



Mineralogical Society of Poland

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It is my great pleasure and honor to present the Józef Morozewicz Medal, awarded by the Mineralogical Society of Poland for special merits in the development of mineralogical sciences. Józef Morozewicz (1865–1941) was an outstanding Polish petrographer and mineralogist, organizer of scientific institutions, and academic teacher.

In 2023, the Mineralogical Society of Poland honored **Professor Michał Sachanbiński** of the University of Wrocław with the medal in recognition of his scientific achievements and efforts for the development of mineralogical sciences in Poland.



The award ceremony in Kraków. Professor Sachanbiński in the middle with Anna Potysz, the secretary of the Polish Mineralogical Society, and Jakub Kierczak, the Head of Polish Mineralogical Society.

Professor Sachanbiński's research interests were not always in the field of geology and mineralogy; at the beginning of his scientific career, he was fascinated by nuclear physics. We are happy that Professor Sachanbiński eventually chose to follow the mineralogical path, but his links to physics have always remained strong. One of his achievements was undertaken together with two physicists, Jan Chojcan and Marian Szuszkiewicz, in which they adapted positron annihilation spectroscopy (PAS) methods for mineral analyses. Overall, the scientific problems addressed in Professor Sachanbiński's works were multidisciplinary and often combined mineralogy, gemology,



Professor Sachanbiński.

petroarchaeology, and geochemistry. Undoubtedly, his main interests included numerous aspects of the geochemistry and mineralogy of granitoids and volcanic rocks of the Fore-Sudetic and the Sowie Mountains areas, a subject that he investigates to this day. Since the beginning of his scientific career, Professor Sachanbiński has conducted intensive research on natural raw materials, jewelry, and decorative products from Poland, especially from Lower Silesia. This resulted in numerous publications on the physicochemical properties and origins of varieties of beryllium, corundum, silica group minerals, agates, and jade. His works explaining the green color of chrysoprase and the mineral origins were particularly popular. He discovered the first natural occurrence of prasiolite in the world and analyzed the origin of its color. He also conducted research on the physico-chemical and structural characteristics of amber. Other important research topics were of economic importance and focused on talc and vermiculite deposits in Wiry and Lower Silesian magnesite, as well as on the mobility of platinum group elements during the weathering of the Lower Silesian serpentinite massifs. Altogether, the results of Professor Sachanbiński's scientific work were published in over 150 scientific papers.

Recently, a new mineral was named in honor of Professor Sachanbiński's scientific achievements. Berylliosachanbińskiite-Na is chemically and structurally related to cordierite with a formula of $\text{NaMn}_4(\text{Al}_3\text{Be})(\text{AlSi}_3\text{O}_{18})_2 \cdot 2\text{H}_2\text{O}$ (Szuszkiewicz et al. 2022). The type material is deposited in the collections of the Mineralogical Museum, University of Wrocław, which was co-established by Professor Sachanbiński, who was also the head of the Museum in 1977–2008.

On behalf of the Mineralogical Society of Poland, we would like to congratulate and thank Professor Sachanbiński for his outstanding contribution to the development of mineralogical sciences in Poland.

**Adam Szuszkiewicz, Krzysztof Turniwak,
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REFERENCE

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Beryl – heliodor from Wolodarsk (Volhynia, Ukraine), crystal length c. 5 cm. SPECIMEN FROM THE COLLECTION OF THE MINERALOGICAL MUSEUM, UNIVERSITY OF WROCLAW.