



Mineralogical Society of Poland

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PROFESSOR LESZEK STOCH, HONORARY MEMBER OF THE POLISH MINERALOGICAL SOCIETY, BECOMES AN HONORARY PROFESSOR



The rector of AGH, Prof. Antoni Tajduś, presents an Honorary Member diploma to Prof. Leszek Stoch (right). PHOTO ZBIGNIEW SULIMA

The title of Honorary Professor was conferred upon Prof. **Leszek Stoch** by the Senate of his alma mater, the AGH University of Science and Technology in Krakow. The ceremony was held on 4 July 2011. Leszek Stoch was born on 6 June 1931, the son of teachers. In 1949 he began his studies at the Academy of Mining and Metallurgy (AGH) in Krakow and in 1955, specializing in glass technology, graduated as a chemist-ceramist with an MScEng degree. In 1951, still a student, he took the job of deputy assistant and until his retirement in 2001 worked at his alma mater. He defended his doctoral thesis in 1960 (in the Faculty of Ceramics) and in 1966 presented his second-degree dissertation, which gave him the title of *doctor habilitatus*. In 1976 Leszek Stoch was nominated full professor. In the years 1971–1980 he held the post of Deputy Director at the Institute of Mineralogy and Deposits of Mineral Raw Materials. In 1980 he moved from the Faculty of Geological Prospecting to the Faculty of Materials Engineering and Ceramics, where he became the Chair of Glass and Enamels (1980–2001) and for six years (1984–1990) was the Dean.

The wide scientific interests of Professor Leszek Stoch were focused on the problems of clay minerals and mineral materials as well as on the technology of glass and biomaterials. He has authored about 260 papers, published mainly in scientific journals of international merit, and has obtained 14 patents. Particular attention should be paid to his book *Minerały ilaste (Clay Minerals)*, published in Polish in 1974. His investigations on special glass types earned him in 1998 the prize of the Foundation for Polish Science (the so-called “Polish Nobel”) in the technical sciences. He supervised 30 DSc students, seven of whom are now independent academics (five being university professors).

Professor Stoch is one of the founders of three scientific societies: the Mineralogical Society of Poland (and its clay minerals section), the Polish Ceramic Society, and the Polish Society of Calorimetry and Thermal Analysis. Since 1995 he has been the corresponding member of the Polish Academy of Arts and Sciences. Although reaching retirement age in 2001, Professor Stoch has remained active, continuing interdisciplinary research in the Earth sciences (mineralogy and the science of mineral raw materials), solid-state chemistry, materials science, and glass technology. Congratulations from the Mineralogical Society of Poland, dear Professor.

Krzysztof Bahranowski

AGH University of Science and Technology, Krakow

1ST SCANNING ELECTRON MICROSCOPE WORKSHOP: APPLICATIONS IN EARTH SCIENCES (SEMWORKSHOP '11)

A three-day short course and workshop meeting was held on March 11–13, 2011, at the University of Silesia in Sosnowiec, Poland. It was organized by the Department of Geochemistry, Mineralogy, and Petrography of the Faculty of Earth Sciences, University of Silesia, and the Mineralogical Society of Poland. Key members of the SEMWORKSHOP '11 organizing committee were Radu Bailau, Eligiusz Szeleg, Ewa Teper, and Beata Zych. The meeting brought together 51 experts, professionals, and students from Estonia, the Netherlands, Romania, and Poland to review the applications, current state, progress, and challenges in the field of scanning electron microscopy. The short course included both theoretical aspects and practical training in this analytical method through a series of expert-led interactive teaching sessions, which were followed by group discussions on instrumentation, tools, and the capabilities of the technique. Participants were given the opportunity to analyze their own samples. Attendees also had a chance to examine the collection in the faculty's mineralogical museum.

The workshop program comprised eight oral presentations and six practical sessions. Invited speakers were Janusz Janeczek (“Introductory remarks on SEM”), Dirk van der Wal (“Recent developments in SEM and DualBeam instrumentation,” and “Introduction to automated petrography and use cases in the geosciences, oil and gas, and mining”), Marek Michalik (“SEM in environmental geoscience”), Michał Zatoń (“Application of SEM in paleontology”), and Zbigniew Sawłowicz (“SEM [BSE and EDS] in taphonomy and more: practical remarks”). The practical sessions were conducted by Arkadiusz Piersa and Tomasz Kępiński (LabSoft), Artur Gazewski (Comef), and Ewa Teper (University of Silesia).



After their hard work, the happy participants enjoy a beer tasting at Tyskie Brewery.

In addition, two postconference field trips were held: (1) Tyskie Browarium Tour (Tyskie Brewery) with a beer tasting, and (2) Tarnowskie Góry silver mine—observing the silver and lead ores exploited from the 13th century up to the 1930s. The next workshop, SEMWORKSHOP '12, will take place in the spring of 2012 in Sosnowiec, Poland.

Radu Bailau and Eligiusz Szeleg