

In the service of the truth. The 620th academic year at the Pontifical University of John Paul II in Krakow

“The vocation of every university is to serve the truth, to discover it, and to pass it on to others.” That was how John Paul II defined the vocation of the university twenty years ago. The past academic year marked the twentieth anniversary of the canonization of the founders of our Faculty of Theology (June 8, 1997) and John Paul II’s memorable meeting with the rectors of the Polish universities in Krakow, which took place on the 600th anniversary of the establishment of our Faculty of Theology and the foundation of the Jagiellonian University in Krakow (June 8, 1997, in the afternoon). This event was reported in the *Chronica* published in the 29th volume of our periodical (for 1997).¹ The pope’s teaching that was formulated then is not only still relevant, but it is especially valuable today with regards to the contemporary ideologies that reject the classical understanding of the truth. In his *Last Testament*, Pope Emeritus Benedict XVI says: “I had for a long time excluded the question of truth, because it seemed to be too great. [...] In these years of struggle, the 1970s, it became clear to me: if we omit the truth, what do we do anything for? So the truth must be involved.”² Thus the truth gives ultimate meaning to all university activity.

It is also worth noting that the Greek equivalent of the term “truth” is ἀλήθεια, which comes from ἀ, or the so-called “a” *privativum* expressing either a lack of something or a contradiction, and λανθάνω (λήθω) meaning above all “to hide from someone,” “to be hidden,” or “to be unknown.” Thus from the experience of the ancient Greeks before Aristotle the word “truth” meant that which is no longer hidden, something that is evident, known, and exposed. John Paul II’s understanding of the truth in its fundamental meaning thus refers to experiencing it for the first time. The activity of the Pontifical University of John Paul II is part of the exposing of the truth about God and man. According to John Paul II, the second task of the university is to pass on that truth. Awareness of this task is expressed in the motto on our emblem, which is Christ’s

¹ J. D. Szczurek, *Six Hundred Academic Year on the Faculty at the Pontifical Academy of Theology in Cracow*, “Analecta Cracoviensia” 29 (1997), p. 684–686.

² P. Seewald, Pope Benedict XVI, *Last Testament: In His Own Words*, London–New York, p. 241.

words *Euntes docete* (“Go, therefore, and make disciples;” see: Matthew 28:19). Thus our university undertakes efforts to pursue both these tasks, and the events described below in this *Chronicle* (just as in all the previous issues) attest to this.

The anniversary of the above-mentioned event was celebrated on June 5, 2017. The first part of this ceremony took place in the auditorium of the *Collegium Novum* of the Jagiellonian University in Krakow and was dedicated to a reflection on the meaning of John Paul II’s meeting with Polish academia (June 8, 1997). The second part of the ceremony took place in Wawel Cathedral and was dedicated to the canonization of St. Jadwiga, Queen of Poland (June 8, 1997). During the part of the ceremony that consisted of a discussion panel, the following spoke: Prof. Dr. Hab. Med. Wojciech Nowak, the rector of the Jagiellonian University, who was the moderator of the panel; the rector of our university, Rev. Prof. Dr. Hab. Wojciech Zyzak; the chairman of the Main Council of Science and Post-Secondary Education Prof. Dr. Hab. Jerzy Woźnicki (rector of the Warsaw University of Technology in 1996–2002); Prof. Dr. Hab. Stefan Jurga (rector of the Adam Mickiewicz University in Poznan in 1996–2002); and the rector of the Warsaw University of Technology and chairman of the Conference of Rectors of Academic Schools in Poland, Prof. Dr. Hab. Engineer Piotr Schmidt. The speeches dealt with the achievements of science in the past twenty years and with the challenges that result from them as well as with the legacy of John Paul II. Archbishop Marek Jędraszewski, the new great chancellor of our university, also spoke. He recalled the principle contained in the Latin *adagium Plus ratio quam vis* (“more reason than force”). The first part of the celebrations related to the canonization opened with a lecture by Bishop Dr. Hab. Grzegorz Ryś. His lecture, titled, “You Waited for a Long Time” (*Długo czekałaś...*) was a reference to the canonization homily given by the pope and emphasized the long time (almost six centuries) between Queen Jadwiga’s death and her canonization. The ceremony culminated in a Mass concelebrated by Archbishop Marek Jędraszewski, who also gave the homily. He mentioned the sacrifice that St. Jadwiga made for the good of her fatherland, for Christian Europe, and for our university.

Another event that had great importance for the life and activity of our university in the past academic year was the change of the great chancellor. Cardinal Stanisław Dziwisz, who had hitherto been the archbishop of Krakow and at the same time the great chancellor of our university, retired. The ceremony of thanksgiving for concern for our university during the eleven years of his service took place during the academic promotions on January 11, 2017, in St. Anne’s Collegiate Church in Krakow. The promotions themselves will be discussed below. Archbishop Prof. Dr. Hab. Marek Jędraszewski, previously the archbishop of Lodz, became the new archbishop of Krakow and our university’s great chancellor. His installation ceremony took place at Wawel Cathedral on January 28, 2017 (Saturday). Participants in the ceremony included

Archbishop Salvatore Pennacchio, the papal nuncio to Poland; Andrzej Duda, the president of Poland and his wife; a large part of the Polish bishops' conference, the clergy of Krakow, secular authorities, and the representatives of various universities in Krakow, including our own university; delegates from various Church and secular organizations; and guests from Lodz.

Archbishop Jędraszewski became the archbishop of Krakow as a result of a papal bull of Pope Francis signed on December 8, 2016. The Latin version of the bull begins with the words *Sublimis inter sidera* ("the most wonderful of the stars"). These words were borrowed from a hymn to the Mother of God (*O gloriosa Virginum, sublimis...*), and the pope used it to refer to the Church in Krakow, whose new shepherd was the former archbishop of Lodz. Our new great chancellor's episcopal motto consists of the words *Scire Christum* ("to know Christ") originating in the First Letter of St. Paul to the Corinthians, in which the apostle says: "For I resolved to know nothing while I was with you except Jesus Christ, and him crucified" (1 Cor 2:2). During the homily during his installation Mass, Archbishop Jędraszewski affirmed that during his service in Krakow he will be guided by these words and will teach "to know Christ, Who is the source of love and the greatest giver of grace." The entirety of the homily was focused on the notion of vigilance: "Vigilance is the word of the Lord and the word of the people." These words were borrowed from Cardinal Karol Wojtyła's poem "Thinking about the Fatherland" (*Mysłąc Ojczyzna...*). The archbishop thus reminded his listeners that "God's vigilance revealed in Christ and through Christ finds its unique expression in one word: mercy." Meanwhile, the vigilance of "the people" was that of Abraham; the Virgin Mary; St. Jadwiga, Queen of Poland; St. Faustina Kowalska; and St. John Paul II. Among them, St. Jadwiga and St. John Paul II had especially close ties to our university: St. Jadwiga founded our Faculty of Theology, while the pope established our university. Vigilance is persistence at the side of truth, including when doing so is not easy. Thus, as our new archbishop emphasized, "we have to constantly keep vigil in order to respond to the Lord's designs. St. John Paul II the Great kept vigil. He kept vigil up through the very end." At the end of his homily, Archbishop Jędraszewski referenced St. Thomas Aquinas, whose feast is celebrated on January 28. He called him "a brilliant master of *Scire Christum*, in encountering and loving Christ." Archbishop Jędraszewski quoted words from St. Thomas' hymn: *Adoro te devote* "I come to you in humility and my unworthiness" in order to worship Him and give Him praise.

The new great chancellor has known our university for a long time. In the mid-1980s, he was a lecturer at the Faculty of Theology (when our university was the Pontifical Academy of Theology) and later he received the title of habilitated doctor (in 1991) at our university's Faculty of Philosophy for his accomplishments, which included a habilitation thesis titled: "Jean-Paul Sartre and Emmanuel Levinas: In Search of a New

Humanism – An Analytical-Comparative Study” (*Jean-Paul Sartre i Emmanuel Levinas – w poszukiwaniu nowego humanizmu. Studium analityczno-porównawcze*, published as *W poszukiwaniu nowego humanizmu. J.-P. Sartre – E. Levinas*, Krakow: Wydawnictwo Naukowe Papierskiej Akademii Teologicznej 1994, pp. 283). Later, he was the reviewer of many doctoral dissertations that were defended at our university’s Faculty of Philosophy.

Other Important Events

We have continued the tradition of a common prayer at the start of the new academic year. In the past academic year, our university went on a pilgrimage to the Sanctuary of St. John Paul II in Krakow in the so-called White Seas. The schedule of the pilgrimage, which took place on September 30, 2016 (Friday), was analogous to the previous year’s program. The first event was a conference titled: *W sieci jest wszystko. Prawie* (“Everything is Online. Almost Everything”). It was given by Dr. Hab. Krzysztof Gurba from the Faculty of Social Sciences (Institute of Journalism and Social Communications). Next, there was a special concelebrated Mass led by the rector of our university, Rev. Prof. Wojciech Zyzak. The homily was given by Rev. Łukasz Stec, OFM^{Cap}, rector of the Capuchin Major Seminary in Krakow. After a lunch break, there was a candlelight procession in the rosary garden prepared and led by theology students. The pilgrimage was attended by professors, staff, librarians, and students (seminarians studying in Krakow’s diocesan and regular seminaries, nuns, and lay students) from our university. During the pilgrimage, we prayed through the intercession of St. John Paul II and the patrons of the university for God’s blessings for the whole university community.

In recent years, the ceremony inaugurating the academic year usually took place on the anniversary of the election of St. John Paul II to the throne of St. Peter (October 16, 1978). Because this anniversary took place on Sunday and because our great chancellor had other duties that day, the inauguration of the 2016–2017 academic year took place on October 20, 2016 (Thursday). Thanks to this, the ceremony coincided with the feast of St. John Cantius (d. 1473), a professor of theology and patron of the Faculty of Theology. Previously, the inauguration ceremony took place on exactly that day, on October 20. As usual, the inauguration consisted of a liturgical part celebrated in St. Anne’s collegiate church, while the academic portion took place in the Krakow Philharmonic. The special Mass was led by Cardinal Stanisław Dziwisz, the archbishop of Krakow and our university’s great chancellor, who also gave the homily. After the Mass, the participants of the inauguration walked in a procession to the Krakow Philharmonic.

The second part of the inauguration began with the singing of the hymn *Gaude Mater Polonia* by the Psalmidia Choir of the Pontifical University of John Paul II in

Krakow. Next, His Magnificence Rev. Prof. Dr. Hab. Wojciech Zyzak, the rector of our university, spoke. First, he greeted our university's great chancellor, Cardinal Stanisław Dziwisz, as well as Bishop Andrzej Jeż, the great vice-chancellor and the bishop of Tarnow, as well as Rev. Władysław Gasidło, PA, the former parish priest of St. Anne's, and voivode Mr. Jerzy Pilch, who represented Mr. Andrzej Duda, president of Poland. Finally, our rector greeted the remaining guests, who included the representatives of secular universities: the rector of the University of Agriculture in Krakow, Prof. Włodzimierz Sady; the rector of the Jan Matejko Academy of Fine Arts in Krakow, Prof. Stanisław Tabisz; the rector of the State Higher Vocational School in Tarnow, Prof. Jadwiga Laska; the rector of the Podhale State Higher Vocational School in Nowy Targ, Mons. Colonel Stanisław Gulak; rector of the State Higher Vocational School in Nowy Sacz Prof. Mariusz Cygnar; vice-rector for development of the Jagiellonian University, Prof. Dorota Malec; vice-rector of the AGH University of Science and Technology in Krakow, Prof. Andrzej Pach; vice-rector for the education of students of the Krakow University of Economics in Krakow, Prof. Krzysztof Surówka; the vice-rector for education of the Pedagogical University of Krakow, Prof. Bogusław Skowronek; the vice-rector for science of the University School of Physical Education in Krakow, Prof. Anna Marchewka; the plenipotentiary of the rector for student affairs of the Andrzej Frycz Modrzewski Krakow University, Prof. Barbara Stoczewska; and the vice-rector for general affairs of the Tadeusz Kosciuszko University of Technology Dr. Hab. Engineer Architect Andrzej Białkiewicz. The guests also included the representatives of Catholic universities: the vice-rector for student affairs of the Pontifical Faculty of Theology in Wroclaw, Prof. Jerzy Tupikowski, CMF; the dean of the Greek-Catholic Theological Faculty of the University of Prešov in Slovakia, Prof. Peter Sturak and the associate dean of that faculty, Prof. Marek Petro; and the vice-rector for education of the John Paul II Catholic University of Lublin Prof. Iwona Niewiadomska; vice-rector for education and programs of education of the Jesuit University Ignatianum Dr. Hab. Bożena Sieradzka-Baziur, and Rev. Prof. Stanisław Ziemiański, SJ. The rectors of major seminaries also took part: the rector of the Major Seminary of the Order of Saint Paul the First Hermit, Rev. Dr. Grzegorz Prus; the rector of the Major Seminary in Katowice Panewniki, Rev. Dr. Augustyn Smyczek, OFM; the rector of the Major Seminary in Rzeszow, Rev. Dr. Paweł Pietrusiak the rector of the Major Seminary in Kielce, Rev. Dr. Paweł Tambor; the vice-rector of the seminary representing the Major Seminary of the Archdiocese of Czestochowa and the Major Seminary of the Diocese of Sosnowiec, Rev. Konrad Kościk, S.T.L., M.A. The remaining guests included the consul general of Ukraine in Krakow Mr. Oleg Mandiuk; the honorary consul of Malta, Ms. Agnieszka Kamińska; the chairman of the Social Committee for the Renewal of Krakow's Landmarks, Prof. Franciszek Ziejka; the director

of Elementary School No. 159 of the Ursuline Sisters of the Roman Union, S. Bożena Wioletta Lubocka, OSU; the assistant principal of the St. Stanislaus Kostka Catholic High School in Kielce, Prof. Anna Pietrzak; the director of the Cecylia Plater-Zyberkówna High School in Piaseczna, Prof. Halina Teleżyńska; the director of the BPH Business Center, Mr. Grzegorz Brach, and Mr. Krzysztof Czuban, who represented the BPH Bank; and the CEO of the Konspol company, Mr. Antoni Rączka.

On this occasion, it is worth mentioning that telegrams and letters of congratulations were sent by the following members of the Polish Episcopal Conference and the representatives of Polish universities and secular authorities: Mr. Andrzej Duda, the President of Poland; Mr. Jarosław Gowin, the Deputy Prime Minister of Poland and Minister of Science and Higher Education; Prof. Dr. Hab. Engineer Maciej Chorowski, Director of the National Center for Research and Development; Prof. Dr. Hab. Kazimierz Wiatr, Marshal of the Lesser Poland Region; Ms. Urszula Nowogórska, Chairperson of the Lesser Poland Voivodeship Sejmik Ms. Urszula Nowogórska; Archbishop Józef Kowalczyk; Archbishop of Gniezno and Primate of Poland Archbishop Wojciech Polak; Archbishop Wiktor Skworec, Archbishop of Katowice; Archbishop Stanisław Gądecki, Archbishop of Poznań; the Archbishop of Przemyśl Archbishop Adam Szal; Cardinal Kazimierz Nycz, Archbishop of Warsaw; the Archbishop of the Roman Catholic Archdiocese of Warmia, Archbishop Józef Górczyński; the Bishop of Kielce, Bishop Jan Piotrowski; the Military Ordinary of the Polish Armed Forces, Bishop Józef Guzdek; the Auxiliary Bishop of the Archdiocese of Katowice, Bishop Adam Wodarczyk; the Bishop of Świdnica, Bishop Ignacy Dec; the Greek-Catholic Bishop of Wrocław-Gdańsk, Bishop Włodzimierz R. Juszczak; the Rector of the AGH University of Science and Technology, Prof. Dr. Hab. Engineer Tadeusz Słomka; the Rector of the Academy of Music in Kraków, Prof. Dr. Hab. Stanisław Krawczyński; the Rector of the Medical University of Silesia in Katowice, Prof. Dr. Hab. Przemysław Jałowiecki, MD; the Rector of the University of Gdańsk, Dr. Hab. Jerzy P. Gwizdała; the Rector of the Adam Mickiewicz University in Poznań, Dr. Hab. Andrzej Lesicki, Professor of the Adam Mickiewicz University; Rector of the Medical University of Lublin, Prof. Dr. Hab. Andrzej Drop, MD; Rector of the University of Life Sciences in Lublin, Prof. Dr. Hab. Zygmunt Litwińczuk; Rector of the Maria Curie-Skłodowska University in Lublin, Prof. Dr. Hab. Stanisław Michałowski; Rector of the Cardinal Stefan Wyszyński University in Warsaw, Rev. Prof. Dr. Hab. Stanisław Dziekoński; Rector of the Siedlce University of Natural Sciences and Humanities, Dr. Hab. Tamara Zacharuk, Professor of the Siedlce University of Natural Sciences and Humanities; Rector of the University of Szczecin, Prof. Dr. Hab. Edward Włodarczyk; Rector of the Medical University of Silesia, Prof. Dr. Hab. Andrzej Kowalczyk; Rector of the University of Warmia and Mazury in Olsztyn, Prof. Dr. Hab. Ryszard J. Górecki; Rector of the

Medical University of Warsaw, Prof. Dr. Hab. Mirosław Wielgoś, MD; Rector of the State Higher Vocational School in Krosno, Prof. Dr. Hab. Grzegorz Przebinda; and Dean of the Faculty of Theology of the Adam Mickiewicz University in Poznan, Rev. Dr. Hab. Paweł Wygralak, Professor of the Adam Mickiewicz University in Poznan.

In the next part of the inauguration speech, His Magnificence Rev. Wojciech Zyzak, the rector of our university, outlined the most important events and achievements of the previous academic year. After referencing the liturgical feast of St. John Cantius and his works of mercy, the rector mentioned three new blessed, two of whom are martyrs: the Franciscans Zbigniew Strzałkowski and Michał Tomaszek. Fathers Strzałkowski and Tomaszek were the first students of our university (which then was the Pontifical Academy of Theology) to be raised to the altars. The third blessed was Rev. Władysław Bukowiński, a graduate of the Faculty of Theology (then part of the Jagiellonian University) and apostle to Kazakhstan who was beatified on September 11, 2016, in Karaganda. For us, they are models of mercy, beautiful examples of service to God and man in the pursuit of truth. Next, Rev. Zyzak noted that new post-diploma studies on the subject of Christian-Jewish relations were inaugurated at the Institute of Fundamental Theology, Ecumenism, and Dialogue at the Faculty of Theology. Another important achievement was the writing and printing of the *Encyclopedia of Ecumenism in Poland (1964–2014)* (“Encyklopedia ekumenizmu w Polsce [1964–2014]”). This was the first such academic publication to be written in Poland. Other important events that our rector mentioned included giving an honorary doctorate to Rev. Prof. Michał Heller; the establishment of integrated M.A. studies at the Faculty of Canon Law; and the participation of our university’s staff in preparing for World Youth Day, which was expressed especially in the preparation of the musical arrangement by the Inter-University Institute of Church Music and the liturgy. Rev. Zyzak also expressed his joy that the University of the Third Age is growing; that the Center for Scientific Research and International Cooperation is functioning effectively (23 percent of all grant proposals are accepted); that the digital library of our university’s main library is expanding; and that the Psalmidia Choir has been successful. Finally, Rev. Zyzak called upon the entire university community to put great effort so that our parametric evaluation would go well.

Another important part of the inauguration ceremony was the matriculation of first-year students at the university’s four faculties (Theology, Philosophy, History and Cultural Heritage, and Social Sciences). This part of the ceremony was led by the Vice-Rector for Student Affairs and Didactics, Rev. Prof. Dr. Hab. Janusz Mastalski. As in previous years, after the matriculation, Ms. Justyna Lusio, the president of the Students’ Union, gave a speech in which she encouraged her new colleagues to make the best use of the opportunities offered by the university and to become engaged in the work

of the Students' Union. She also referred to Pope Francis' words from the last World Youth Day in which the pope encouraged the young to not settle for complacency but instead to bravely approach the challenges of studying.

After the matriculation, awards and distinctions were presented. The Vice-Rector for Development and Human Resources, Rev. Prof. Dr. Hab. Wojciech Misztal, announced the state distinctions bestowed upon our university's distinguished staff. Thus the President of Poland Mr. Andrzej Duda honored Dr. Hab. Małgorzata Duda with the Silver Cross of Merit for her contributions to the development of science. Meanwhile, the following members of our staff received the Medal for Long Service for the exemplary, dutiful performance of their duties: Ms. Stanisława Bujakowska, M.A.; Dr. Hab. Izabela Dobosz, a professor of the Pontifical University of John Paul II; and the author of this chronicle. Meanwhile, Rev. Prof. Dr. Hab. Tadeusz Panuś received a Silver Medal for Long Service. The following staff received the Medal of the Commission of National Education for their unique contributions to education: Rev. Dr. Hab. Antoni Świerczek and Dr. Hab. Krzysztof Gurba. The voivode of Lesser Poland, Mr. Józef Pilch, presented these medals. Next, awards were presented by His Magnificence Rev. Zyżak, our university's rector. Sixteen persons received the rector's award for achievements in research and teaching and organizational work. Three persons received the rector's award for the best doctoral dissertation; one person received an award for the best Licentiate of Sacred Theology dissertation; ten persons received awards for the best M.A. thesis; and seven persons received awards for the best B.A. thesis. Seventeen persons received the rector's award for administrative and library staff.

The last part of the inauguration ceremony was the inaugural lecture, which was given by Prof. Dr. Hab. Walery Pisarek on the subject of "Important Words and the Most Important Words" (*Słowa ważne i najważniejsze*). On the basis of the frequency of the appearance of certain words in various publications, Prof. Pisarek determined which ones are more important and which are less important. There is a certain pattern: the frequency of the usage of various words is dependent on the problem that the world media are dealing with at a certain point. For example, "truth" is by no means one of the most frequently used words.

The entire inauguration ceremony was graced by the singing of the Psalmodia Choir of the Pontifical University of John Paul II directed by Mr. Włodzimierz Siedlik and sang the hymn *Laudate Dominum* (by Charles Gounod). The singing was accompanied by Mr. Marek Pawełek on the organ.

Another important event in the past year were the Days of John Paul II, which are regularly held each year and are organized by universities represented in the Krakow College of University Rectors. They are of an academic, interdisciplinary, popular, and cultural nature. They are the inspiration for academic research and the popularization

of John Paul II's teaching. They take place every year at the beginning of November (because of the feast of St. Charles Borromeo, John Paul II's patron saint, and the anniversary of his ordination). This year's Days of John Paul II, held for the eleventh time, took place on November 7–9, 2016, and their topic was "Mercy." In this way, the organizers made the Days of John Paul II part of the Extraordinary Jubilee of Mercy proclaimed by Pope Francis. The topic of this year's event played a very important role in John Paul II's teaching, as evidenced by his encyclical *Dives in misericordia* (1980). His teaching led to the growth of the Divine Mercy devotion. As in previous years, the Days of John Paul II were held at the campuses of several universities belonging to the aforementioned college. This year, the honorary patrons were: the Archbishop of Krakow, Cardinal Stanisław Dziwisz; the Voivode of Lesser Poland, Mr. Józef Pilch; the Marshal of the Lesser Poland Region, Mr. Jacek Krupa; and the Mayor of Krakow, Mr. Jacek Majchrowski.

The eleventh Days of John Paul II began with a press conference with the event's organizers. It was held in the Krakow archbishop's palace. During this conference, Cardinal Dziwisz recalled that "the Days of John Paul II present the great academic and artistic legacy left to us by St. John Paul II," and thus our duty is to protect this legacy. The Days of John Paul II consisted of the following events: the nationwide academic session "Music and Karol Wojtyła's and John Paul II's Poetry and Teaching (*Muzyka wobec poezji i nauczania Karola Wojtyły i Jana Pawła II*, part seven) organized by the Academy of Music in Krakow (November 7–8, 2016); "Tweetup #WindowforMercy" (*OknoNaMiłosierdzie*) held by our university's Educational Laboratory of Social Media (November 7, 2016, which was the first part of the academic conference titled: "The Media: A Space for and Tool of Mercy" [*Media: przestrzeń i narzędzie miłosierdzia*, November 11, 2016]), which opened a series of conferences titled: "In the Social-Media Network" (*W społeczno-medialnej sieci*) organized by the Institute of Journalism and Social Communication; the screening of a recorded theatrical performance titled: *Prophet of Mercy, or on St. Faustina in Fifteen Images (Prorok miłosierdzia, czyli rzecz o św. S. Faustynie w piętnastu obrazach)* presented in the AST National Academy of Theatre Arts in Krakow (November 7, 2016); an academic conference titled: "Poland and Its Neighbors: The Beginnings of Christianity" (*Polska i jej sąsiedzi. Początki chrześcijaństwa*), organized by the State Higher Vocational School in Krosno (November 11, 2016); an academic session on "Mercy: A Measure Designed against Evil" (*Miłosierdzie – miara wyznaczona złu*), organized by the Jesuit University Ignatianum in Krakow (November 8, 2016); a post-contest exhibit of photography at the Tadeusz Kosciuszko University of Technology in Krakow (November 8, 2016); a concert performed by the Chamber Choir and Orchestra of the Academy of Music in Krakow (Jesuit basilica in Krakow, November 8, 2016); and an academic session organized by the State Higher Vocational School in Tarnow (November 9, 2016).

The main academic event of the Eleventh Days of John Paul II was an academic session titled “Mercy” which took place in the auditorium of the Collegium Novum of the Jagiellonian University in Krakow (November 9, 2016). After a few introductory remarks by the rector of the Jagiellonian University, Prof. Dr. Hab. Wojciech Nowak, and by Cardinal Stanisław Dziwisz, papers were presented by: Bishop Dr. Hab. Grzegorz Ryś, “The Scandal of Mercy” (*Skandal miłosierdzia*); Prof. Dr. Hab. Kazimierz Korus (Jagiellonian University), “The Greek Origins of Mercy” (*U greckich źródeł miłosierdzia*); Rev. Prof. Dr. Hab. Andrzej Witko (Pontifical University of John Paul II), “John Paul II: The Pope of Divine Mercy” (*Jan Paweł II – papież Bożego Miłosierdzia*); Rev. Dr. Hab. Robert Nęcek (Pontifical University of John Paul II), “The Role of the Media in the Service of Mercy in the Context of John Paul II’s Teaching” (*Rola środków społecznego przekazu w służbie miłosierdzia. Na kanwie nauczania Jana Pawła II*); and Archbishop Rino Fisichella (President of the Pontifical Council for the Promotion of the New Evangelisation), “Now Is the Time of Mercy” (*Questo è il tempo della misericordia*). Next, there was a discussion, and after the break there was a discussion panel whose participants were Ms. Janina Ochojska, M.A. (President of the Polish Humanitarian Action); Dr. Jolanta Stokłosa (President of the Hospice of St. Lazarus); Rev. Dr. Hab. Waldemar Cisło, Professor of the Cardinal Stefan Wyszyński University in Warsaw (Director of the Polish Section of Aid to the Church in Need); Rev. Jan Drob, M.A., S.T.L. (Chairman of the Board of the Foundation Work of the New Millennium); and Rev. Dr. Hubert Matusiewicz, OH (Assistant Director of Caritas Poland). The panel was led by Dr. Hab. Krzysztof Gurba (Pontifical University of John Paul II).

The literary and photographic contests for students from across Poland for works inspired by the thought and work of Karol Wojtyła/John Paul II were an integral part of the event. After Mass, awards were presented in the Have No Fear! John Paul II Center in the White Seas in Krakow to conclude the Days of John Paul II (November 9, 2016).³

In addition to the above-mentioned Days of John Paul II, the legacy of Pope St. John Paul II is popularized by monthly open lectures that are part of the “In Service of Thought” (*Postuga myślenia*) cycle. They take place once a month, on Thursdays; most recently, they have been held in the headquarters of the Tischner Institute in Krakow. They are organized by the Center for Studies on the Thought of John Paul II (which is part of our university) along with the Tischner Institute and the Intercultural Dialogue Institute of John Paul II. In the past year, the following lectures were given by the representatives of various academic and cultural centers: “John Paul II on the Law” (*Jan Paweł II o prawie*), by Prof. Zbigniew Stawrowski, Tischner Institute and the Cardinal

³ For more information (in Polish), see: <http://edycja2016.jp2.krakow.pl>, 21.12.2017.

Stefan Wyszyński University in Warsaw; “René Girard and John Paul II on Knowing Oneself” (*René Girard i Karol Wojtyła o poznaniu siebie*) by Dr. Mirosław Harciarek of the Czestochowa University of Technology; “Wojtyła’s Grappling with God: A Spatial Interpretation of the Poem ‘Thought – Strange Space’” (*Wojtyły zmaganie się z Bogiem. Interpretacja przestrzenna poematu: Myśl jest przestrzenią dziwną*) by Rev. Dr. Mateusz Pindelski, S.P., of Krakow; “Karol Wojtyła’s Participation in the Second Vatican Council” (*Udział Karola Wojtyły w Soborze Watykańskim II*) by Rev. Dr. Tomasz Mędrak of the Major Seminary in Szczecin; “*The Radiation of Fatherhood: The Key to Karol Wojtyła’s/John Paul II’s Thinking about God*” («*Promieniowanie ojcostwa*» – *klucz do myśli o Bogu i człowieku Karola Wojtyły/Jana Pawła II*) by Dr. Anna Karoń-Ostrowska of the Jesuit University Ignatianum in Krakow; and “*Amoris laetitia: A Breakthrough in the Catholic Theology of Marriage?*” («*Amoris laetitia*». *Przełom w katolickiej teologii małżeństwa?*) by Rev. Dr. Hab. Janusz Bujak, Professor of the University of Szczecin.

Furthermore, the center publishes a series titled: “Studies on the Thought of John Paul II” (*Studia nad Myślą Jana Pawła II*), which is edited by Rev. Prof. Dr. Hab. Jarosław Kupczak, O.P. The next, eighteenth volume, which is devoted to John Paul II’s philosophical and theological anthropology, is being prepared for publication.

Rev. Prof. Józef Tischner (1931–2000), a philosopher known across Poland and Europe, also had a major impact on the intellectual milieu of not only our university, but also across Poland. A form of popularizing his philosophical and political-social thought are the Tischner Days. They are organized by the AST National Academy of Theatre Arts in Krakow, the Jagiellonian University, the Pontifical University of John Paul II in Krakow, the “ZNAK” Social Institute of Publishing, and the Tischner Institute. The event’s honorary patron is Cardinal Stanisław Dziwisz.

The Seventeenth Tischner Days took place on April 20–22, 2017, and their slogan was “Others/Foreigners/Neighbors” (*Inny/Obcy/Bliźni*). The Tischner Days began with a Mass in St. Anne’s Collegiate Church, which this year was also celebrated by Bishop Prof. Dr. Hab. Grzegorz Ryś, who also gave the homily. This year’s Tischner Days featured the reading of fragments of essays by Rev. Prof. Józef Tischner contained in the book *Inny. Eseje o spotkaniu* (“The Other: An Essay on Encounter”), which was published in Krakow in 2017 (on the stage of the AST National Academy of Theatre Arts); a discussion meeting of the “Cave of Philosophers” (*Jaskinia Filozofów*); and a philosophical youth debate on the topic: “What Did Tischner Give Us?” (in the Tischner European University in Krakow). The main event of the Tischner Days was a lecture from the *Colloquia Tischneriana* cycle titled: “The Power of the Sacred” (*Potęga sacrum*), which was given by Prof. Hans Joas, a sociologist at the Humboldt-Universität in Berlin, Germany (in the Auditorium Maximum of the Jagiellonian University). The professor noted that the so-called secularization thesis in religious

studies has lost its dominant position. Elements of this theory are still found in the so-called Max Weber narrative. In his lecture, Prof. Joas presented a critique of this narrative and pointed towards the existence of a new alternative. The Tischner Days concluded with a gala of the Rev. Józef Tischner Znak and Hestia Award for 2017 (at the Stanisław Wyspiański Stage) and a concert of the Jazz Quintet.⁴

Finally, the important events that occurred last year include the registration of the Association of Graduates and Friends of the Pontifical University of John Paul II in Krakow. The registration in the National Court Register (pursuant to a court decision dated March 2, 2017) concluded the formal process of creating an association that was created thanks to a decision of our university's senate from May 16, 2016. Thus the association is subject to national laws and is thus protected by them. In accordance with the association's statute (§ 12), its aim is to support the activity of our university, and especially making known its educational offerings; gaining financial resources to support the university's activity; organizing readings, seminars, conferences, courses and training camps, retreats, and pilgrimages; publishing; and cooperation with Polish and international associations that have similar purposes.

Jubilees and Promotions

Other important cyclical events include jubilees. It is especially worth noting the anniversary of the establishment of the Faculty of Theology in Krakow (January 11, 1397) of what was then the Krakow Academy (and today is the Jagiellonian University). The central part of these celebrations was the promotion of academic degrees. This year's anniversary celebrations took place on Wednesday January 11, 2017, in St. Anne's Collegiate Church. The university thanked God for caring for the university for 620 years through a special Mass celebrated by our university's Great Chancellor Cardinal Stanisław Dziwisz. The Dean of the Faculty of History and Cultural Heritage, Rev. Prof. Dr. Hab. Jacek Urban, gave the homily. After Mass, a promotion ceremony was held, during which seventeen persons received their PhD diplomas (ten at the Faculty of Theology, one at the Faculty of Theology – Theological Section in Tarnow, two at the Faculty of Philosophy, and four at the Faculty of History and Cultural Heritage). Meanwhile, six persons received habilitated doctor diplomas: two from the Faculty of Theology (Rev. Dr. Hab. Marek Gilski and Rev. Dr. Hab. Jarosław Superson, SAC); three from the Faculty of Philosophy (Rev. Dr. Hab. Piotr Andryszczak, Dr. Hab. Krzysztof Gurba, and Dr. Hab. Jan O. Wawrzyniak); and, finally, one from the Faculty of History and Cultural Heritage (Dr. Hab. Tomasz Skrzyński). No one was awarded the

⁴ For more on the Seventeenth Tischner Days (in Polish), see: <http://dni.tischner.pl/program-2017,27.12.2017>.

academic title of professor during this promotion. Next, Cardinal Dziwisz presented full professor diplomas to Rev. Prof. Dr. Hab. Jacek Urban and Rev. Prof. Dr. Hab. Władysław Zuziak. His Magnificence Rev. Zyzak thanked Cardinal Dziwisz for his presence and for the diplomas in the name of those who had received promotions. After expressing his thanks, he kindly expressed his gratitude to Cardinal Dziwisz for the previous eleven years of his support for our university prior to his succession by Marek Jędraszewski, the new archbishop of Krakow and great chancellor of our university. The rector thanked Cardinal Dziwisz above all for his enormous support for all of our university's activities, especially his concern for its development and the high quality of its academic staff; for promoting the teachings of St. John Paul II; for helping to transform the Pontifical Academy of Theology into the Pontifical University of John Paul II; for helping to create the Faculty of Canon Law; and for helping to undertake the process thanks to which Pope Emeritus Benedict XVI became an honorary doctor of our university. At the end of his speech, Rev. Zyzak expressed his hope that "the cardinal will still be actively present in the life of our university community." The promotions ended with paying homage to the relics of St. John Cantius, accompanied by the singing of the Psalmodia Choir.

The next series of promotions, related to the feast of St. Jadwiga, Queen of Poland, on June 8 did not take place. However, this time marked the twentieth anniversary of John Paul II's meeting with the Polish academic community which, as has already been mentioned, was celebrated on June 5, 2017.

Other important jubilees celebrated during the previous academic year include: the fortieth anniversary of the Faculty of Philosophy and the thirty-fifth anniversary of the Faculty of History and Cultural Heritage. The Faculty of Philosophy was erected following a degree of the Congregation of Catholic Education dated December 23, 1976, as the Pontifical Faculty of Philosophy. Its first dean was Rev. Prof. Józef Tischner. Later, after the creation of the Pontifical Academy of Theology in 1981 (presently the Pontifical University of John Paul II), it became an integral part of the university. Professors who have played an integral role in its history include the above-mentioned Rev. Prof. Tischner, Archbishop Józef Życiński, and Rev. Prof. Michał Heller. The jubilee ceremony took place on December 8, 2016. The celebrations began with a Mass in St. Anne's Collegiate Church led by Cardinal Stanisław Dziwisz. The homily was given by the dean of the Faculty of Philosophy, Rev. Dr. Hab. Jarosław Jagiełło. The second part of the ceremony took place in the building of the AST National Academy of Theatre Arts, where the special jubilee gala was held. In his speech, Prof. Dr. Hab. Aleksander Bobko, secretary of state of the Ministry of Science and Higher Education (and also a former professor of the Faculty of Philosophy), noted that today's world, which is dominated by achievements in technology, would be soulless without philosophy. The following

spoke after him: Rev. Prof. Dr. Hab. Jan Andrzej Kłoczowski, OP, from the Faculty of Philosophy and Prof. Dr. Hab. Franciszek Ziejka (a former rector of the Jagiellonian University). Next, Prof. Dr. Hab. Karol Tarnowski, also a professor of our Faculty of Philosophy, gave a piano recital; music is his beloved hobby. The ceremony culminated in our university rector's speech. In it, he emphasized the strong connection of current challenges to the past and to tradition. It is first noting that letters of congratulations were sent by the former prefect of the Congregation for Catholic Education, Cardinal Zenon Grocholewski, and the mayor of the city of Krakow, Mr. Jacek Majchrowski.

With regards to the jubilee of the Faculty of History and Cultural Heritage, its creation coincides with the establishment of the Pontifical Academy of Theology in Krakow. It was created by a decision of John Paul II pursuant to the *Motu proprio 'Beata Hedvigis'* dated December 8, 1981. It was then known as the Faculty of Church History. In 2008, its name was changed to the Faculty of History and Cultural Heritage, and subsequently its structure was reformed, thus creating three institutes: the Institute of History, the Institute of History of Art and Culture, and the Inter-University Institute of Church Music (together with the Academy of Music in Krakow). The jubilee ceremony took place on January 4, 2017, in the Krakow Archbishops' Palace. It began with a concelebrated Mass in the chapel of that palace led by Bishop Dr. Hab. Grzegorz Ryś, auxiliary bishop of the Archdiocese of Krakow and a professor of that faculty; previously, he was one of its first students. Next, the participants of the ceremony went to the room of the "Papal Window," where several persons were given silver and gold Medals of St. John Paul II for Service to the Archdiocese of Krakow. The new dean of the faculty, Rev. Prof. Dr. Hab. Jacek Urban, quoted John Paul II's statement from June 9, 1979, that "a specialization in the field of Church history is fully appropriate in Krakow, which of all Polish cities has unique resources related to that discipline. Thus the Holy See will accommodate efforts aimed at creating a distinct specialization at the Krakow university." The pope ended this statement with the following request: "Please continue to pursue efforts in this direction." The separation of this specialization occurred thanks to the creation of a distinct faculty. Prof. Dr. Hab. Roman Maria Zawadzki, a professor emeritus of that faculty, historian of the Middle Ages, and accomplished researcher of St. John Cantius' written legacy, noted that academic work is meaningful when it is done "with passion, sometimes to the point of losing oneself." Other speakers mentioned outstanding professors of the faculty (and of the previous specialization in Church history), who undoubtedly include Prof. Dr. Hab. Janina Bieniarzówna, Rev. Prof. Dr. Hab. Bolesław Kumor, Rev. Prof. Dr. Hab. Bolesław Przybyszewski, Rev. Prof. Dr. Hab. Jan Kracik, Prof. Dr. Hab. Wojciech Bartel, and Prof. Dr. Hab. Michał Rożek. Presently, the faculty is pursuing an important research project "Lesser Poland's Sacral Legacy" (coordinated by Dr. Józef Skrabski), and its

Historical Textiles Workshop, which thanks to the most modern innovations is bringing back the old glow of historical textiles, especially centuries-old chasubles.

International and Domestic Cooperation

The development of a university's staff is not the only factor that leads to its flourishing. Its cooperation with international academic centers does as well. Particularly vibrant are our academic contacts with centers in Bochum (Germany), Ružomberok and Prešov (Slovakia), and Kyiv and Lviv (Ukraine). The continual expansion of international cooperation is attested to by the signing of new cooperation agreements between our university and six international universities. Thus on November 11, 2016, the senate of our university decided to sign a memorandum of understanding on cooperation with Abat Oliba CEU University (Barcelona, Spain). This agreement encompasses the exchange of academic didactic staff, students, academic publications, and the results of research, and also information in the field of didactics and the training of didactic staff, doctoral students, and undergraduates, advanced didactic materials, and the application of modern methods of teaching. The Spanish side was represented by the rector of that university, Prof. Dr. Carlos Pérez del Valle, while our university was represented by our rector, Rev. Wojciech Zyzak, and the great chancellor of our university, Cardinal Stanisław Dziwisz. On our side, the coordinator of this cooperation is an employee of the Center for Scientific Research and International Cooperation, and on the Spanish side it is the head of the International Office.

A similar memorandum of understanding was signed with the Studium Theologicum Salesianum St. Peter and St. Paul in Jerusalem, Israel. The project was ratified by the senate on April 24, 2017. The Salesian side was represented by Rev. Dr. Biju Michael (president of the STs), and our university was represented by Rev. Zyzak and Archbishop Marek Jędraszewski, our university's new great chancellor. On our side, the coordinator for cooperation is an employee of the Center for Scientific Research and International Cooperation, while on the Salesian side it is the Coordinator of Institutional Cooperation – Rev. Andrzej Toczyski, DD.

A similar memorandum of understanding was signed with the Dostoevsky Omsk State University in Russia. The project was ratified by the senate on April 15, 2017. The Russian side was represented by the university's rector, Prof. Alexey Jakub, while our university was represented by our rector, Rev. Zyzak, and Archbishop Marek Jędraszewski, our university's new great chancellor. The two sides agreed to designate coordinators for this cooperation.

A similar agreement was also signed with the Lviv University of Trade and Economics (Lviv, Ukraine). The project was ratified by the senate on May 15, 2017. The Ukrainian side was represented by the university's rector, Prof. Petro Kucyk, while our university

was represented by Rev. Zyzak and Archbishop Marek Jędraszewski. On our side, the coordinator of this cooperation is an employee of the Center for Scientific Research and International Cooperation, and on the Ukrainian side it is the head of the Center for Education and International Cooperation.

Another agreement was signed with the University of Huelva (Spain). The project was ratified by the senate on June 19, 2017. The Spanish side was represented by the rector of that university, Prof. Dr. Francisco Ruiz Muñoz, while our university was represented by our rector, Rev. Zyzak and Archbishop Marek Jędraszewski. On our side, the coordinator of this cooperation is an employee of the Center for Scientific Research and International Cooperation, and on the Spanish side it is the head of the Office for International Contacts.

Also on June 19, 2017, the senate approved a project for an agreement with the University of Brescia (Brescia, Italy). This agreement encompasses activities similar to those in analogous agreements. The Italian side was represented by the university's rector, Prof. Maurizio Tira, while our university was represented by our rector, Rev. Zyzak and Archbishop Marek Jędraszewski. The two sides agreed to designate coordinators for this cooperation.

Furthermore, our university has bilateral agreements that were signed independent of the previous Erasmus exchange program, which now is called Erasmus+ (a total of twenty-nine agreements): the Catholic University of the Sacred Heart (Milan, Italy), the Theological Faculty of Central Italy (Florence, Italy), the Salesian Pontifical University (Rome, Italy), the Theological-Philosophical Academy (Brixen/Bressanone, Italy), the University of Brescia (Brescia, Italy), the Pontifical University of Salamanca (Salamanca, Spain), Abat Oliba University (Barcelona, Spain), the University of Huelva (Huelva, Spain), Ruhr University (Bochum, Germany), the University of Würzburg (Würzburg, Germany), Brandenburg University of Technology Cottbus-Senftenberg (Cottbus, Germany), the Catholic Institute of Toulouse (Toulouse, France), the Catholic University of Croatia (Zagreb, Croatia), the University of Split (Split, Croatia), the University of Zagreb (Zagreb, Croatia), Pázmány Péter Catholic University (Budapest, Hungary), Ovidius University of Constantza (Constantza, Romania), Sulkhan-Saba Orbeliani Teaching University (Tbilisi, Georgia), Vytautas Magnus University (Kaunas, Lithuania), Constantine the Philosopher University in Nitra (Nitra, Slovakia), the University of Prešov (Prešov, Slovakia), the Catholic University in Ružomberok (Ružomberok, Slovakia), Ukrainian Catholic University (Lviv, Ukraine), the Thomas Aquinas Institute of Religious Studies in Kyiv (Kyiv, Ukraine), Zhytomyr Ivan Franko State University (Zhytomyr, Ukraine), the Lviv University of Trade and Economics (Lviv, Ukraine), the Russian Christian Academy for the Humanities (St. Petersburg, Russia), Dostoevsky Omsk State University (Omsk, Russia), and Studium Theologicum Salesianum (Jerusalem, Israel).

The main sphere of international cooperation is the EU program ERASMUS+, in which our university has participated since December 2013 and which will last through the end of the 2020–2021 academic year. As part of this program, in the 2016–2017 academic year sixteen of our students conducted part of their studies abroad; twenty-one of our students did internships abroad; and twenty-five students from our various partner universities came to us as part of this program. Next, twelve members of our academic staff gave lectures at international partner universities, while ten members of our administrative staff received training as part of the Erasmus+ program. Meanwhile, our university was visited by a total of fourteen academic and administrative staff.

In the 2016–2017 academic year, we had a total of ninety-four signed agreements with international universities that engage in this program with the following organizational units of our university (some were signed in the 2016–2017 academic year):

With the Faculty of Theology (twenty-four): the University of Prešov in Prešov (Slovakia), Charles University in Prague (Czech Republic), the University of Vienna (Austria), the Sankt Georgen Graduate School of Philosophy and Theology (Germany), the Newman Institute (Sweden), Ruhr University Bochum (Germany), the University of Ljubljana (Slovenia), the Catholic University in Ružomberok (Slovakia), the University of Navarra (Spain), Albert Ludwigs University of Freiburg (Germany), the University of Split (Croatia), the University of Malta (Malta), the Catholic University of Applied Sciences of North Rhine – Westphalia (Germany), Theologische Fakultät Trier (Germany), Pontifical University St. Patrick's College (Ireland), the University of Münster (Germany), Comenius University in Bratislava (Slovakia), the Pontifical University of Salamanca (Spain), the University of Würzburg (Germany), the University of Tilburg (Netherlands), the University of Tübingen Eberhard Karls (Germany), the Catholic Institute of Toulouse (France), Abat Oliba CEU University (Spain), and Matej Bel University Banská Bystrica (Slovakia, 2016–2017).

With the Faculty of Theology – Theological Section in Tarnow (five): the University of Ljubljana (Slovenia), Charles University in Prague (Czech Republic), the Catholic University of Eichstätt-Ingolstadt (Germany), the University of Huelva (Spain; only academic staff), and Abat Oliba CEU University (Spain).

With the Faculty of Philosophy (seventeen): the University of Constantine the Philosopher (Slovakia), the University of Trento (Italy), Vilnius University (Lithuania), the University of Trnava (Slovakia), the Sankt Georgen Graduate School of Philosophy and Theology (Germany), the Newman Institute (Sweden), the Kaunas University of Technology (Lithuania), the Albert Ludwigs University of Freiburg (Germany), the University of Naples Federico II (Italy), the University of Verona (Italy), Roma Tre University (Italy), the University of Würzburg (Germany), the University of Prešov (Slovakia), the Catholic Institute of Toulouse (France), the University of Bremen (Germany), the

University of Granada (Spain), and the Instituto de Filosofía Edith Stein in Granada (Spain; academic staff only).

With the Institute of Journalism and Social Communication (nineteen): the University of Limerick (Ireland), the Catholic University of Portugal (Portugal), the Catholic University in Ružomberok (Slovakia), Suor Orsola Benincasa University of Naples (Italy), Vilnius University (Lithuania), Complutense University of Madrid (Spain), the Catholic University of the Sacred Heart (Italy), Madrid Open University (Spain), the University of Pisa (Italy), the University of Ljubljana (Slovenia), Lusophone University of Humanities and Technologies (Portugal), the Catholic Institute of Toulouse (France), the Polytechnic Institute of Lisbon (Portugal), the University of Perugia (Italy), the University of Bremen (Germany), Abat Oliba CEU University (Spain), the University of Santiago de Compostela (Spain; only academic staff), Lusófona University of Porto (Portugal, 2016/2017), and the Catholic University of Croatia (Croatia, 2016–2017).

With the Institute for Family Studies at the Faculty of Social Sciences (four): the Catholic University in Ružomberok (Slovakia), the University of Pisa (Italy), Abat Oliba CEU University (Spain), and the University of Debrecen (Hungary, 2016–2017).

With the Institute of Social Work, also at the Faculty of Social Sciences (seven): the University of Prešov (Slovakia), the Brandenburg University of Technology Cottbus-Senftenberg (Germany), the Catholic University in Ružomberok (Slovakia), the University of Graz (Austria), Abat Oliba CEU University (Spain), Matej Bel University in Banská Bystrica (Slovakia), and the University of Debrecen (Hungary, 2016–2017).

With the Faculty of History and Cultural Heritage (eight): the University of Prešov (Slovakia), Yildirim Beyazit University (Turkey; academic staff only), the University of Pisa (Italy), the Lusophone University of Humanities and Technologies (Portugal), the University of Bremen (Germany), the Catholic University of Croatia (Croatia), the University of Santiago de Compostela (Spain; academic staff only), and Charles University in Prague (Czech Republic, 2016–2017).

With the Institute of History of Art and Culture at the Faculty of History and Cultural Heritage (seven): Charles University in Prague (Czech Republic), Comenius University in Bratislava (Slovakia), the Catholic University of Leuven (Belgium), the Catholic University of Paris (France), the University of Pisa (Italy), the Lusophone University of Humanities and Technologies (Portugal), and the the University of Naples Federico II (Italy).

With the Inter-University Institute of Church Music (three): the Hochschule für Musik Würzburg (Germany), the University of Ljubljana (Slovenia), and the Catalonia College of Music (Spain).

In conclusion, we can note that in the 2016–2017 academic year the number of students studying at our university as part of the Erasmus+ program doubled with respect

to previous years. About 20 percent of them decided to continue their studies at our university in the next semester. The Center for Scientific Research and International Cooperation coordinates exchanges as part of this program and as part of other bilateral agreements. Currently, it offers many stipends to study abroad at nearly seventeen universities in sixteen countries belonging to the European Union and one in Turkey. Among the international students who come to our university, those from Italy, Portugal, Spain, Slovakia, Germany, and Croatia are the most numerous.

Especially significant is the already-mentioned cooperation with the Faculty of Catholic Theology at the Ruhr University Bochum (Germany), which has gone on uninterrupted since the signing of an agreement on November 2, 1982. On the German side, Rev. Prof. Joachim Wiemeyer is responsible for it, while on the part of our university it is Rev. Dr. Hab. Jan Dziejic, a professor at the Pontifical University of John Paul II. In the previous academic year an academic symposium titled: *Wir sind nur Gast auf Erden und wandern ohne Ruh* ("We Are Only Guests on Earth and We Travel without Rest, *Gotteslob* 505) was held in relation to the thirty-fifth anniversary of the signing of this agreement. Through the words to this hymn we wanted to recall the truth that the aim of every Christian should be eternal life. The symposium took place on May 18, 2017, at the Ruhr University Bochum and was divided into three sections, each of which contained two lectures each (one from the Polish side and one from the German one). The first session dealt with Christian life seen as a path and the question of migration in late antiquity. The second session dealt with the impact of migration on the identity of people who migrate and the topic of the migration of Poles. Finally, the third session discussed the profile of young pilgrims who participated in World Youth Day and German ministry to people who are on the move. Professors and students from Poland and Germany, as well as guests interested in the topic of migration, participated in the symposium.

The symposium was accompanied by a cultural program, which took place on May 15–20, 2017. It consisted of visiting the university town of Münster and places related to Blessed Cardinal August von Galen, famous for his anti-Nazi sermons, and then Cologne. On the way back to Poland, our students stopped to quickly tour the center of Berlin. The program of the meetings included not only by a common prayer, but also by cooking meals and other common undertakings with students and professors from the Ruhr University Bochum.

Meanwhile, our openness to academic cooperation with partners east of our border is expressed by the strengthening of ties between our university and academic centers in Ukraine, especially in Lviv. This cooperation can be seen in the signing of a cooperation agreement with the Lviv University of Trade and Economics, which has been mentioned above, and the common organization of symposia and the participation

of the Ukrainian side in them. An example of the engagement of both sides is the visit of our university's vice-rector, Rev. Prof. Dr. Hab. J. Stala, at the Zhytomyr State University of Ivan Franko (early November 2016), where he took place in the third international conference *Polska–Ukraina: wspólna droga do wolności* (“Poland and Ukraine: A Common Path to Freedom”), titled: *Państwa narodowe ery nowożytnej: czynniki historyczne i współczesne rozwoju politycznego* (“Nation-States in the Modern Era: Historical and Contemporary Factors of Political Development”), where he presented a paper on “Patriotic Education in the Context of the Process of European Integration” (*Wychowanie do patriotyzmu w kontekście procesu integracji europejskiej*). Our vice-rector's stay was a re-visit, because in September 2016 he hosted a delegation from the Zhytomyr State University of Ivan Franko.

In the context of cooperation with Catholic universities, it is also worth mentioning our university's participation in the forum of secular universities. Our university is in regular contact with all the universities in Poland through its membership in the Conference of Rectors of Universities in Poland – CRUP. Since March 4, 2006, the rector of the Pontifical University of John Paul II is a member of this conference, as pursuant to its amended rules, and is active in it.

Naturally, our university eagerly cooperates with domestic institutions as well. In the past academic year, several cooperation agreements were signed. It is especially worth noting the agreement signed with the Tarnowska Szkoła Wyższa in Tarnow. The project of the agreement was ratified by the senate on November 11, 2006. Like in the case of agreements with international universities, this agreement encompasses exchanges of academic and didactic staff, students, and academic publications and research, as well as knowledge in the field of didactics and the training of didactic staff, doctoral students, and undergraduates, advanced didactic materials, and the application of modern methods of teaching. The Tarnow university was represented by its rector, Dr. Barbara Grajdura, and its chancellor, Dr. Bożena Szołtysek, while our university, as usual, was represented by Rev. Zyzak and Archbishop Marek Jędraszewski. On our side, the coordinator of this cooperation is an employee of the Center for Scientific Research and International Cooperation, and on the part of Tarnow it is the dean of the Faculty of Applied Sciences.

Especially useful for not only our university, but for the entire Lesser Poland region is the agreement with the voivode of Lesser Poland concerning the “Lesser Poland's Sacral Heritage” project, which was signed on January 9, 2017. The project is undertaken through the Workshop for Cataloging and Digitalizing Landmarks, and its coordinator is Dr. Józef Skrabski from the Faculty of History and Cultural Heritage. The aim of the project is to fully digitalize and make available the priceless works of religious art from the area of the Archdiocese of Krakow and the Diocese of Bielsko-Zywiec

in the Lesser Poland region on a website created for this purpose. As part of this project, a modern repository gathers photographs, descriptions, and analyses of works of art from churches in Lesser Poland and archival materials from the Krakow archives of the metropolitan curia, the cathedral chapter, and the archives of the Archdiocese of Lviv that are in our university's collection in digital form. The entire worth of the project is 4,696,928.91 PLN, while 85 percent of the eligible costs are covered by the European Regional Development Fund Operational Program for the Małopolskie Voivodeship for the 2014–2020 period.

Our cooperation with the army may seem surprising. However, because of our concern for the patriotic education of youth, the strengthening of national defense through education, and because of the expansion of academic cooperation and deeper integration of the academic milieu, our rector Rev. W. Zyzak signed an agreement on cooperation with the 35th Military Department, headquartered in Rząska. On November 10, 2016, the document was presented to the commander of that division, Lieutenant Colonel Adam Jangrot. Challenges and threats in the field of defense in the case of World Youth Day in Krakow in 2016 was the subject of mutual concern.

Meanwhile, the fact that we cooperate with local television should not be surprising, especially since our university organizes studies related to journalism and social communications. Because of this fact, we signed a media agreement with the Krakow branch of Polish Television (TVP3 Krakow) on February 28, 2018. A letter of intent related to media cooperation was signed by our rector Rev. Zyzak and the director of the Institute of Journalism and Social Communication, Rev. Dr. Hab. Michał Drożdż, a professor of the Pontifical University of John Paul II, on our side, and by Mr. Marek Szczepanek, the director of TVP3 Krakow, representing Polish Television. The agreement deals with the development and deepening of the experience that our students gained thanks to their cooperation with TVP3 during World Youth Day. Thanks to the agreement, our students will learn “big television,” because they will have access to Program 1 of Polish Television. It also allows them to gain new practical skills and share beautiful values with others through the new media.

The fruit of cooperation during World Youth Day is another media agreement (specifically, a letter of intent) with TBC Project Sp. z o.o. in Krakow signed on March 16, 2017. “TBC” stands for “To Be Continued.” Thus this company's aim is to continue and develop the experiences gained during the preparations for World Youth Day in Krakow in 2016. Our university was represented by our rector, Rev. Zyzak, and the director of the Institute of Journalism and Social Communication, Rev. Dr. Hab. Michał Drożdż, a professor of the Pontifical University of John Paul II, while the company was represented by its CEO, Rev. Dr. Wojciech Olszewski, and a member of its board, Ms. Lidia Chmura. According to the letter of intent, “the aim of cooperation is the use

of information potential, experience, competences, and media infrastructure of both institutions in order to create common media materials and give students of journalism and social communications practical training related to the journalist's media work."

Guest lectures are also a form of academic cooperation and inter-university exchange. In the past academic year, it is worth noting the following open (guest) lectures. Rev. Józef Stala, our vice-rector, organized a guest lecture by Prof. Marylann J. Schuttloffel of the Department of Education at the Catholic University of America in Washington. On November 7, 2016, Prof. Schuttloffel met with international students studying at our university as part of the Erasmus+. She gave them a lecture on Catholic education in the United States. After the lecture, the students asked many questions about the social, political, and educational situation in the United States.

Along with the Major Seminary of the Franciscan Friars and School of Servants of the Spirit, our Institute of Fundamental Theology, Ecumenism, and Dialogue invited Rabbi John Fischer to give a guest lecture titled: "Jesus: A Practicing Jew" (*Jeżus – Żyd praktykujący*). The lecture took place on December 7, 2016, in our building on 3 Bernardyńska Street. Dr. Fischer was born in Budapest, Hungary, into a family of Hungarian Jews who had survived the Holocaust. He is the rabbi of a messianic synagogue in Florida in the United States; the vice-rector of academic affairs at the St. Petersburg Seminary and Yeshiva (Florida); the rector of the Netzer David International Yeshiva (a Messianic Jewish school associated with the seminary); and the chairman of the International Messianic Jewish Alliance.

The defense of human life conceived as a result of a criminal act requires much engagement. An argument in favor of the defense of such life is Ms. Rebecca Kiessling, an American lawyer and pro-life activist, who met with our students on March 15, 2017, in order to tell them her story. It began with the moment when she was conceived as a result of rape. She told about her mother who, having experienced trauma as a result of rape and had no help, wanted to dispose of her through abortion. However, at that time the state of Michigan banned abortion, and thanks to this she is alive today. She was adopted by a Jewish family, and after she grew up and was educated decided convince the world that victims of rape should be protected from abortion. She said, among other things, that: "We can disagree on many matters, but in my case the topic of abortion has a human face." The meeting was organized by our university's Chair in Bioethics.

As part of the Erasmus+ program, on May 16–18, 2017, our university hosted Prof. Bojan Žalec from the University of Ljubljana. He gave four lectures: "Kierkegaard and Politics: Violence and Divine Command;" "Radical Islamism and Islamophobia (As Negative Factors of Intercultural Dialogue);" "Kierkegaard, Anxiety, and Totalitarianism;" and "Kierkegaard on Love." The organizers of these guest lectures were the faculty coordinators of the Erasmus+ program from the Faculty of Theology and

Faculty of Philosophy with the participation of the Center for Scientific Research and International Cooperation.

An important voice in the discussion on respect for human life was a guest lecture given by Mr. Nikolas Nikas, Esq., on May 18, 2017 on the topic of: "Healthcare Rights of Conscience." Mr. Nikas is an American lawyer and the president of the Bioethics Defense Fund. As a lawyer, he is an expert in such fields as: abortion, *in vitro* fertilization, conscience rights in healthcare, cloning, stem cell research, and assisted suicide. The lecture was organized by the Chair in Bioethics at the Faculty of Philosophy under the direction of Rev. Dr. Hab. Tadeusz Biesaga, a professor of the Pontifical University of John Paul II.

This year, the Chair in the Philosophy of Religion at our university's Faculty of Philosophy also organized open guest lectures by Prof. Tomas Sodeika. He is a phenomenologist and philosopher of dialogue and professor of Vilnius University (Lithuania), as well as a translator of the works of Edmund Husserl, Martin Heidegger, Hans-Georg Gadamer, and Martin Buber into Lithuanian. These were two lectures, and they took place on May 24, 2017. Their topics were: "Postsecularism and Psychoanalysis" (*Postsekularyzm a psychoanaliza*) and "Martin Heidegger in Zollikon" (*Martin Heidegger w Zollikon*).

Meanwhile, the Faculty of History and Cultural Heritage organized a guest lecture by Dr. Vadzim Anipiarkou from the National Academy of Sciences of Belarus in Minsk. A lecture on the topic of "The Targowica Confederation (1792–1793) in Light of Social Stereotypes and Academic Discussions" (*Konfederacja targowicka [1792–1793] w świetle stereotypów społecznych i dyskusji naukowych*) took place on June 14, 2017. From that point, in the Polish language the word *Targowica* has become a synonym of betrayal of the Polish nation and the gravest crime against the Polish state. The leaders of the Targowica confederation represented the pro-Russian part of the magnate camp and opposed the legislation created by the May 3rd Constitution in 1791 and attempted to divide the Polish state into independent provinces.

The Church's Concern for Religious Unity

A very important international event is the international conference organized each year by the Pontifical University of John Paul II from the cycle: "The Role of the Church in the Process of European Integration" (*Rola Kościoła katolickiego w procesie integracji europejskiej*). It usually was held in the second half of September. However, in the past academic year it was moved to the second half of October, which is why it will be summarized in the next *Chronicle* for the 2017–2018 academic year.

The popularization of concern for Christian unity is one of the main aims of the Institute of Fundamental Theology, Ecumenism, and Dialogue. For this reason, each

year the institute plays an active role in 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 in the previous year the institute was also the co-organizer of the Week of Prayer, which was held in Krakow on January 22–29, 2017. The slogan of the Week of Prayer referred to the Second Epistle to the Corinthians: “Reconciliation: Christ’s Love Impels Us” (see: 2 Cor 5:14–22). The remaining co-organizers of the Week of Prayer for Christian Unity were: the Ecumenical Ministry of the Archdiocese of Krakow, the Krakow branch of the Polish Ecumenical Council, the Club of Catholic Intelligentsia in Krakow, and the Chemin Neuf community. An ecumenical service of the Word of God took place in various churches and chapels belonging to the Evangelical Church of the Augsburg Confession, Orthodox Church, Evangelical-Methodist Church, the Polish Catholic Church, and the Roman Catholic Church. The ceremony inaugurating the Week of Prayer took place in an Orthodox church on Sunday January 22, 2017. The service was led by Rev. Jarosław Antosiuk, the priest of the Orthodox parish of the Dormition of the Mother of God in Krakow (24 Szpitalna Street). Rev. Paweł Kubani, a priest from the Holy Cross parish in Krakow (Roman Catholic Church), encouraged those gathered to pray for unity. Meanwhile, the Week of Prayer culminated in an ecumenical service that was held on Sunday January 1, 2017, in the St. John Paul II Sanctuary in Krakow (32 Totus Tuus Street, the so-called White Seas) and was led by Archbishop Marek Jędraszewski. The representatives of several Christian churches participated, while the homily was given by Rev. Józef Bartos of the Evangelical-Methodist Church as well as Archbishop Marek Jędraszewski. The service concluded with the reading of the “Declaration Concerning the Mutual Recognition of Baptism,” after which baptismal promises were renewed and the prayer for ecumenical marriages, in which the faithful ask God that the clergy of all Christian churches and communities may lead them to unity based on the love experienced by these marriages, was said.

Meanwhile, the Twentieth Day of Judaism in the Catholic Church in Poland was celebrated on January 17, 2017. The motto of last year’s day came from the words of the prophet Jeremiah: “You Duped Me, O Lord, and I Let Myself Be Duped” (Jer 20:7). In Krakow, this day was celebrated on January 21, 2017. It was organized by our university’s Institute of Fundamental Theology, Ecumenism, and Dialogue as well as the Ecumenical Ministry of the Archdiocese of Krakow. The prayer meeting of Jews and Christians was held on the conclusion of Shabbas, in the Tempel synagogue on 24 Miodowa Street in Krakow. Its participants included Cardinal Stanisław Dziwisz, the apostolic administrator of the Archdiocese of Krakow, and Mr. Tadeusz Jakubowicz, the president of the Jewish Religious Congregation in Krakow. The prayer was led by rabbi Boaz Pash. After the prayer meeting, the rabbi gave a lecture titled:

“You Duped Me, O Lord, and I Let Myself Be Duped: How to Convince God to Make You a Prophet in Three Steps” (*Uwiodłeś mnie Panie, a ja pozwoliłem się uwieść. Jak przekonać Boga, aby w trzech krokach zrobił z Ciebie proroka*). The lecture was held in another synagogue, the nearby Kupa Synagogue (27 Miodowa Street).

Meanwhile, the Krakow celebrations of the Seventeenth Day of Islam in the Catholic Church were held on January 31, 2017. Their motto was “Christians and Muslims: The Addressees and Tools of Divine Mercy” (*Chrześcijaństwo i islam: adresaci i narzędzia Bożego miłosierdzia*). 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 Word of God service in the Franciscan basilica. This year, it was also led by Bishop Grzegorz Ryś. After the service, the participants of the meeting went to a university building, where there was a meeting with Ms. Janina Ochojska of Polish Humanitarian Action and was devoted to the topic: “Are Muslims my neighbors?”

The Popularization of the Results of Research

In addition to the above-mentioned cyclical initiatives that serve to increase knowledge transmitted during regular didactic classes, symposia, conferences, and guest lectures, which at the same time are a means of popularizing the results of research undertaken by various academic-didactic staff from university, were also held. Some were organized with the participation of institutions outside our university. Here are some of them presented in chronological order.

Concern for man's natural environment not only means protection from pollution, but also concern for the preservation of its sacral nature. This is the aim of the annual “*Sacrum i przyroda*” (“The Sacred and Nature”) academic seminar. Our university's Chair in Pastoral Theology in collaboration with the University of Prešov (Slovakia) organized the Eighteenth International “*Sacrum i przyroda*” (“The Sacred and Nature”) Seminar titled: “From *Inter sanctos* to *Laudato si*” (“Od «*Inter sanctos*» do «*Laudato si*»;” “Od *Inter Sanctos* k *Laudato si*”). It was held on October 7–8, 2016, in Juskova Voľa (Slovakia). Papers presented during the seminar dealt with the following topics: An Akathist of Thanksgiving as a Means of Bringing back Man's Relationship to Creation; Cultural Ecology in Light of Pope Francis' Encyclical *Laudato si*; The Contribution of His encyclical to Ecoethics; The Main Theological Sources of the Encyclical; Ecology as a Part of Evangelization in Light of This Ethics; Its Ethics of the Landscape; Water as the Source of Not Only Conflicts, but Also of Life; Francis' Model of Ecology in Light of Other Ecological Teachings; The Religiosity of the Slovaks in the Natural Environment; and The Problems of Artistic Legacy in Spis and Šariš Related to Art

and Identity. Papers were presented by academic staff from the universities organizing the seminar and the Greek-Catholic metropolitan of Slovakia (Mons. Ján Babjak, SJ) as well as academic staff from the Catholic University in Ružomberok, Maria Curie-Skłodowska University in Lublin, and the Jagiellonian University in Krakow, as well as representatives of the St. Francis Ecological Movement in Krakow and the Association of Pilgrimage Organizations in Slovakia. Papers presented there in Polish and Slovak were published in a collective work titled: *Sacrum a príroda. Od «Inter Sanctos» k «Laudato sí»* (“*Sacrum* and Nature: From *Inter Sanctos* to *Laudato sí*”, eds. P. Tirpák, E. Zastawnik, Prešov 2016, pp. 199).

The faith of the Church is expressed in the liturgy, which is why studying it means encountering and bolstering one’s life inspired by this faith. Last year’s Annual International Liturgical Symposium *Ad fontes liturgicos* was dedicated to the topic: “Time and the Liturgical Calendar.” The symposium was held in the St. Athanasius Greek-Catholic Theological Institute (Szent Atanáz Görögkatolikus Hittudományi Főiskola, Hungary) on October 25–26, 2016, and it was organized by our Liturgical Institute along with the Ukrainian Liturgical Center in Lviv and the Greek-Catholic Faculty of Theology of the University of Prešov. The topics of the papers included: Selected Reforms of the Liturgical Calendar; Some Theological Matters from the Perspective of the Liturgical Year; The Texts of Some Liturgical Feasts; The Eschatological Aspect of the Liturgy; The Practical Aspects of Rubrics from the Perspective of Missionary Activity; and The Unique Traits of the Liturgical Calendars of the Greek-Catholic Church in Hungary and Ukraine. Papers were presented by academic staff from the universities organizing the symposium as well as from the following universities: the Pontifical Gregorian University in Rome (Italy), the Faculty of Orthodox Theology of the Babes-Bolyai University in Cluj-Napoca (Romania), and the Greek-Catholic Academy in Uzhgorod (Ukraine). There are plans to publish materials from this symposium.

Some ethical problems are currently the topic of lively debate not only in the media, but also in philosophy. In order to find answers to them, the Chair in Ethics along with the Chair in Social and Political Philosophy of our Faculty of Philosophy organized the eleventh academic conference from the “Ethics and Public Life” (*Etyka i życie publiczne*) cycle. Its topic was “Honesty and Sincerity in Public Life” (*Uczciwość i rzetelność w życiu publicznym*) and was held on October 25–26, 2016. The presented papers dealt with such topics as: Honesty and Sincerity in Philosophical Analysis; Symptoms of Honesty and Sincerity in Various Spheres of Public Life, including Economics, the Media, Medicine, Academia, Politics, Our Relationships with People and the World, Especially: Ethical Values in Legal Systems; The Morality of the Consumer; The Moral Aspects of Educational Leadership; The Topic of Morality in Canon Law; The Idea of Rule of Law in Public Debate; Law and Morality in Jan Matejko’s Historical Painting;

Morality in Politics; and Divorce from the Perspective of the Ethics of Responsibility. Papers were presented by academic staff from our university as well as from the following universities: the Medical University of Białystok, the University of Silesia in Katowice, the University of Wrocław, the Jagiellonian University in Krakow, the University of Rzeszów, the University of Warsaw, the Catholic University of Eichstätt-Ingolstadt (Germany), the University of Szczecin, Nicolaus Copernicus University in Toruń, Adam Mickiewicz University in Poznań, the Pedagogical University of Krakow, the State Higher Vocational School in Włocławek, the Rzeszów University of Technology, and the John Paul II Catholic University of Lublin. There are plans for another volume in the *Etyka i życie publiczne* ("Ethics and Public Life") series containing materials from this symposium.

The contribution of religious orders to the life and activity of the Church is documented by a cycle of academic conferences at a national level titled: „The Spirituality of Polish Monasteries: Message and Communication” (*Duchowość Klasztorów Polskich: Przekaz i komunikacja*). Last year’s fourteenth edition of this conference was devoted to the foundresses of the Congregation of the Sisters of the Resurrection (the Resurrectionist sisters) and was titled: “Celina and Jadwiga Borzęckie: The Spiritual Inspirations and Social Activity of Mother and Daughter” (*Celina i Jadwiga Borzęckie: inspiracje duchowe i działalność społeczna matki i córki*). It was held on October 29, 2016, in Kęty (about 75 kilometers from Krakow in the direction of Bielsko-Biala). It was organized by our Faculty of Social Sciences’ Institute of Journalism and Social Communication. Topics of presented papers included: The Life and Activity of the Foundresses of the Resurrectionist Sisters; Marriage and the Family in Their Writings; Educational Matters according to Mother Celina; Appreciation for Interpersonal Communication; The Role of Culture in the Path to God; and The Theological-Spiritual Circumstances behind the Creation of the Congregation. Papers were presented by academic staff from our university as well as the Cardinal Stefan Wyszyński University in Warsaw, the Jagiellonian University, the John Paul II Catholic University of Lublin, and the Resurrectionist sisters. There are plans for a post-conference academic publication.

The fifteenth symposium in this cycle was held on March 8, 2017, in Krakow’s Centrum Resurreccionis. It was titled: “To Help to Grasp the Meaning of Life: The Legacy of Walerian Kalinka, CR” (*Pomóc uchwycić sens życia: dziedzictwo ks. Waleriana Kalinki CR*) who is the founder of the Polish province of the Resurrectionist fathers. The topics of the papers included the following: Walerian Kalinka as an Historian and Resurrectionist; His Spirituality; His Attitude towards the Ruthenian Church and towards the Ruthenians; The Search for the Meaning of Life in the Case of his *Martyrdom of St. Stanislaus*; Prayer as Communication with God; The Personalistic Educational Concept; and The Stages of Walerian Kalinka’s Spiritual Journey. Papers

were presented by staff from our university as well as from the Historical Committee of the Polish Academy of Sciences in Katowice, the John Paul II Catholic University of Lublin, the Jagiellonian University, and the Congregation of the Resurrection.

A symposium referencing the academic legacy of the Tyniec Biblicist Rev. Prof. Augustyn Jankowski, OSB, serves the popularization of Biblical studies. Last year's second Father A. Jankowski Symposium, titled: "Between Baptism and Conversion" (*Pomiędzy chrztem i nawróceniem*) was held in Tyniec in Krakow on November 7, 2016. The date of the symposium coincided with the anniversary of the death of Rev. Prof. Jankowski (d. November, 6, 2005). Meanwhile, the topic of the symposium dealt with the 1,050th anniversary of the baptism of Poland. The papers naturally dealt with Biblical topics: The Concepts of Death, Baptism, and Conversion; Washing Feet according to the Gospel according to St. John (The Baptismal Interpretation); The Baptism of the First Pagans: The Example of the Household of Cornelius; Egypt's Conversion to Christianity (From the Perspective of an Historian); Contemporary Religious Rituals (A Sociological Perspective); Three Roads to Conversion (Anthony the Great and John Cassian); The Penitent David; and The Concept of Conversion (Greek and Hebrew Biblical Terminology). Papers were presented by academic staff from our university and doctors promoted at our university, as well as the Institute of the Congregation of the Mission, the John Paul II Catholic University of Lublin, the Jagiellonian University, the University of Warsaw, and the Tyniec Abbey. There are plans for a publication with materials from the symposium.

The symposia from the "Bible in World Culture" (*Biblia w kulturze świata*) series also serve to popularize the results of Biblical research. On November 11, 2016, the fourteenth symposium in this series was held. It was titled: "The Culture of Family Life in the Biblical Message" (*Kultura życia rodzinnego w przekazach biblijnych*). It was organized by our university's Faculty of Social Sciences. The topics of the papers included the following: Tobias as a Husband, Father, and Educator; The Poem about the Brave Woman as an Example of Cultural Diversity; The New Testament "Household Codes;" The Horde in Mythology; and The Family in the Bible. Lectures were given by our own Biblical scholars as well as invited guests from the Theological Institute in Lviv (Ukraine), the Jesuit University Ignatianum in Krakow, and the Pomeranian University in Slupsk. There are plans to publish post-conference materials.

Pope Francis' teachings on marriage and love in the family, which are the subject of lively discussion in various milieus, was the subject of reflection by our lawyers during the symposium titled: "The Church and Irregular Marriage Situations in Light of Pope Francis' Apostolic Adhortation *Amoris Laetitia*" (*Kościół wobec małżeńskich sytuacji nieregularnych w świetle posynodalnej adhortacji apostołskiej «Amoris laetitia» papieża Franciszka*). The conference was organized by our university's Faculty

of Canon Law. It was held on November 17, 2017, in the auditorium of the Institute of the Congregation of the Mission in Krakow. During the conference, the following topics were discussed: The Law of Gradualness with Regards to the Gradualness of the Law with Respect to Marriage and the Family; The Problem of the Validation of a Marriage in the Case of Irregular Situations; The Possibility of the Existence of Elements of a Real Marriage in Irregular Situations; Allowing People in Irregular Situations to the Sacraments of Initiation; and Allowing People Living as Husband and Wife Who Are Not Married (Is This the Norm, or a Subjective Evaluation?). Papers were presented by staff from our university as well as the Adam Mickiewicz University in Poznan, the John Paul II Catholic University of Lublin, the Cardinal Stefan Wyszyński University in Warsaw, and Rzeszow University. There are plans to publish materials from this symposium.

In recent years, the topic of migration has been the subject of lively discussion, especially among politicians and journalists. The Chair in Family Law and the Chair in Social Policy participated in this discussion at the academic level by organizing a conference titled: "The Economic and Legal Consequences of Immigration to Poland" (*Ekonomiczne i prawne konsekwencje imigracji do Polski*) along with the Chair in Statistics of the Krakow University of Economics. The conference took place on November 24, 2016. During it, the following topics were discussed: The Dilemmas and Challenges Facing Social Policy in the Context of Immigration; The Legal and Real Mechanisms of Relocating Refugees in a Country (The Case of Italy); The Integration and Marginalization of Foreigners; Ukrainian Students in Poland and Their Integration; Migration to Poland in Numbers; The Requirements for Acquiring Polish Citizenship; The Flaws of the Declaration of Will in Getting Married and Their Impact on Permission for a Foreign Spouse to Receive Temporary Residency; The Legal Procedure for Hiring a Foreigner; The "Polish Charter" and Its Social Significance and Legal Regulations; and Muslim Religious Communities from the Perspective of Immigrants. Papers were presented by academic staff from both universities as well as invited guests from the following academic institutions: the Krakow University of Economics, the Jesuit University Ignatianum in Krakow, the University of Silesia in Katowice, the John Paul II Catholic University of Lublin, and the Jagiellonian University in Krakow.

Beautiful sacred music not only raises one's spirits; it also brings one closer to God. Concern for musicology studies and good preparation for church musicians (especially organ players) was transferred to the Inter-University Institute of Church Music in Krakow, which is a common undertaking of our university's Faculty of History and Cultural Heritage and the Academy of Music in Krakow. The institute organized an academic session titled: "Music Worthy of Holiness" (*Muzyka na miarę świętości*) as a challenge to composers of liturgical music today. The session took place on November 28, 2016,

in the building of the Academy of Music. The following topics were discussed: Sacred Music as *Via Pulchritudinis*; Contemporary musical composition between culture and evangelization; liturgical Music and Modernity; and The Journey to the *Sacrum*. Papers were presented by staff from the institute and both universities co-organizing the event as well as the Stanisław Moniuszko Academy of Music in Gdansk, the Fryderyk Chopin University of Music, the Pontifical University of the Holy Cross, and the Pontifical Institute of Sacred Music. In the afternoon, a composer's workshop with Mons. Marco Frisina (Pontifical Institute of Sacred Music) was held, while in the evening a concert took place in St. Florian's Basilica in Krakow; it was a concert of contemporary sacred music with the participation of the Górecki Chamber Choir.

Pope Francis' reforms inspire discussion on the content and scope of the formula *Ecclesia semper reformanda [est]*, made popular by Karl Barth (1947) and cautiously accepted by the Second Vatican Council (the *Unitatis redintegratio* decree, n. 6). The content of this more moderate formula was the subject of a concert titled: "*Ecclesia semper renovanda: The Church Constantly Renews Itself and Atones (LG 8)*." It was organized by the Faculty of Theology – Theological Section in Tarnow (which is part of our university) and was held on November 30, 2016, in the building of the Major Seminary of the Diocese of Tarnow. The main intention of the organizers of the conference was concern for the renewal of the Church and a reflection on the historical concept of reform and renewal. Diverse theological topics were discussed in the papers: Conciliar Ecclesiology: Renewal or Reform of the Church?; Ecclesiology in the Service of the Renewal of the Church; The Meaning of Synodality and of the Diocesan Synod; Indicators of Development of the Church according to the Second Epistle of St. John; Charisms in the Renewal of the Church: Perspectives and Limitations; Marian Devotion as a Source of Renewal and Revival of the Church; Prophesying in the Service of Renewal of the Church; and "On Behalf of Christ..." (2 Cor 5:20): St. Paul's Concern for the Church Community in Corinth. Papers were presented by professors of our university and the Pontifical University of the Holy Cross in Rome (Italy), the University of Silesia, the Theological Institute of the Congregation of the Mission in Krakow, the Pontifical Faculty of Theology in Wroclaw, and the Cardinal Stefan Wyszyński University in Warsaw.

Fascination with the modern (digital) transmitting of information gives rise to questions about the relationship to tradition as well as to the function that teachers once had in their individual relationships with their pupils. An academic conference titled: "Master and Pupil: Tradition and Innovation in the Humanities" (*Uczeń i mistrz. Tradycja i innowacyjność w naukach humanistycznych*) was an attempt to deal with this topic. This conference, which was held at our university on December 1, 2016, was organized by the Chair in Archival Studies and Auxiliary History Studies of our university's

Faculty of History and Cultural Heritage as well as by the Historical Committee of the Polish Academy of Sciences in Katowice. The nineteen papers dealt with such topics as: The Cultural Landscape and Social-Political Processes; The Unique Nature of Sources Created by the Security Services of the Polish People's Republic; The Development of Military Technologies and the Humanities; The Internet as a Historical Source and the Problem of Its Archiving; Structuralism, Linguistic Pragmatism, and Cognitivism (Tension and Co-Existence); The Role of the Press in the Process of Encountering Culture; Innovative Solutions in Research on Social Resistance to the Polish People's Republic; The Role of Women in Medieval Poland (and in Silesia) from a Research Perspective; The Middle Ages in the Digital Humanities; The Role of Folklore in Contemporary Research in the Humanities; Multimedia Museums (Benefaction or the Loss of an Ideal?); Selected Topics Related to Art History and the Cultural Heritage of Asia (Classics and the Breaking of Canons); Between Tradition and Modernity (Aby Warburg); Institutionalized Innovation in the Humanities (The Failure of the Humanities); Semiology of Dress in a Changing Social-Cultural Landscape; and Nineteenth Century Images of Madness in Light of Warburg's Studies on Expression. Papers were presented by academic staff from our university as well as the following universities: Nicolaus Copernicus University in Torun, the University of Silesia in Katowice, Jesuit University Ignatianum in Krakow, Rzeszow University, the University of Opole, the John Paul II Catholic University of Lublin, the University of Warsaw, and the Jagiellonian University in Krakow. Our university's library holds recordings of this conference (on two optical discs): "Uczeń i mistrz. Tradycja i innowacyjność w naukach humanistycznych. Ogólnopolska konferencja naukowa pod patronatem Wiceprezesa Rady Ministrów, Ministra Nauki i Szkolnictwa Wyższego pana Jarosława Gowina. Kraków, 1 XII 2016 r.," Kraków: Wydawnictwo Avalon [2016].

The present-day sciences, especially cosmology, give much material for philosophical reflection. In our academic milieu, a person who deals with this and has received recognition at the international level is Rev. Prof. Dr. Hab. Michał Heller. This is attested to by his receiving the Templeton Prize in 2008 for his personal contribution to the breaking down of barriers between science and religion. Conferences from the "Wokół Myśli Michała Hellera" (*Concerning the Thought of Michał Heller*) cycle serve to make his philosophical and cosmological thought better known. The thirteenth conference from this cycle was held on Decemebr 2-3, 2016, and was devoted to the topic of time ("Oblicza czasu"/"Aspects of Time"). It was organized by the Chair in Philosophy of Man, Chair in Philosophy of Nature, and our university's Study Circle of Philosophy Students. The papers dealt with the following topics: Michał Heller's Apophatic Theology of Time (the keynote lecture); Between Chronos and Kairos; Christianity and the Linear Concept of Time; The Hierarchical Nature of Time; Time

in Love as Unification; The Relationship between Biological Clocks and Numbers; Pen-durantism and Endurantism; The Philosophical Importance of Physics in Albert Ein-stein's Theory of Relativity; The Phenomenology of Time and Its Relativity; Time and Education; The Relevance of Time in Forecasting Methods; Futurology (Predicting) in Philosophy and the Natural Sciences; Moving Back and Bending Time in Popular Culture; Where Does Our Arrow of Time Come From?; The Contemporary Concep-tion of Time and Realistic Philosophy; Models of Time and Methods of Measuring the Age of the Earth in Eighteenth and Nineteenth Century Geology (Geological Time); Abstracting Time From Change in Contemporary Timeless Physical Theories; The Modern Ideal of Progress; Time in a Social Sense; Time in the Model of Psychologi-cal Evolution; Weak and Strong Arrows of Time; Experiencing the Passage of Time and Timelessness in the Physical World; The Metaphysics of Time and Grammatical Tenses; Roger Penrose's Conformal Cyclic Cosmology; and The Evolution of the Con-cept of Time. At the end, Rev. Prof. Michał Heller gave a lecture on the topic: "Time and Probability" (*Czas i prawdopodobieństwo*). Papers were presented by academic staff and the afore-mentioned Study Circle as well as staff representing the following academic institutions: the Whitehead Metaphysical Society; the Jagiellonian University in Krakow, the Copernicus Center for Interdisciplinary Studies in Krakow, the Pol-ish Academy of Sciences, the University of Prešov (Slovakia), the Lublin University of Technology, the University of Opole, the AGH University of Science and Technology in Krakow, Rzeszow University, the University of Warsaw, the University of Wrocław, and Adam Mickiewicz University in Poznan.

The year 2017 was undoubtedly important to European Christianity, because it coin-cided with celebrations of the 500th anniversary of the Reformation begun by Martin Luther. Our Faculty of Theology participated in these celebrations through an academic conference titled: "The Church and Unity: The 500th Anniversary of the Reformation" (*Kościół a jedność. 500-lecie reformacji*), which was held on February 28, 2017. It was organized by our university's Chair in Ecclesiology along with the Theological Sci-ences Committee of the Polish Academy of Sciences. The organizers' intention was to popularize intellectual and spiritual ecumenism through a reflection on the unity of the Church of Christ from the perspective of Catholic theology. The conference took place under the patronage of Cardinal Gerhard Ludwig Müller, prefect of the Congregation for the Doctrine of the Faith. The papers dealt with the following top-ics: The Medieval Unity of the World and Christianity; Jan Hus' Proposals for Reform; Martin Luther's Ecclesiology; The Calvinist View of the Church; The Conflict between Cardinal Stanislaus Hosius and the Reformers; Justification as the Main Criterion of the Reformed Renewal of the Church; Unity and Oneness as a Sign of the Church's Credibility; and The Roman and Evangelical Understanding of Unity. Papers were

presented by academic staff from both institutions organizing the conference as well as: the University of Opole, the John Paul II Catholic University of Lublin, Cardinal Stefan Wyszyński University in Warsaw, and the University of Warmia and Mazury in Olsztyn. Before the noontime break, a prayer for unity led by Rev. Dr. Hab. Grzegorz Ryś in the chapel of the building where the conference was held. The texts of the presented papers as well as several additional articles related to the subject matter of the conference were published in the eighth volume of the *Cracoviensis Cogitatio Ecclesialis* series, titled: *Reformatorzy a Kościół rzymski* (ed. A. A. Napiórkowski, Krakow 2017, pp. 263).

As part of the years-long research program “Biblia w Kulturze Świata” (*The Bible in World Culture*), the Faculty of Social Sciences organized an academic conference titled: “The Areas of the Bible’s Presence” (*Przestrzenie obecności Biblii*), which was held on March 22, 2017. Presented papers dealt with the following topics: Cultural Memory as Space in the Bible; The Bible in Baroque Painting; The Bible in Popular Rituals; and The Role of the Bible in Encountering Nature. They were presented by staff from our university and Pomeranian University in Slupsk.

One hundred years ago, the Greek-Catholic Church adopted the Gregorian calendar. This fact inspired the organization of an academic conference on the topic of “The Liturgical Year and Liturgical Calendars in the Eastern Tradition” (*Rok liturgiczny i kalendarze liturgiczne w tradycji wschodniej*), which was held in Prešov (Slovakia) on April 4, 2017. Its organizers were: the Greek-Catholic Faculty of Theology in Prešov (Slovakia) and our university’s Liturgical Institute, while the co-organizers were the St. Athanasius Greek-Catholic Theological Institute (Hungary) and the Ukrainian Catholic University (Ukraine). During the conference, the following topics were discussed: The Ruthenian Church and the Change of the Calendar in the Polish State (in the Late Sixteenth and Seventeenth Centuries); The Time of Holidays, the Liturgy and the Sacred from the Perspective of Anthropology of Religion (Recognizing the Rhythm of Time and Its Assessment); The Catholic Reform of the Liturgical Calendar after the Second Vatican Council; The Introduction of Pope St. Pius X (Founder of the Hungarian Catholic Archeparchy of Hajdúdorog) to the Greek-Catholic Liturgical Calendar in Hungary; Liturgical Time in Byzantine Liturgical Texts; The Development of the Calendar in the Greek-Catholic Eparchy of Mukachevo: From the Union of Uzhhorod (1646) to Today; The First Clash of the Gregorian and Julian Calendars in the Slovak Catholic Metropolitan Archeparchy of Prešov; Historical Calendars in the Collection of the National Library in Prešov; and Slovak Liturgical Calendars Published in Budapest before 1918. Papers were presented by academic staff from the institutions organizing the conference as well as the University of Silesia in Katowice, the Greek Catholic Eparchy of Mukachevo (Ukraine), the State Scientific Library

in Prešov (Slovakia), and the Museum of Jewish Culture in Bratislava (Slovakia). It is expected that a publication containing the presented papers will be published.

Rapid cultural changes in the past decades give rise to questions about Europe's identity and about what part of its heritage is permanent. Hence the fact that specialists from both Polish and international academic centers have dealt with the topic of Europe's cultural landscape and heritage. During the international academic conference titled: "Europe's Cultural Landscape and Heritage: Permanence and Evanescence" (*Krajobraz i dziedzictwo kulturowe Europy – trwałość i przemijanie*), nearly thirty academic staff representing eighteen academic centers and seven countries (apart from Poland) presented the results of their research. The organizers of the conference were: our university's Chair in Archival Studies and Auxiliary History Studies, the Greek-Catholic Faculty of Theology of the University of Prešov (Slovakia), the Catholic Theological Faculty of Charles University in Prague (Czech Republic), the St. Athanasius Greek-Catholic Theological Institute – University of Nyíregyháza (Hungary), the Katowice Branch of the Historical Section of the Polish Academy of Sciences, and the Cracovian Institute of Educational Development. The conference took place on May 10–11, 2017. The conference's honorary patrons were: the Deputy Prime Minister of Poland and Minister of Science and Higher Education, Dr. Jarosław Gowin; the Consul General of Hungary in Krakow, Prof. Dr. Hab. Adrienne Körmendy; the Honorary Consul of the Czech Republic in Lodz, Prof. Dr. Hab. Krzysztof Skotnicki; and the Consul General of Germany in Krakow, Dr. Michael Groß. The conference was dedicated to the director of the chair that organized the conference, Rev. Prof. Dr. Hab. Józef Marecki on the thirtieth anniversary of his work in academia and his sixtieth birthday.

The topics of the papers were: Concern for Cultural Heritage in John Paul II's Speeches to the Poles; The Order of Bibliophile Knights; Greek-Catholic Parishes in the Levoča Mountains over Time; The Return of Values in European Art; Historical-Genealogical Memory of the Polish Nobility: The Example of the Inscription in the Castle of Krzyżtopór in Ujazd; The Baroque Nature of the Czech Cultural Landscape; Europe and the Battle of the Night; The New Narrative of Europe Considering the Christian Roots of Its Cultural Heritage: Legal Approaches and Implementation; The "Monkey" as an Emblem of Projected Irrationality in Civic (Mis)Government; Changes of the Natural and Cultural Landscape: The Example of the Pieniny Mountains; The Influence of Medieval Bestiaries on the Contemporary Artistic Space; The Symbolism of Time in European and Far Eastern Art; The Church and Threats and the Way of Maintaining Spiritual Values in the Confrontation with Totalitarian Regimes in the Twentieth Century; The Relevance of the Spiritual Message and Legacy in the Texts of Liturgical Prayer (Vespers); Protection of the Cultural Landscape of Rural Areas through Their Development; Pseudo-Dionysius the Areopagite and the Impermanence

of Classical Thought; *Universitas Cassoviensis* 360 Years since Its Establishment; The Need for a Spiritual Renewal of Europe; Europe and the Challenges of the Consumer and Information Society; Values and How They Change Because of the Media; The Nazi Ideology and System as the Result of the Rejection of Individualism; The Signs and Concepts of the European Tradition; The History of the St. Athanasius College of Greek-Catholic Theology; Gnostic Elements in the Ideology and Practice of Communism; The Religious Landscape of Lodz in the Nineteenth Century; The Meaning of Soviet Monuments in the Urban Landscape: The Example of Legnica; Wooden Churches of the Mukachevo Diocese in the Seventeenth Century; Emblems in Post-Cistercian Abbeys in the Polish Lands; and Greek-Catholic Churches in Slovakia in 1918–1939.

The authors of the papers represented the following academic centers: the Jagiellonian University in Krakow, the University of Prešov (Slovakia), the Jan Matejko Academy of Fine Arts in Krakow, the University of Silesia in Katowice, Charles University in Prague (Czech Republic), University College London/Oxford University (Great Britain), the University of Vienna (Austria), КТН Royal Institute of Technology of Stockholm (Sweden), the Tischner European University in Krakow, the W. Szafer Institute of Botany at the Polish Academy of Sciences in Krakow, the University of Agriculture in Krakow, the Catholic University in Ružomberok (Slovakia), the Jesuit University Ignatianum in Krakow, the Diocesan Tribunal in Cologne (Germany), the Institute of National Remembrance in Warsaw, St. Athanasius Athanasius Greek-Catholic Theological Institute of Nyíregyháza (Hungary), the Polish Political Science Association – Krakow Branch, the University of Warmia and Mazury in Olsztyn, the State Higher Vocational School in Legnica, and the University of Nyíregyháza (Hungary).

In wealthy societies, few people are aware of the enormity of the persecution of Christians that is currently taking place in many regions of the world. The martyrdom of the Polish martyrs in Peru is for us an important sign. In order to better appreciate its significance, an academic conference titled: “The Blessed Martyrs of Peru: Father Zbigniew Strzałkowski and Father Michał Tomaszek as Patrons against Terrorism” (*Błogosławieni Męczennicy z Peru: o. Zbigniew Strzałkowski, o. Michał Tomaszek – patronami w obronie przed terroryzmem*) was organized by our university’s Institute of History along with the Province of St. Anthony and Blessed Jakub Strzemię of the Franciscans in Poland and the Office for the Promotion of Devotion to the Martyrs of the Province of St. Anthony and Blessed Jakub Strzemię. The session was held on May 13, 2017, in the Divine Mercy Sanctuary in Krakow-Łagiewniki. It was held alongside the screening of two documentary films dealing with terrorism and persecution for the faith: *Życia nie można zmarnować* (“You Cannot Waste Your Life”), directed by Krzysztof Tadej, and *Teraz i w godzinę śmierci* (“Now and In the Hour of Our

Death”), directed by Mariusz Piliś and Dariusz Walusiak. There was a meeting with the filmmakers and the protagonists of the films. Meanwhile, the topics of the papers were the following: The Catholic Church in Europe; The Activity of the Polish Section of the Aid to the Church in Need Organization (German: *Kirche in Not*); Christian Martyrdom in the Late Twentieth and Early Twenty-First Centuries: Terrorism and the Franciscan Mission in Peru; The Luminous Path (*Sendero Luminoso*) in Peru in the Service of Communism; Martyrdom in the Franciscan Order; and The Rapid Growth of Devotion to Blessed Zbigniew Strzałkowski and Blessed Michał Tomaszek after Their Beatification. Papers were presented by academic staff from our university as well as the Jagiellonian University in Krakow, Cardinal Stefan Wyszyński University in Warsaw, and representatives of the Office for the Promotion of the Martyrs of the Province of St. Anthony Jakub Strzemię.

The Church celebrated the Year of St. Brother Albert (Adam Chmielowski, 1845-1916) in 2017. On this occasion, an academic conference titled: “Difficult Beauty’: The Life and Work of Adam Chmielowski – St. Brother Albert – The Contemporary Continuation of the Mission of Charity” («*Trudne Piękno*». *Życie i działalność Adama Chmielowskiego – Św. Brata Alberta. Współczesna kontynuacja misji dobroczynności*) was held in the Galicia Jewish Museum in Krakow. It was organized by the Intercultural Dialogue Institute of John Paul II in Krakow. In the first part of the conference, Bishop Dr. Hab. Grzegorz Ryś introduced the figure of St. Brother Albert and his ties to St. John Paul II, while Sister Teresa Pawlak, ZSAPU (Sisters of the Third Order of St. Francis Serving the Poor) presented the mission of St. Brother Albert and its present realization. The second part of the conference consisted of a discussion panel directed by Ms. Alicja Popiel (TVP3 Krakow) in which several persons who are well-known, especially in Krakow, took place: Ms. Anna Dymna (an actress and social activist), Ms. Janina Ochojska (a humanitarian activist), Ms. Sylwia Warnecka (the “Wawel z Rodziną”/“Wawel with the Family Foundation”), Rev. Tadeusz Isakowicz-Zaleski (Catholic priest of the Armenian and Latin Rites; social activist), Mr. Jan Mela (traveler and disabilities rights activist), and Mr. Tomasz Scheimscheiner (the “Wawel z Rodziną”/“Wawel with the Family Foundation”). The panelists discussed their experiences of work with the poor, motivations for bringing them aid, and the challenges and joys related to this service, hoping to encourage young people to become engaged in volunteer work.

The problem of ethics in media communications is still relevant. Abuses in this field undermine trust in the media. Thus our university’s Institute of Journalism and Social Communication organized the eleventh “Media Ethics” (*Etyka Mediów*) conference, which this time was titled: “Trust in the Media, Confidence in the Media” (*Zaufanie w mediach – zaufanie do mediów*). The conference took place on May 24–25, 2017,

in the building of the Main Library on our campus. Three plenary sessions and eleven thematic sessions took place during the conference. The plenary sessions were devoted to the following topics: trust in the media, confidence in the media, and trust in social communications. Meanwhile, the thematic sessions dealt with the following topics: Trust as a Virtue: Bases and Contexts; Trust in Commercial and Confidence in Commercial; Trust in Journalists and Their Message; Building Potential Trust in the Media; The Context of Trust in the Media and Confidence in the Media; The Value of Trust; Trust in the Digital World; Trust in Public Relations: Trust in the New Media; Trust in the Media in the Social Context; The Need to Learn Trust in the Media and Confidence in the Media; and Building the Potential of Trust in the Media. The lecture concluding the conference was titled: "Trust and the Limits of Trust in Media Relations" (*Odwaga i granice zaufania w relacjach medialnych*).

More than ninety papers were presented during the conference. Its authors represented our university as well as the following academic centers: Maria Curie-Skłodowska University in Lublin, the University of Warmia and Mazury in Olsztyn, the University of Information Technology and Management in Rzeszow, Cardinal Stefan Wyszyński University in Warsaw, the Jagiellonian University, the Silesian University of Technology in Gliwice, Rzeszow University, the Catholic University of Eichstätt-Ingolstadt (Germany), the University of Silesia in Katowice, the Koszalin University of Technology, the University of Warsaw, SWPS University of Social Sciences and Humanities, Koźmiński University in Warsaw, Pułtusk Academy of Humanities, the University of Opole, the Jesuit University Ignatianum in Krakow, the Krakow University of Economics, the John Paul II Catholic University of Lublin, the University of Wrocław, the University of Information Technology and Management in Rzeszow, the AGH University of Science and Technology in Krakow, Maria Curie-Skłodowska University in Lublin, and the University of Lower Silesia. There are plans to publish post-conference materials.

Without a doubt, the process of secularization in Europe is an expression of radical change in the concept of hope. Vertical religious hope (for eternal life) has been reduced to horizontal hope (that is fulfilled through earthly matters). This is where the crisis of humanity begins. The conference titled: "Transgression and Transcendence: Two Hopes" (*Transgresja i transcendencja – dwie nadzieje*), which is the second from the "Crisis of Humanity?" (*Kryzys człowieczeństwa?*) cycle, sought to answer questions about the proportions and structure of this crisis. Transgression (original sin) is thus understood as transcending cultural norms and what was considered to be natural (in accordance with the natural law) in classical philosophy and is an introduction to the place of transcendence. This conference took place on May 25–26, and was organized by our university's Chair in the Philosophy of God and Chair in the Philosophy of Religion. The topics of the papers included the following: "Skeptical Theism" and

the Benefits of Transcendence; Transgression as a Means of Upbringing (The Implications of Georges Bataille's Thought); Hope after Auschwitz; The Relationship between Transcendence and Transgression; Transgression, Autonomy, and Engagement as the Ideal of the Existentially Alienating Critique of Religion; A Question about the Crisis of Humanity; Stanisław Lem's Pessimism as a Contradiction of Transgression and Transcendence; Moral Individualism as a Form of Subjective Transcendence in Marian Zdziechowski's Post-Critical Conceptualization; Transcendence as the Plane between the Analysis of "I" in Calvin O. Schrag's Philosophy of the Subject; The Authority to Judge as a Form of Transcendence in Hannah Arendt's Conceptualization; Science as Man's Journey through Transgression towards Transcendence; The Possibility of Being Onself; Eve's Transgression as Yearning for Transcendence; Transcendence, Science, and the Crisis of Humanity in Michel Henry's Thought; The Coming of the Messiah ("An Experience of Transcendence or Transgression?"); Man's Current Place; Artificial Intelligence and Morality: Transcendence: From the Scapegoat to the Lamb of God; Transcending the Road of Transgression (Conditions and Consequences); Levinas' Atheistic Humanism; Evil, Hope, and Transgression (The Case of Job); The Interesting Case of Hieronim L. (The Impact of Faith on Perception of the World); Between the Auto-Transcendence of Viktor Frankl and Józef Kozieliński's Vision of Man; and Photography as a New Ways of Seeing Reality. Papers were presented by academic staff from our university as well as the following academic centers: the Jagiellonian University in Krakow, the Jesuit University Ignatianum in Krakow, the AGH University of Science and Technology in Krakow, the John Paul II Catholic University of Lublin, the Pedagogical University of Krakow, the Institute of Philosophy and Sociology of the Polish Academy of Sciences, the University of Szczecin, and Nicolaus Copernicus University in Torun. Several papers were presented by persons who were not affiliated with any particular academic institution.

Studies on the unique nature of Russian philosophical and theological thought allow us to better understand many problems that the contemporary person deals with. That is why such research should not be treated by philosophical and theological academic milieus as something of an exotic philosophical archaeology. The Krakow Conferences of Russian Philosophy serve to make this current of thought better known and to overcome stereotypes surrounding it. Last year's conference was devoted to Alexei Khomyakov (1804–1860), a Russian Orthodox thinker, playwright, and painter, as well as the co-creator of the Slavophile ideology. The international conference titled: "Alexei Khomyakov: We Are Sobornost': Integral Life in Slavophile Thought as an Answer to Modern Fragmentation. The Church, Empire, and Modern State" took place on May 28–31, 2017, in the Benedictine abbey in Tyniec in Krakow. It was organized by our university's Chair in the Philosophy of Religion as well as the

Instituto de Filosofía Edith Stein in Granada and International Center for the Study of the Christian Orient in Granada (Spain). The conference's honorary patron was the Polish Academy of Sciences' Committee on Philosophical Sciences. Papers were presented by forty specialists from twelve countries.

The papers presented during the conference (in English and Russian) dealt with the following topics: A. S. Khomyakov as One of the Founders of the Slavophile Doctrine; The Slavophile Philosophy of History: From A. S. Khomyakov to V. I. Lamandsky; The Question of Schelling's Influence on the Philosophical and Theological Heritage of A. S. Khomyakov; A Reflection on the Theological Views of Alexei Khomyakov in the Artistic Work of Nikolai Leskov; A. S. Khomyakov and the "Official Nationality;" Khomyakov's Ideal of "*Sobornost*" (Collegiality) as a Regulator of Intercultural Communication; *Sobornost*' as a Language Trap; The Role of the Slavophiles in the History of the Study of Folk Culture; A. S. Khomyakov as the Guardian of European-Christian Values; Khomyakov's Organic Concept of Culture; The Parity of the Concepts of "Law" and "Truth" in A. S. Khomyakov in the Context of the Russian Intellectual Tradition; Slavophilism and Russian Religious Philosophy (Khomyakov and Kireevsky); Khomyakov: Sacrifice, and the Dialogic Roots of Russian Kenosis; Slavophilism and *Naturphilosophie*: A New Mythology for Identity Construction; The Concepts of the "Living Truth" and "Common Cause" of A. S. Khomyakov in the Space of Russian Philosophy; "A Request to Think": A. C. Khomyakov on I. V. Kireevsky's Article "On the Nature of the Enlightenment in Europe and Its Relation to the Enlightenment in Russia;" Faith and Science in the Thought of the Slavophiles (A. Khomyakov and I. Kireevsky); The "Life Consciousness" of A. Khomyakov and the "Living Knowledge" of S. Frank: Continuity and Development; The Question of Some Philosophical and Historical Ideas of A. S. Khomyakov and Yu. F. Samarin; A. S. Khomyakov and the "Russian Idea;" Khomyakov's Legacy in the Twentieth Century; The Peculiarity of the Traditionalism of Alexei Khomyakov's Thought: An Attempt at Interpretation in the Context of the Synergistic Anthropology of Sergei Khoruzhy; A.S. Khomiakov, P. Teilhard de Chardin, and L. Hanus: Three Perspectives on Faith and the Church in Human Life; Russian Monadologism and *Sobornost*'; The Experience of the Christian Ministry of Khomyakov and the Doctrine of *Sobornost*'; The Idea of Khomiakov's Collegiality and the Theory of the Conciliar Consciousness of Sergei Trubetskoi; "The Phenomenon of A. S. Khomyakov: Personality, Creative Heritage, and the Philosophical and Artistic Environment": The Project of the Exhibit of Archival Materials in the Central Scientific Library of the Russian Academy of Sciences; The Idea of the Christian Conciliarity of Khomyakov: The Projection of Church Unity on Public Life; The Reception of Khomyakov's Idea of Collegiality in the Philosophical and Theological Legacy of Metropolitan Anthony (Khrapovitsky); The Church of Khomyakov and the

Church of Pope Francis: The Future of the Ideal of *Sobornost'*; “*Sobornost'*” and the Council: The Ideas of A. S. Khomyakov in the Work of the Members of the “Novoselov” Circle (M.A. Novoselov, A. S. Glinka-Volzhsy, S. N. Durylin); The Ideas of the Senior Slavophiles in the Philosophical Reflections of the Non-Slavophile “Pathologists” (V. F. Ern); Presentation: Sretensky Temple in Bogucharovo Today; The Reception of Alexei Khomyakov’s Ideas in the Work of E. Y. Skobtsov in the 1920s and Early 1930s; “Let’s Try to Realize a True Christian *Sobornost'*”: Mother Maria about A. S. Khomyakov and the Embodiment of His Ideas; Nostalgia as a Unique Artistic Development in Contemporary Art; *Sobornost'* in A. S. Khomyakov and the Concept of the Spirit of F. Ebner; Controversy about N. Berdyayev’s Book *Alexei Stepanovich Khomyakov*; Alexei Stepanovich Khomyakov: A Nineteenth Century Individualism from the Perspective of Nikolay Berdyaev; Russia and Europe in the Works of A. S. Khomyakov; and Two Monuments: The Fate of the Ideological Legacy of A.S. Khomyakov.

The authors of the papers were academic staff from our university and representatives of academic milieus primarily in Russia, Western Europe, and the United States. They represented the following institutions: Lomonosov Moscow State University (Russia), St. Petersburg State University (Russia), St. Tikhon’s Orthodox University (Moscow, Russia), University of Warsaw (Poland), The National Library of Russia (St. Petersburg, Russia), St. Petersburg State University (Russia), Tzur-Hadassah (Israel), National Research University “Higher School of Economics” (Moscow, Russia), St. Petersburg State University of Economics (Russia), Moscow Technological University (MIREA, Russia), College of St. Scholastica (Duluth, Minnesota, USA), Stanford University (Stanford, California, USA), Oxford University (United Kingdom), the University of Texas at Austin (Austin, Texas, USA), Moscow State Institute of Culture (Russia), Cherepovets State University (Russia), Poltava National Technical Yuri Kondratyuk University (Ukraine), Moscow Teachers-Training State University (Russia), Higher School of Economics National Research University (Moscow, Russia), Jean Moulin University Lion III (Lyon, France), Comenius University in Bratislava (Bratislava, Slovakia), Trnava University (Slovakia), St. Philaret’s Orthodox Christian Institute in Moscow (Russia), the Educational Fund of Brothers Sergey and Evgeny Troubetski’s (Russia), the Central Scientific Library of the Theatre Union of the Russian Federation (Moscow, Russia), Russian State University for the Humanities (Moscow, Russia), Alexander Solzhenitsyn Memorial House of the Russian Abroad (Moscow, Russia), Hasselt University (Belgium), St. Tikhon’s Orthodox University (Moscow, Russia), Jesuit University Ignatianum (Krakow, Poland), the Library of Russian Philosophy, and Culture A.F. Losev House. Selected papers presented at this conference will be published in a book in English.

Questions about the future are always difficult. A person with a creative imagination can propose answers that are far removed from the boldest predictions of futurologists.

That was undoubtedly so in the case of the work of Stanisław Lem (1921–2006), the great Polish writer of science fiction, philosopher, futurologist, and critic. Ten years after his death, our university's Chair in the Philosophy of God along with the Polish Philosophical Society organized a national academic conference titled: "The Philosophy of Culture in the Work of Stanisław Lem" (*Filozofia kultury w twórczości Stanisława Lema*), which was held on June 2, 2017. The topics of the papers included: "The Meaning of Questions in the Book *Return from the Stars*: 'Do You Want to Talk, or Box?' (In the Ethicosphere);" Predictions of Changes in Culture: The Case of the Development of the Sciences in the Works of Stanisław Lem; Lem's Cultural Filter of Preferences; Culture as Cheating the Ontology of the Accident; The Concept of Rarity in Culture (Lem on Genius); Lem's Three Laws; Social Fantasy and the Problem of Utopia in Lem's Early Short Stories; and Two Nihilisms: The Land of Ulro according to Stanisław Lem. Papers were presented by academic staff from our university as well as from the following universities: the University School of Physical Education in Krakow, the Jagiellonian University in Krakow, the University of Opole, the Pedagogical University of Krakow, and the University of Warsaw.

The publishing of Pope Francis' *motu proprio Mitis Iudex Dominus Iesus*, which changes the regulations regarding the nullity of marriages, gave rise to many questions and doubts. In response to them, our university's Faculty of Canon Law organized the Eighth National Tribunal Forum (*viii Ogólnopolskie Forum Sądowe*), which was held on June 12–13, 2017, in Gródek nad Dunajcem, and was devoted to the topic: "Pope Francis' Case Reform: The First Experiences" (*Reforma procesowa papieża Franciszka – pierwsze doświadczenia*). The forum was held under the patronage of the Polish Episcopal Conference's Legal Council. The Legal Council was represented by its chairman, Bishop Dr. Ryszard Kasyna. Mr. Mikołaj Pawlak, the director of the Family and Minors Department of the Ministry of Justice, also participated in the forum. The motto introducing the sessions was a quote from St. John Paul II's allocution to the Roman Rota (January 29, 2005), which was printed on the invitation: "It is true that that the entitlement to timely justice is also part of the concrete service to the truth and constitutes a personal right. However, false speed to the detriment of the truth is even more seriously unjust" (n. 6). The speakers dealt with the following topics: Selected Aspects of Appellation in a Regular Nullity Case in Light of the Papal *Motu Proprio*; Marital Documents in Church Marriage Cases; The Circumstances Allowing for the Proceeding of a Marriage Case in the Presence of a Bishop: The Lack of Faith and the Short Time of the Consummation of the Marriage, Abortion, and Remaining in an Extramarital Relationship; Deceitful Hiding of Infertility, a Serious Infectious Disease, Children from a Previous Relationship, or Imprisonment; Getting Married because of Something Completely Foreign to Married Life or Resulting from an Unexpected

Pregnancy and Other Causes; The Dynamic Service of the Attorney and Defender of the Knot in a Reformed Marriage Case; Pastoral Pre-Procedure: Its Role and Significance to an Efficient Marriage Case; and Evidence from New Technologies of Communication in a Marriage Case. The authors of the papers represented the following institutions (in addition to our university): the Roman Rota Apostolic Tribunal, Cardinal Stefan Wyszyński University in Warsaw, the University of Warmia and Mazury in Olsztyn, the John Paul II Catholic University of Lublin, and the University of Lodz. During the symposium, the pope's explanation that both in the case of expediting cases and in their simplification the aim is not to promote the nullity of marriages, but to aid those who have been waiting excessively long for decisions, was recalled.

Last year marked the hundredth anniversary of the illustrious Polish physicist and philosopher of nature, Marian Smoluchowski. On this occasion, the Polish Academy of Learning along with our university's Chair in the Philosophy of Nature organized an academic conference titled: "Marian Smoluchowski (1872–1917): The Physicist and Philosophical Challenges" (*Marian Smoluchowski [1872–1917]. Fizyk wobec wyzwań filozoficznych*). It was held on June 19, 2017, in the building of the Polish Academy of Learning in Krakow. The presented papers dealt with the following topics: The Fluctuating World of Marian Smoluchowski; Smoluchowski's Conception of the Principles of Causality in Studies on Brownian Motion; The Indeterministic World as Conceived by Franz-Serafin Exner and Marian Smoluchowski; The Manuscripts of Smoluchowski's Lectures as an Important Source for Studies on Philosophy in Science; and The Topic of Hypotheses and Scientific Theories in Smoluchowski's Philosophical Reflections. Papers were presented by academic staff from our university as well as: the Jagiellonian University in Krakow, the John Paul II Catholic University of Lublin, the Jan Kochanowski University in Kielce, and the Copernicus Center for Interdisciplinary Studies. The conference was an occasion to recall this scholar's legacy and his impact on the shape of Cracovian philosophy of nature.

Last year also marked the seventy-fifth anniversary of Edith Stein (St. Teresa Benedicta of the Cross, 1891–1942), a German philosopher, Discalced Carmelite, martyr, Catholic saint, and co-patron of Europe, in the Auschwitz-Birkenau death camp. In order to commemorate this anniversary, our university's Faculty of Philosophy along with the Institute of Philosophy of the Jagiellonian University, the Polish Society of the Philosophy of Religion, the Polish Philosophical Society, and the Center for Dialogue and Prayer in Oświęcim organized an academic symposium titled: "The Dignity of the Human Person: A Gift and Obligation" (*Godność osoby ludzkiej – dar i zobowiązanie*). It took place on June 19, 2017, in our university's building on 3 Bernardyńska Street. Papers dealt with the following topics: The Motto "My Search for Truth Was My Sole Prayer" as Edith Stein's Road to Auschwitz-Birkenau; Edith Stein's Philosophy of the

Person; Edith Stein's Way of Reading St. Thomas Aquinas (Inspirations, Studies, and Translations); Questions about Edith Stein's Philosophical Orientation: Was She a Thomist or Augustinian?; Epistemology of Mystery; The Dignity of the Person in Immanuel Kant's Conception and the Experience of Auschwitz; Free Will as a Challenge; Edith Stein's Philosophical Anthropology and the Question about the Dignity of the Person; and Edith Stein's Criteria of Belonging to a Nation. Papers were presented by academic staff from the academic institutions engaged in organizing the symposium as well as the AGH University of Science and Technology in Krakow and the Jesuit University Ignatianum in Krakow.

Both studying and academic-didactic work have their ethical dimension, just as many other areas of human activity. In response to the need for an academic reflection on these topics, our Faculty of Theology – Theological Section in Tarnow in cooperation with the State Higher Vocational School in Tarnow organized a conference titled: “The *Ethos* of the Lecturer and the Student: A Sad Necessity or an Attitude of Academic Life?” (*Etos wykładowcy i studenta. Przykra konieczność czy podstawa życia akademickiego?*). It was held in the building of the Major Seminary of the Diocese of Tarnow on June 27, 2017. Its patrons were: the bishop of Tarnow, Bishop Andrzej Jeż, and the Ministry of Science and Higher Education, Dr. Jarosław Gowin, who was represented by the head of his political cabinet, Dr. Grzegorz Kądziałowski. The papers dealt with the following topics: Preventing Academic Dishonesty in Poland on the Institutional and Legal Level (Work on the 2.0 Bill); The Need for Academic Reliability and Negligence in This Field; and Anti-Plagiarism Procedures: The Causes for Its Implementation, the Procedure, Its Efficiency, and Its Functionality. The authors of the papers were academic staff from the following institutions: the Jagiellonian University, the State Higher Vocational School of President Stanisław Wojciechowski in Kalisz, and the company Plagiat.pl, as well as the head of the deputy prime minister's political cabinet.

The Academic Activity of Undergraduates, Doctoral Students, and Seniors

By organizing conferences and academic symposia, students popularize their own research. As an example, here we can mention the following student initiatives.

The Study Circle of Historians, Undergraduates, and Doctoral Students of our University along with its Institute of History organized the third edition of the National Academic Conference titled: “How to Achieve Success? Careers in Europe across the Centuries” (*Jak osiągnąć sukces? Kariery w Europie na przestrzeni stuleci*). The conference took place on October 27-28, 2016, at our university. The authors of the papers tried to answer such questions as: What was the decisive factor in having a successful

career? Talent, hard work, class, scandal, or maybe even something else (for example, pity)? What were the consequences of such a career, both for a given person and for his or her surroundings? What was its impact on the history of his or her country or political or social situation? During the conference, thirty-three papers were presented; twenty-six of them presented the professional path of specific historical figures, such as Antigonus I Monophthalmus (satrap under Alexander the Great, 382–301 B. C.) or St. Josemaría Escrivá de Balaguer (the founder of Opus Dei; 1902–1975). Meanwhile, the remaining seven papers dealt with general topics related to some career circumstances. This group of papers included papers titled: “The Sprituality of the Parish of Zielonka in 1797–1939: A Priestly Promotion or Exile?” (*Duchowieństwo parafii Zielonki w latach 1797–1939. Kapłański awans czy zesłanie?*); “Hypertrichosis: An Unusual Body as a Way of Achieving Fame” (*Hipertrichoza: niezwykle ciało jako sposób osiągnięcia sławy*); “The Charity Association in Piotrków according to the Accounts in the *Tydzień* Magazine (1885–1906)” (*Towarzystwo Dobroczynności w Piotrkowie w doniesieniach «Tygodnia» (1885–1906)*); “Success through Education: The Education of Women in Interbellum Poland by Non-Government Organizations, including Religious Organizations, in the Second Polish Republic: The Example of the Sącz Region” (*Kariera przez wykształcenie. Kształcenie kobiet w dwudziestoleciu międzywojennym przez organizacje pozarządowe, w tym związki wyznaniowe, w II Rzeczypospolitej na przykładzie Sądecczyzny*); “Signs of Success in the Small Town Activity of a Multigenerational Masonry Business in Chełm” (*Znamiona sukcesu w działalności małomiasteczkowego, wielopokoleniowego zakładu kamieniarskiego w Chełmie*); “The Careers of Liberators in the First Century AD” (*Kariery wyzwolenców w I w. n. e.*); and “Success among Beggars and Cripples? The Iconography of Patrons of People from Marginalized Groups in Poland in the Fourteenth through Sixteenth Centuries: Selected Examples” (*Sukces wśród żebraków i kalek? Ikonografia patronów ludzi z marginesu społecznego w Polsce w XIV–XVI w. na wybranych przykładach*). The authors of the papers represented the following universities: our university, the John Paul II Catholic University of Lublin, the Jesuit University Ignatianum in Krakow, the University of Opole, the University of Wrocław, the Jan Długosz University in Częstochowa, Maria Curie-Skłodowska University in Lublin, the University of Warsaw, Nicolaus Copernicus University in Torun, Jan Kochanowski University in Kielce, Adam Mickiewicz University in Poznan, the Jagiellonian University, the Pedagogical University of Krakow, and the University of Lodz.

Another interesting student initiative is the cycle of meetings titled: “Their Areopagus of Faith” (*Ich Areopag wiary*). These are meetings with well-known persons who have the courage to publicly talk about their faith. It is organized by seminarians from the Major Seminary of the Archdiocese of Krakow, who at the same time are students of our Faculty of Theology. In the previous academic year, several meetings from

this cycle were held. On November 24, Ms. Brygida Grysiak, a television journalist (TVN24) and ambassador of World Youth Day in Krakow (2016) was the guest. When talking about herself, she said: "I have the need to live according to the Gospels. Our faith is constantly challenged, both in private life and in our work." Our university's Journalism Study Circle was engaged in organizing this meeting. The second meeting took place on March 7, 2017. The guest was Muniek Staszczyk, vocalist and frontman of the rock group T. Love. He said that to him, prayer was "chatting directly" with Jesus, as if with his best friend, and that "the coolest part of the Eucharist is to give a high-five to a person whom you do not know." Both meetings ended with group photos.

Popular culture offers us many values, some of which are uncritically accepted. Thus our university's Philosophy Study Circle along with the *Optimum* Pareto Foundation organized the "PhilosophyCon2," a meeting devoted to popular culture in an innovative form. It brings together an academic conference with a gathering. The event took place on May 13–14, in the Regional Public Library in Krakow and the Pauza in Garden cafe (in Krakow). The cycle "Philosophicon: A Gathering and Academic Conference" (*Filozofikon. Konwent i Konferencja Naukowa*) allows persons interested in philosophy (undergraduates, doctoral students, and others) to have contact with popular culture, which at the same time is conducive to the popularization of philosophy itself (as well as the Pareto efficiency principle, according to which the economic state of *optimum* in Pareto's meaning is the state in which one's situation cannot be improved, at the same time not worsening another's situation).

University studies serve not only to gain knowledge, but also to integrate the academic milieu of young academics. This was the aim of the young Polish theologians thanks to whom the Third National Academic Conference of Undergraduates and Graduate Students titled: "Newmanalia: Discovering Orthodoxy" (*Newmanalia – odkrywając ortodoksję*) with the slogan: "Sanctify Christ as Lord in your hearts. Always be ready to give an explanation to anyone who asks you for a reason for your hope" (1 Pet 3:15) was held. It was organized by our university's Study Circle of Theologians and took place at our university on June 1, 2017, under the patronage of the Polish Theological Society, the Society of Fundamental Theologians in Poland, and the Foundation of St. Jagdwiga, Queen of Poland for the Pontifical University of John Paul II in Krakow. The main idea behind the conference was the apologetic nature of theology. Eighteen papers in four thematic groups were presented: Apologetics across the Centuries; Witness as Apologetics; Apologetics in Culture; and Theology in Dialogue with Other Disciplines. The authors of the papers represented the following universities: our university, the John Paul II Catholic University of Lublin, Adam Mickiewicz University in Poznan, the University of Opole the Jagiellonian University, the Pontifical Faculty of Theology in Wroclaw, and Cardinal Stefan Wyszyński University in Warsaw. There are plans for

a publication containing the presented papers. During the conference, a publication with materials from a previous conference (“Orthodoxy, Orthopraxy: Between the Theoretical and Practical Dimension of Theology”/*Ortodoksja. Ortopraksja. Między teoretycznym a praktycznym wymiarem teologii*, eds. A. Malek, Ł. Rzepka, Krakow [Lublin] 2016, pp. 192) was presented.

The *Phronesis* Study Circle of Undergraduates and Doctoral Students, active at our university’s Faculty of History and Cultural Heritage, organized a meeting with Mr. Antoni Macierewicz, the minister of national defense, on November 24, 2016. The meeting was related to the fortieth anniversary of the establishment of the Workers’ Defense Committee, considered to be one of the most important opposition groups in the Polish People’s Republic. The meeting met with interest on the part of our students and others.

The *Phronesis* Study Circle also organized a conference titled: “Between Germany and Russia: The Dilemmas of Polish Geopolitical Thought in the Twentieth and Twenty-First Centuries” (*Między Niemcami a Rosją. Dylematy polskiej myśli geopolitycznej na przestrzeni XX/XXI wieku*), which took place on September 21, 2017. The conference was held to coincide with the eightieth anniversary of the publishing of one of the most important works on geopolitics, *Between Germany and Russia* (*Między Niemcami a Rosją*), written by Adolf Bocheński (1904–1944), which deals with Poland’s situation in 1938. The honorary patrons of this conference were: our university’s Institute of History, the Regional Center for International Debate in Krakow, and the Center for Political Thought in Krakow, while the media patron was our journal, *Vita Academica*. The conference consisted of two thematic blocs: The Fathers of Polish Geopolitics and Contemporary Geopolitical Dilemmas. The keynote lecture on the topic “Contemporary Polish-Ukrainian Relations in Light of the Thought of Adolf Bocheński” (*Współczesne stosunki polsko-ukraińskie w świetle myśli Adolfa Bocheńskiego*) was given by Ms. Agata Supińska of the Jagiellonian University. In addition to our university, the speakers represented: the Jagiellonian University, the University of Opole, the University of Wrocław, the John Paul II Catholic University of Lublin, Maria Curie-Skłodowska University in Lublin, Siedlce University of Natural Sciences and Humanities in Siedlce, and the War Studies University in Warsaw.

Popularization of knowledge among elderly persons is the aim of a special institution called the University of the Third Age. Active at our university since the 2011–2012 academic year, the University of the Third Age has been dynamically expanding its activity. This program is intended for persons above the age of fifty. It lasts two years (four semesters) and ends with the receiving of a diploma. However, after two years interested persons can continue their studies. Classes are held on Mondays and Tuesdays and include lectures on theology, philosophy, history, and the social sciences; they are

led by our lecturers as well as by invited guests. Additionally, guided tours of Krakow and its vicinity as well as trips and pilgrimages are organized for the students. Computer courses in our library and language courses and language courses by teachers from our Interfaculty Department of Foreign Languages are also organized for them. Students also take part in liturgical and artistic workshops, in the chess club and the Choir of the University of the Third Age, as well as in cultural events and special occasions (such as the inauguration and conclusion of the academic year, the Christmas wafer, St. Nicholas Day, and the stations of the cross), which are very popular, in part because grandparents can come to them with their grandchildren. Group excursions to the theater and to concerts as well as activities at our gym are also held for them. Students of our University of the Third Age also participate in various university events. In the past academic year, 552 people in three groups took part in this program, and a total of 518 persons graduated from the program. Among last year's cultural events, it is worth noting (as an example) the one-day pilgrimage in the footsteps of St. Brother Albert (April 28, 2017) and the pilgrimage to Greece in the footsteps of St. Paul the Apostle (June 27–July 4, 2017).

Since 2015, our university features the Pontifical University of Children and Parents. The “students” of this university receive indexes and identity cards that allow them to make use of the university's infrastructure. The Pontifical University of Children and Parents is open to children, adolescents, and adults, and according to its rulebook its aim is to support the development of the interests of its participants in the field of science and culture offered by our university. The meetings take place on Saturdays between 10 AM and 2 PM once a month. Depending on the kind of activity, they are held for both parents and children together or for parents and children separately. Children take part in workshops dealing with journalism, Christmas, astronomy, foreign languages, healthy eating, preservation of ceramics, and St. John Paul II. Meanwhile, parents take part in lectures on contemporary problems related to bringing up children and the ways of resolving them in light of the teachings of St. John Paul II. Also presented is an overview of methods and forms of teaching foreign languages as well as ways of evaluating the effectiveness of teaching children.⁵

Distinctions

The above-described activity of the Pontifical University of John Paul II has not been unnoticed in academia. In addition to the ordinary gratitude of people who make use

⁵ You can find more information about the activity of this “university” on: www.msp.upjp2.edu.pl, 27.12.2017.

of our university everyday, a particular cause for joy and satisfaction is the distinctions given to both our entire university and its staff by various institutions.

It is especially worth noting the fact that two of our professors received the “Feniks” (“Phoenix”) 2017 award. The “Feniks” is an annual award presented by the Association of Catholic Publishers. Its aim is to promote and honor valuable publications dealing with Catholic themes and presenting Christian values in a positive way. The award has been presented since 1999. Rev. Prof. Dr. Hab. Andrzej Napiórkowski received it for his book *Maryja jest piękna* (“Mary Is Beautiful”). Meanwhile, Rev. Dr. Hab. Robert Nęcek received a Special “Feniks” 2017 Award for his contribution to the development of media topics, especially for his book *Edukacja medialna w nauczaniu społecznym papieża Franciszka* (“Media Education in Pope Francis’ Social Teaching”) and for promoting the Catholic media and Catholic values, in particular for promoting faith and culture in radio and television programs and articles for the press that bring readers and viewers, and society more generally, closer to spiritual values. His publications have also been recognized at the Turin International Book Fair.

Meanwhile, the following professors received awards from secular authorities. Prof. Małgorzata Duda from the Faculty of Social Sciences received a Cross of Merit from Mr. Andrzej Duda, President of Poland, for organizational activity. Furthermore, Prof. Duda became a member of the Council on Senior Policy at the Ministry of Family, Labor, and Social Policy and a member of the Violence Prevention Group at that ministry.

Rev. Prof. Dr. Hab. Józef Marecki of the Faculty of History and Cultural Heritage, who also works for the Institute of National Remembrance, also received an award from the president. He received the Order of Polonia Restituta from the President of Poland for his contribution to the development of Polish scholarship in the field of the humanities. The award was presented by Dr. Jarosław Gowin, Deputy Prime Minister of Poland and Minister of Science and Higher Education, during the opening of the academic conference (May 10, 2018), titled: “Europe’s Cultural Landscape and Heritage: Permanence and Evanescence” (*Krajobraz i dziedzictwo kulturowe Europy – trwałość i przemijanie*), which was mentioned above.

The knowledge and passion with which our professors approach their duties have led to various forms of recognition at both the Church and state forums. Thus Rev. Dr. Hab. Piotr Majer as well as Rev. Prof. Dr. Hab. Tomasz Rozkrut, both from the Faculty of Canon Law, received distinctions from the Church. In 2016, they were once again made consultants of the Legal Council of the Polish Episcopal Conference. Meanwhile, Rev. Prof. Dr. Hab. Jan Machniak of the Faculty of Theology was made a member of the Group for Awards of the Prime Minister by Prime Minister Beata Szydło for 2016–2018.

Rev. Prof. Dr. Hab. Tomasz Rozkrut, dean of the Faculty of Canon Law, was made an expert of the Group for Awards of the Prime Minister by Dr. Jarosław Gowin,

Minister of Science and Higher Education. The same minister made Dr. Lucyna Rotter of the Faculty of History and Cultural Heritage a member of the Polish Accreditation Committee in 2016, which Rev. Prof. Dr. Hab. Kazimierz Panuś of the Faculty of Theology was in 2017 made a member of the team of experts evaluating submission to the National Program for Development of the Humanities.

It is also worth noting the second award in the Prof. Stefan Kuczyński Contest organized by the Institute of History at the Polish Academy of Sciences. It was given to Rev. Dr. Hab. Tomasz Gałuszka, OP, a professor of the Pontifical University of John Paul II, for his book: *Henry Harrer's Tractatus contra Beghardos: The Dominicans and Early Fourteenth Century Heresy in Lesser Poland*. This is an academic work on this treatise, written by the Czech Dominican Henryk Harrer, OP. It is a basic source for research on the history of the Beguines and Beghards in Lesser Poland in the fourteenth century and in the anti-heretical activity of the Dominicans at this time.

Our professors also receive recognition internationally. Rev. Prof. Władysław Zuziak of the Faculty of Philosophy is now serving a second term as vicepresident of the Federation of European Catholic Universities. Meanwhile, Rev. Dr. Hab. Grzegorz Hołub from the same faculty became a member of the international working group of the Federation of European Catholic Universities, which is working on a didactic program for these universities. The group is called "European Humanism in the Making," and its program deals with European humanism.

When speaking about recognition of our university, it is worth noting the award for our first rector, Cardinal Prof. Dr. Hab. Marian Jaworski. On March 13, 2017, the President of Poland, Mr. Andrzej Duda, personally gave Cardinal Jaworski the Order of the White Eagle, which is the highest and oldest state honor of the Republic of Poland given by the president of Poland for unique contributions to the good of the Republic of Poland. Cardinal Jaworski received it "in recognition of great contributions to rebuilding religious life in Poland's former eastern territories, deepening ecumenical dialogue, and academic achievements in the fields of philosophy and theology." The ceremony took place in Krakow, in the cardinal's apartment.

Among our students, it is worth mentioning Jakub Stoszek and Łukasz Krasny, students of journalism and social communications, in the context of awards. On January 6, 2017, they won the "My World Youth Day" film contest. Nearly 140 films from across Poland were sent to the contest. The contest's patrons were Ms. Beata Szydło, Prime Minister of Poland, and the Archbishop of Krakow and our university's Great Chancellor, Cardinal Stanisław Dziwisz.

Some Numbers

In order to get a fuller picture of our university, it is worth quoting several statistics. In the 2016–2017 academic year, 3,021 undergraduates, doctoral students, and participants in post-graduate diploma studies studied at our university, while 425 persons were employed by our university (as of October 1, 2017). We employed 274 academic staff, including: fifty-one titular professors, ninety-three habilitated doctors, one-hundred doctors, thirty persons with master of arts degrees, and one-hundred twenty-seven remaining staff (one hundred employed in administration and twenty-seven in the library). Furthermore, six persons who are considered academic staff work in our library (in total, thirty-three persons work in our library). Twenty-four persons are employed in research and didactic projects. A total of 548 students were admitted to the first year of undergraduate and uniform M.A. studies.

In the past year, 167 bachelor of arts degrees were granted at our university (nine at the Faculty of Theology, four at the Faculty of Philosophy, forty-one at the Faculty of History and Cultural Heritage, and 113 at the Faculty of Social Sciences), as were 369 master of arts degrees (134 at the Faculty of Theology, thirteen at the Faculty of Philosophy, forty-four at the Faculty of History and Cultural Heritage, 142 at the Faculty of Social Sciences, and thirty-six at the Faculty of Theology – Theological Section in Tarnow) and sixty-one licentiates in sacred theology (thirty-two at the Faculty of Theology, twenty-one at the Faculty of Canon Law, and eight at the Faculty of Theology – Theological Section in Tarnow). Twenty-seven persons received doctoral degrees (seventeen at the Faculty of Theology, seven at the Faculty of Philosophy, and three at the Faculty of History and Cultural Heritage), while five persons became habilitated doctors and one person received the title of professor.

In order to avoid misunderstandings, we should note that the cited numbers of degrees and academic titles are not always the same as the numbers presented during promotion ceremonies, because usually several months pass between the end of all doctoral proceedings and the actual ceremonies, which is why sometimes proceedings end in one academic year and promotions occur in the next one. Furthermore, in a given academic year persons who had received their degrees or academic titles at different institutions are hired.

Promotion of Our University

Several institutions function at our university in order to promote its academic and didactic activity. They include the Office of Information and Promotion, which has been active since the 2004–2005 academic year. In the past academic year, it undertook many promotional activities, including participation in organizing the Science Festival along with other Krakow universities (in 2017, the festival's organizers adopted a new

name: “The Festival of Arts and Sciences in Krakow”). The main site where the festival is held is the tent camp in Krakow’s Main Square. In the past academic year, it took place on May 24–27, 2017 (seventeenth edition) and had the motto: “In Accordance with Nature” (*W zgodzie z naturą*), and its main organizer was the Pedagogical University of Krakow. As in previous years, our university organized academic panels, art exhibits, workshops, and quizzes. Several dozen volunteers from all four faculties were engaged in our participation in the festival. The festival attractions prepared by our staff and students were, for example, a show of historical dance or a thought experiment in the form of a philosophical game called: “What’s it like to be a tree in Krakow?”

Radio Bonus, which since 2010 has been broadcasting twenty-four hours a day, works with Vatican Radio, the audio service of the Catholic News Agency (Katolicka Agencja Informacyjna, KAI), and with national radio stations. Radio Bonus is the media patron of many conferences and academic symposiums. 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. Since March 2016, Radio Bonus has been part of the Academic Media Center. In terms of its equipment, the center is a unique place in Poland. You can listen to it at: www.radio.upjp2.edu.pl.

In addition to Radio Bonus, since 2014 there has also been an Internet television (JP2TV), which also is part of the aforementioned Academic Media Center. It is worth noting that it is the only university student television in Poland that uses professional TriCaster equipment in order to create its programs. Television can be found and watched at: <http://jp2tv.pl/>. JP2TV is unique not only because of the gifted and hard-working students, but also because of its well-equipped television studio, among the most modern in Poland. It makes possible the professional education of young journalists in every field of editorial work: detailed research, the recording of materials, and the editing of materials. The professionalism of JP2TV is attested to by the fact that many journalists who are now employed by the biggest television stations in Poland, both public and private, once worked there. JP2TV Television works with Polish Television (its regional branch in Krakow: TVP3 Krakow). The students’ cycle of program titled: *Wielkie Nieba* (“Great Heavens”) in particular is something to be proud of. The mere expression *wielkie nieba* (“great heavens”) is an interjection written with an exclamation point; it expresses surprise, amazement, and sometimes outrage. The idea behind the *Wielkie Nieba* program, an expression of captivation with World Youth Day in Krakow, was born in response to Pope Francis’ words at World Youth Day in Krakow in order to get off the couch, put on athletic shoes, and follow Jesus in order to “leave a trace in life” (June 30, 2016). Students who thanks to TVP3 Krakow took part in the media coverage of Pope Francis’ visit to Poland, were engaged in the implementation of *Wielkie Nieba*. In terms of its content, *Wielkie Nieba* is a Catholic

program that presents original programs about initiatives that were born after World Youth Day in response to the pope's words and about people who undertake such initiatives and help, motivate, and inspire others to act. The cycle of eleven episodes was broadcast on Saturday morning from March 18 to June 10 on TVP1 (a national television program).

An important form of promoting our university is its publishing activity, which the Academic Press deals with. The press publishes academic papers and journals. A university-wide publication that has been regularly published since 1970 is *Analecta Cracoviensia*, which contains studies in the areas of philosophy, theology, Church history, canon law, and the social sciences. So far, forty-five volumes (forty-eight years) of this periodical have been published. In addition to *Analecta Cracoviensia*, each faculty publishes its own journal: *Polonia Sacra* is a journal published by the Faculty of Theology (so far, twenty-one volumes have been published), which since 2013 also publishes the English-language journal *Theological Research: A Journal of Systematic Theology* (three volumes have been published). *Logos i Ethos* ("Logos and Ethos") is a journal published by the Faculty of Philosophy (twenty-three volumes have been published, while the Faculty of Church History publishes *Folia Historica Cracoviensia* (twenty-three volumes), *Pro Musica Sacra* (since 2004, fifteen volumes have been published), and *Orientalia Christiana Cracoviensia* (since 2009, eight volumes have been published). The Faculty of Social Sciences publishes *Studia Socialia Cracoviensia* (since 2009, nine volumes have been published). The Institute of Canon Law publishes *Annales Canonici*. It is an annual journal directed at academic milieu, practicing lawyers, and all who are interested in canon law (so far, thirteen volumes have been published). The Faculty of Theology – Theological Section in Tarnow publishes two journals: *Tarnowskie Studia Teologiczne* (since 1938, thirty-five volumes have been published) as well as *The Person and the Challenges* (since 2011, seven volumes have been published). The Center for Interdisciplinary Studies at the Faculty of Philosophy publishes *Zagadnienia Filozoficzne w Nauce* ("Philosophical Topics in Science"). This is a semi-annual journal that deals with the discovery and analysis of philosophical problems intertwined with the natural sciences (so far, sixty-three volumes have been published). *Semina Scientiarum*, initially published as a supplement to the aforementioned *Zagadnienia Filozoficzne w Nauce*, is a similar journal. It is edited by participants of the Academic Seminar in the Philosophy of Science and is devoted to topics at the intersection of philosophy and the natural sciences (so far, fifteen volumes have been published). Since 2011, the Faculty of Philosophy has published the journal *Racjonalia. Z punktu widzenia humanistyki* ("Rationalia: From the Perspective of the Humanities"), edited by our university's Philosophy Study Circle. It publishes papers by our B.A. (first cycle) students, M.A. (second cycle) students, doctoral (third cycle) students,

integrated M.A. students, participants in post-graduate studies, and the academic staff of post-secondary universities (so far, six volumes have been published).

Our university's official informative journal 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") which is published every three months and contains information related to the most important events in our university's life. Students studying for the priesthood also have their own journal: *Novum Tempus Liberum (NTL)*, which is edited by seminarians of the Major Archdiocesan Seminary of Krakow. Currently, it is published annually and contains information about seminary life and the seminarians' student lives.

In 2015, several students of journalism and social communications began the project of a journal with Polish traditions. Its title is: *Traditio. Przestrzeń Cywilizacji Łacińskiej* ("Traditio: The Sphere of Latin Civilization"). *Tradition* is not a university publication, nor is it an academic publication, but it is put together at our university by its undergraduates, doctoral students, and also graduates who live their lives according to such values as: patriotism, Christianity, family, learning, culture, and language. The journal seeks to be a response to the current information chaos, surplus of knowledge, and fast pace of life that make it easy to forget the contributions of previous generations. So far, six issues of this journal have been published.

The university's regular publications also include book series. Of those that are published regularly, it is especially worth mentioning *Studia nad myślą Jana Pawła II* ("Studies on the Thought of John Paul II"), published by the Center for Studies on the Thought of John Paul II. So far, the center has published seventeen volumes in this series. Throughout the 2016–2017 academic year, our Academic Press published sixty-one publications, including twenty volumes of journals as well as the *Biuletyn Informacyjny «Vita Academica»*. A major achievement (already mentioned) for the Academic Press in the previous academic year was receiving the "Feniks 2017" award given by the Association of Catholic Publishers to Rev. Prof. Andrzej Napiórkowski, OSPPE, for his book *Maryja jest piękna. Zarys mariologii i maryjności* ("Mary Is Beautiful: An Outline of Mariology and Marian Devotion," Krakow 2016, pp. 280) during the Catholic Publishers' Fair in Warsaw. Furthermore, our press has systematically increased the number of publications available online (on the websites of journals and in our university's repository). There is also a digital Platform of Journals,⁶ where journals published by our university (fourteen at the time of writing) are made available.

In addition to academic and didactic activity, our university also works to promote sacred music, which is the extension of studies on the Church's liturgy and its musical

⁶ <http://czasopisma.upjp2.edu.pl/index/index>, 30.12.2017.

tradition. Since 1988, the Psalmodia Choir, directed by Dr. Hab. Włodzimierz Siedlik, a professor of the Pontifical University of John Paul II, who has directed the choir since its founding, has been present at our university. The Psalmodia Choir graces various academic ceremonies, such as the inauguration ceremony of the academic year or celebrations related to the anniversary of the university, with its performances. The choir also promotes Polish culture abroad. Thanks to its collaboration with the St. Jadwiga, Queen of Poland Foundation, it can take part in various artistic events. Since 2009, there have been two separate choirs attached to the *Psalmodia* Choir: the Krakow Women's Choir and the Krakow Men's Choir, which perform works written for universal choirs but also perform their own concerts and receive recognition. Among the *Psalmodia* Choir's performances outside our university, it is worth emphasizing its participation in the Christmas carols concert in St. Mary's Basilica in Krakow, which took place on January 1, 2017. The concert was organized by the Inter-University Institute of Church Music.

Concern for Undergraduates and Doctoral Students

Amidst its didactic and research activity, the Pontifical University of John Paul II is also devoted to the spiritual formation of its students and staff. It is provided by the Patmos Academic Ministry, which offers Masses, ascetic conferences, and individual talks with priests. During Advent and Lent it also organizes retreats for students. In the past academic year, the Advent academic retreat was held on November 27–29, 2016, while the Lenten academic retreat was held on March 5–7, 2017. Rev. Dr. Lucjan Bielas was responsible for all of the ministry's activities. Since September 2017, he was replaced by Rev. Dr. Paweł Pielka. Students studying for the priesthood receive spiritual and pastoral formation in their seminaries. Lay students meet for prayer in the Chapel of St. John Paul II, which is in the university's building at 1 Franciszkańska Street, and since we began our lease of the building at 3 Bernardyńska Street also in that building, also in its chapel. The ministry organizes the *Zaufanie i Praca* ("Trust and Work") program for those who want to develop their entrepreneurship inspired by Christian spirituality.⁷

In addition to "Patmos," there is also a second ministry active at our university. For some time, the University Christian Outreach (UCO) community has been active at our university, and since December 2016 it has functioned as the second academic ministry at our university. The aims of this ministry can be expressed in three challenges:

⁷ You can find more information on the website: <http://www.upjp2.edu.pl/duszpasterstwo/duszpasterstwo-akademickie-patmos>, 12.12.2017.

“Life life to the fullest!” “Pass it on!” and “Grow!” The ministry is led by Rev. Dr. Hab. Szymon Drzyżdżyk.⁸

Concern for our students also encompasses helping them to resolve their problems. The “Helm” Student Clinic, which was opened in 2014, serves this end. It is an initiative of the “Patmos” Academic Ministry and of the students of the Faculty of Social Sciences. The clinic helps students to resolve family crises, look for an appropriate specialist, or search for funding for their research project, or in any matter that makes their student lives more difficult. The clinic is open to the needs of students from all the universities in Krakow. It offers aid in the following areas: counseling related to assistance to families, elderly persons, and people with disabilities; student and family mediation; counseling related to natural family planning and NaProTechnology; dealing with administrative and social matters; spiritual and psychological assistance in times of crisis; and assistance in solving problems. The clinic also organizes the cycle of Student Oxford Debates as well as one-time initiatives such as Mediation Day or “Be Brave, Close Your Eyes!”

Students’ engagement in university life is coordinated by the Students’ Union. In the previous academic year, elections for the Students’ Union for the next two-year term were held (May 17, 2017). Mr. Mateusz Więcek of the Faculty of Theology (second year of theology for lay students) was elected president of the Students’ Union. Mr. Marcin Nika of the Faculty of Social Sciences and Ms. Dominika Suder of the Faculty of Theology were elected vice-presidents. Ms. Karolina Dzierżawska of the Faculty of History and Cultural Heritage and Ms. Kamila Witalińska of the Faculty of Philosophy were elected secretaries, who are also members of the Students’ Union’s board. Ms. Patrycja Miś of the Faculty of Canon Law was elected president of the Revision Commission.

Naturally, a solid university education not only provides necessary knowledge, but it also develops students’ skills. Since the 2014–2015 academic year, the Academic Business Incubator, which is part of our university’s Career Office (which was launched in March 2006) has been a part of our university. It cooperates with the Academic Business Incubators Foundation. It is an institution that supports students who in the future want to start their own business. Thus the incubator provides specialized legal assistance, training, and accounting services, and it also teaches students to run their own businesses in practice. It also offers the aid of experts who help to evaluate and test their own business ideas at the minimal costs of such undertakings. An example of its activity in the previous academic year was the organization of the first Career Days of the Pontifical University of John Paul II in Krakow (March 15–17, 2017), organized by our Career Office along with the Academic Business Incubator. The Career Day’s

⁸ You can find more information on the website: <http://ucokrakow.pl>, 29.12.2017.

program included workshops, meetings with entrepreneurs, and a job fair. There are plans for a second edition of the Career Days.

Our university's authorities try to ensure that our students with disabilities have the best conditions for studying. They receive the support of the Office for Persons with Disabilities, which organizes various meetings for students with disabilities. Along with other Cracovian universities, each year our office organizes cyclical integration events. They include the inter-university Christmas Eve celebration and the "Integration Days". The tenth "Krakow Integration Days" were organized on April 3–8, 2017, just as in previous years. As part of these days, our university's office organized a journalism workshop titled: "Techniques, Forms, Genres, and Media Skills" (*Techniki, formy, gatunki i umiejętności medialne*), which was held on April 4, 2017.

Our university also remembers about its graduates. An example of this are the regular 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 21, 2017, in the John Paul II Sanctuary in Krakow and were related to giving thanks for the service of Cardinal Stanisław Dziwisz. After Mass, a meeting, and a reflection on the topic "Pope Francis' Apostolic Letter *Misericordia et misera*" was held. In addition to this group, for some time another one, the graduate group, has been part of our "Patmos" ministry. Since 2016, there has been an association of the graduates of all faculties called "The Association of Graduates and Friends of the Pontifical University of John Paul II," which was mentioned above.

Supporting Academic Activity

Our university's library is a specialized library whose collection currently consists of about 577,000 volumes. More than 35,000 volumes are freely available. Additionally, our library has about 6,000 old prints as well as documents related to social life and cartography. Its audiovisual collection contains 5,084 inventory items. Our library participates in the creation of the national library information exchange system as well as in the work of the Krakow Library Group, the Central Catalog of Polish Academic Libraries NUKAT, and the Federation of Polish Church Libraries FIDES. Our library continues to expand its catalog in the VTLIS/Virtua integrated information system. As of December 2017, the number of records of volumes was 231,482, while the number of records of continuously published publications was 5,335. This catalog is available online as a database. In 2017, the number of regular readers was 14,821. In 2017, our main library amassed 9,215 volumes of books, 180 inventory multimedia items, and 793 inventoried journals. At the end of 2017, our main libraries book resources consisted of 159,961 inventoried items. In 2017, the library acquired 776 journals and subscribed to 237 publications, 112 of which were international. Furthermore, as part

of inter-library loan our library acquired 114 domestic and international journals. It receives most international publications in exchange for *Analecta Cracoviensia*.

The acquisition of digital information resources is a dynamically growing field of the library's activity. They are systematically used by our library, which for years has been amassing and making available electronic sources of information. They are above all textual, bibliographic, and factual databases, as well as the digital versions of journals and books and information from websites. From the perspective of their availability, they can be divided into those that are available to all and those that require licenses. Access to the latter is available for our staff, undergraduates, and doctoral students not only from the computers of the main library, but also at home after logging in. The library offers access to the following economic databases: ATLA Religion Database with ATLASerials, Communication & Mass Media Complete, Cambridge Journals – Kolekcja HSS, and JSTOR. Furthermore, it is possible to have access to databases financed by the Ministry of Science and Higher Education as part of the Polish Virtual Library of Science from our university computer network. The Polish Virtual Library of Science features IBUK Libra, a service that belongs to the Polish Scientific Publishers PWN, which has made publications available in electronic form since 2007. The library also makes access from the most important databases possible: Elsevier, Springer, Web of Science (produced by Thomson Reuters, which also includes access to the Web of Knowledge database), Nature, Science, Scopus, Wiley-Blackwell, and EBSCO Host.

The Foundation of St. Jadwiga, Queen of Poland for the Pontifical University of John Paul II in Krakow is responsible for acquiring financial resources to support our university. The university receives funds from the state budget, which covers 72 percent of the university's expenses, but not investment costs. The remaining financial resources must therefore be covered by other sources. Thus the foundation makes the university's activity better known through various available channels and encourages donors to support it.

The foundation also helps fund the activity of organized student groups or student groups that are not organizations pursuant to the "Rules on Financial Aid to Student Initiatives and Activities," thus supporting their ideas. Units of the Students' Union and Doctoral Students' Union; study, athletic, and musical circles; the academic ministry and other student organizations of our university can apply for such funding.

In accordance with its statute, the foundation provides financial support for our university "in its academic and artistic activity." In the past academic year, the foundation along with the Polish Hospice and St. Stanislaus Church in Rome continued to provide funding for a very important and expensive project titled: "The Cataloging and Digitalization of Selected Archives of the Central Ministry Center of Poles abroad in Rome." This is a project that receives financial support from the Ministry

of Culture and National Heritage as part of the “Cultural Heritage” program encompassing “the protection of Polish heritage abroad.” Archival materials included in this project were briefly presented in the previous *Chronicle*. Furthermore, the foundation has financed the following publications: *Seniorzy na Uniwersytecie Papieskim Jana Pawła II w Krakowie. Jubileusz UTW 2011–2016*, eds. J. Dziedzic, I. Szlachta, Krakow 2016; *Ad extra – ad intra. Oblicza apologii*, eds. A. Malek, Ł. Rzepka, Krakow 2017; *O wolności religijnej w Polsce*, eds. K. Mazur, D. Stokłosa-Bierniara, Krakow 2017; *Spory o Rzeczpospolitą. Przegląd wybranych dyskusji politycznych i ustrojowych w ostatnim stuleciu*, eds. P. Gofron, A. Paderewska, A. Matuła, Kraków 2017.

The foundation, which was initially known as the Foundation of St. Jadwiga, Queen of Poland for the Pontifical Academy of Theology, was established on February 2, 1990, from the initiative of its patrons: Cardinal Dr. Franciszek Macharski, the archbishop of Krakow and great chancellor of the Pontifical Academy of Theology at the time, and Bishop Prof. Dr. Hab. Waław Świerzawski, then the rector of our university.

On this occasion, the board of the foundation expresses its gratitude to all its benefactors for the support, kindness, and readiness to assist it. A Mass in St. Mark the Evangelist’s Church in Krakow is celebrated for all the benefactors.⁹

In Loving Memory

A recurring event in our university’s life is prayers for its deceased staff and all the deceased staff of the universities and post-secondary schools in Krakow and Lesser Poland. For many years, a special Mass has been held in St. Anne’s Collegiate Church in Krakow in November, during which we pray for those who left this world in the previous academic year. Last year, the November prayer for the dead was tied to commemoration of the professors of the Jagiellonian University who were arrested by the German Nazis on November 6, 1939. This insidious event has come to be known as *Sonderaktion Krakau*. It resulted in the Gestapo’s arresting of 183 Krakow professors and academic teachers, including 155 staff of the Jagiellonian University, who were deported to the Sachsenhausen and Dachau concentration camps, where some of them were killed. In the previous academic year, the special Mass for deceased academic staff and students of Krakow universities was held on Monday November 7, 2016, also in St. Anne’s Collegiate Church in Krakow. Our university was represented by our rector, Rev. W. Zuzak, as well as many staff and students.

In the past academic year, we also recalled the anniversary of the passing of several professors who played an important role in our university’s history. On the eleventh

⁹ You can find more details about the foundation on the website (in Polish): <http://-upjp2.edu.pl/node/17>, 29.12.2017.

anniversary of the death of Rev. Prof. Dr. Hab. Augustyn Jankowski, OSB (d. November 6, 2005), the abbey in Tyniec along with our university's Institute of Biblical Studies organized a symposium devoted to the work of this famous Benedictine Biblicist. He was mentioned in the part devoted to the popularization of the results of research.

Our university's Study Circle of Historians, Undergraduates, and Doctoral Students organized a meeting devoted to Prof. Janina Bieniarzówna on the twentieth anniversary of her death (d. March 1, 1997). It was held on March 30, 2017. Prof. Bieniarzówna was the organizer and first dean of our university's Faculty of Church History (now the Faculty of History and Cultural Heritage). Her contribution to studies on the history of Krakow are especially respected.

On December 1, 2016, the Institute of Journalism and Social Communication organized a meeting in memory of Rev. Andrzej Baczyński on the first anniversary of his death. Rev. Prof. Baczyński had great contributions to the development of studies in journalism at our university as well as to the development of Catholic television programs, as he was one of the founders of the Krakow branch of TVP Catholic Programs.

Meanwhile, an academic session was held to recall the memory of Rev. Prof. Jerzy Chmiel on March 23, 2017. Rev. Prof. Chmiel died on August 9, 2016. He was a well-known Biblicist who made great contributions to our university, in particular to our Faculty of Theology. After a Mass concelebrated in his intention, which was led by Bishop Prof. Dr. Hab. Roman Pindel, there was an academic session during which the following topics were discussed: Rev. Prof. Chmiel's contribution to the growth of Biblical hermeneutics as well as studies on the Dead Sea Scrolls as well as ancient Hebrew texts, and his contribution to the development of the *Ruch Biblijny i Liturgiczny/Biblical and Liturgical Movement* journal. Papers were presented by academic staff from our university as well as the Cardinal Stefan Wyszyński University in Warsaw, the Jagiellonian University, and the Pontifical Faculty of Theology in Wrocław. Several of Rev. Prof. Chmiel's closest collaborators (Rev. Prof. Dr. Hab. J. Dyduch, Rev. Prof. Dr. Hab. T. Jelonek, Rev. Prof. Dr. Hab. Ł. Kamykowski, and Ms. Dr. M. Kantor) shared their personal experiences with the late professor.

Before concluding, it is worth mentioning those who left us forever in the previous academic year. In the 2016–2017 academic year, our university's academic community said good-bye to three of its staff.

Prof. Dr. Hab. Marian Machura (1933–2016) was an organist, composer of sacred music, and chorale lecturer at our university (then the Pontifical Academy of Theology) who was a mentor to many generations of musicians and, as a teacher of liturgical song, to priests in the Archdiocese of Krakow as well. He was the main founder of the Liturgical Institute in Krakow (with an organ section), which was established in 1968 pursuant to a decision of the archbishop of Krakow at the time, Cardinal Karol Wojtyła.

In this way, he became engaged in introducing the post-conciliar liturgical reforms to Poland. For twenty-four years (1974–1998), he headed the Liturgical Music Section in the Liturgical Institute. He composed melodies to the texts of the liturgy of the hours for the Easter Triduum, Easter, Corpus Christi, and the ceremony of the Immaculate Conception as well as to the lauds of St. Jadwiga, Queen of Poland. He also composed the melodies to two Masses. The most popular of them are sung in almost all the parishes in Poland and are known as “Machura’s Mass.” The funeral Mass in Tyniec (October 26, 2016) was celebrated by Cardinal Stanisław Dziwisz. Mr. Machura was buried at the cemetery at Tyniec.

Rev. Dr. Marek Leśniak (1968–2017) was a Roman Catholic priest, lecturer in moral theology at our university, and the superior and vice-rector of the Major Seminary of the Archdiocese of Krakow. He was the chaplain to the Arch-Fraternity of Mercy and the Knights of Columbus. Starting in 2013, he was a member of the collegiate chapter at St. Florian’s Basilica in Krakow. He was the co-founder and vicepresident of the Foundation of St. John Cantius as well as a member of the Organizational Committee of World Youth Day in Krakow in 2016. The funeral ceremony took place on August 8, 2017, in St. Florian’s Basilica, while the concelebrated Mass was led by Cardinal Stanisław Dziwisz. Meanwhile, the homily was given by Bishop Józef Gózddek, the Military Ordinary of the Polish Armed Forces. The late Rev. Leśniak is remembered by his friends and loved ones as a good, hard-working priest engaged in serving God and his neighbors. His mortal remains were interred in the Crypt of Canons of the Collegiate Chapter of St. Florian’s Basilica in Krakow.

Ms. Barbara Jamróg (1958–2017) was a graduate of our university’s Faculty of Theology and later an employee of our university (1986–2000), where she performed a variety of functions, including librarian and custodian. Because of her health, she had to become a pensioner. Her coworkers and students remember that she was a kind person towards others and was open to new experiences. The funeral ceremonies and the funeral Mass were held at the Batowicki Cemetery in Krakow (August 22, 2017), where her mortal remains were buried.

Our academic community was also sad to learn of the passing of Cardinal Miloslav Vlk (1932–2017), an honorary doctor of our university, on May 7, 2001. Cardinal Vlk was a Czech priest, the thirty-fifth metropolitan archbishop of Prague, the primate of Bohemia and Moravia, a cardinal (since 1994), and a member of the Focolari movement. He experienced persecution under communist rule. In 1993–2001, he was president of the Council of the Bishops’ Conferences of Europe (CCEE). He frequently visited Poland, and on April 29, 2017, he celebrated a special Mass on the occasion of the Gniezno celebrations honoring St. Wojciech. Cardinal Vlk received an honorary doctorate from our university for “giving witness to his faith in the difficult times

of totalitarian rule [...]; his novel and valuable efforts to preserve and, where necessary, bring back Europe's Christian identity [...]; and promoting ecclesiastical brotherhood between the local Churches in various parts of Europe." The funeral ceremony took place on March 25, 2017, in the Metropolitan Cathedral of Saints Vitus, Wenceslaus and Adalbert in Prague (Czech Republic). Cardinal Stanisław Dziwisz represented the Polish Episcopal Conference. Cardinal Vlk's mortal remains were interred in the cathedral crypt of the Prague archbishops.

It is also worth mentioning Prof. Dr. Hab. Jerzy Vetulani (1936–2017) who did not work for our university, although the students of our Faculty of Philosophy made use of his exceptionally interesting lectures whose main topic was the neurological basis for behavior. Professor Vetulani was well-known in academic circles internationally as an accomplished scholar, neurobiologist, and psychopharmacologist. He is the author of numerous internationally recognized studies and the co-author of the "beta-down-regulation" hypothesis regarding the activity of anti-depressants. Professor Vetulani was an atheist, although for many years he had cordial relations with St. John Paul II. The funeral ceremonies were held at the Rakowice Cemetery in Krakow on April 18, 2017, and were of a secular nature.

We pray for the souls of our university's deceased staff as well as all the above-mentioned deceased persons and keep them in our thoughts, trying to emulate their examples of academic honesty and human kindness.

The above-presented facts attest to the dynamic growth of the Pontifical University of John Paul II; its sensitivity to contemporary scientific, social, and religious problems; and also to its openness to the needs of both the universal and local Church. Every form of supporting its activity at the same time promotes Christian values, the teaching of St. John Paul II, service of the truth, and, finally, participation in Christ's missionary instruction to "go... and make disciples of all nations" (Mt 28:19).

Rev. Jan D. Szczurek
Translation: *Filip Mazurczak*