Krakow; and in the Organizing Committee of World Youth Day in Krakow (in the early phases). The funeral ceremony took place on December 4, 2015, in St. Florian’s Church in Krakow, and on December 5, 2015, in the Church of Our Lady of Perpetual Help in Bibice. His remains were interred at the parish cemetery in Bibice.

Rev. Docent Dr. Hab. Jerzy Chmiel died on August 9, 2016, in Krakow at the age of eighty-one. Starting in 1968, he was a lecturer in Biblical studies at our university’s Faculty of Theology (then an autonomous Faculty of Theology). Starting in 1975, he was the Director of the Department of Biblical Hermeneutics and Judaism, under whose tutelage five doctorates, seven licentiates of sacred theology, and eighty-five master of arts degrees in Biblical theology were promoted. He was also the Vice-Dean (1982-1985) and Dean (1985-1991) of the Faculty of Theology, which was then at the Pontifical Academy of Theology in Krakow, and the Vice-Rector of that Academy (1997-2000). In 1982-2007, he edited the *Ruch Biblijny i Liturgiczny* (“Biblical and Liturgical Movement”) quarterly. He founded the Sindonological Study Group at the Polish Theological Society. In 1978-1987, he was the President of this association. He was a member of several international Biblical studies associations as well as the Committee of the Polish Bishops’ Conference on the Liturgy (1984-1989) and of the Sub-Committee and later Committee of the Polish Bishops’ Conference on Dialogue with Judaism (1986-1996). Cardinal Macharski was the author of ten books and more than 500 articles, some of which were published in foreign languages. He also published under the pen name

of Marian Fular. His life motto was the Latin *adagium*: *Ne quid nimis!* – “Never too much!” The funeral ceremonies took place in St. Anne’s Collegiate Church in Krakow on August 11, 2016. He was interred at the Rakowicki Cemetery on the same day.

We ask God’s Mercy for all our university’s deceased staff and remember them with gratitude as we try to imitate their examples of academic integrity and human goodness.

The facts presented above attest to the dynamic growth of the Pontifical University of John Paul II in Krakow; to its sensitivity to contemporary academic, social, and religious problems; and to its openness to the needs of both the local and universal Church. All means of supporting its activity are at the same time means of promoting Christian values, the teaching of St. John Paul II, and, finally, participation in the realization of Christ’s missionary instruction: “Make disciples of all nations” (Matthew 28:19).

Rev. Jan D. Szczurek

Translated by: Filip Mazurczak