

## Honorary note: Zygmunt Sadowski



Prof. Zygmunt Sadowski was born in 1947 in Wrocław. In 1965-1970 he studied chemistry at the Wrocław University, and he graduated with a B.Sc. in chemistry in 1970. According to prof. Sadowski, the chemistry gene was passed on to him by his parents. The professor's parents were chemists and graduated at the University of Vilnius before World War II. In the first years after the war, professor's parents worked at University and Polytechnic in Wrocław. Professor Sadowski continues this work now.

After graduation, prof Sadowski worked as an assistant at the Department of Inorganic Chemistry at the Economics University in Wrocław. Professor Sadowski often states that three events had an impact on his science carrier. The first was to start working for ZBiPM "Cuprum" Wrocław. Working in "Cuprum" made opportunity to contact the copper industry. Postgraduate studies in the Mineral Processing organized by the Mining and Metallurgy University (AGH) was an event to a better understanding of the mineral processing industry. It was also an opportunity to meet outstanding AGH professors such as prof. W. Stepniewski, prof. K. Sztaba, prof. W. Pudło, prof. A. Pomianowski and many other. Also, in "Cuprum" the cooperation with prof. J. Laskowski was started. This cooperation resulted in numerous reports for industry and a doctoral dissertation. The doctoral dissertation entitled "Selective coagulation and flocculation mineral suspensions" was defended by prof. Sadowski in 1978 at the Wrocław University of Technology, where he began working since 1976 at the Mineral Processing Department. This Department was headed by prof. J. Laskowski.

The second significant event in prof Sadowski's scientific carrier was a trip to the USA for a scholarship at the University of Nevada (Reno), the Iowa State University (Ames) and the University of Utah (Salt Lake City). The period of science work at American universities was a time of deepening knowledge and gaining new scientific experience. It was also an opportunity to cooperate with American professors. The topics related to the mineral bioprocessing and the stability of suspensions were worked out with prof Ross W. Smith in Nevada. The research on the phenomenon of selective agglomeration of coal suspensions was conducted at the Iowa State University together with professor Thomas Wheelock. In the Utah University, prof Sadowski worked on the problem of fine coal particles flotation using carbon dioxide. This work was performed under the supervision of the distinguished professor Jan D. Miller. What professor Sadowski remembers are university libraries with complete scientific journals from the first to the last issue. It should be reminded that the internet was unavailable at that times.

Prof. Sadowski received his habilitation (D.Sc.) in 1996 from the Maria Curie Skłodowska University Lublin (UMCS). In 1998, prof Sadowski transferred from the Department Inorganic Chemistry and Metallurgy Rare Elements to the Department of Chemical Engineering and Heating Equipment. Scientific research conducted at the Department of Chemical Engineering covered issues in the field of bioleaching of different ores and mineral wastes. The second area of research was related to fine particles treatment such as flotation, selective flocculation, agglomeration. In recent years, prof Sadowski conducts research on the synthesis of nanoparticles used by microorganisms and plant extracts. The fruits of long research are book chapters. An important task carried out by professor Sadowski in the Chemical Engineering Department was educating PhD students. Professor Sadowski

was the supervisor of 13 doctoral dissertations. The six doctors (prof. I. Polowczyk, Dr. A. Bastrzyk, Dr. A. Pawłowska, Dr. J. Ulatowska, Dr. A. Dawiec-Liśniewska, Dr. D. Podstawczyk) promoted by the professor continue the activities at the Wrocław University of Science and Technology. The rest of promoted doctors achieved a career in the industry such as Dr. A. Szubert "KGHM-Polska Miedz SA", Dr. E. Szelaąg "Rokita PCC EXOL", Dr. J. Barańska "Colgate" and Dr. A. Didyk-Mucha "Selena SA". Professor Sadowski is the author of 104 scientific papers, 2 patents, 65 conference papers, 6 monographs and 19 chapters in books. His book "*Biogeochemistry – selected issues*" is the basis for students studying biohydrometallurgy. Currently, professor Sadowski is managing two European grants: BioLeach (EIT) and Bionanopolys (Horizon 2020).

### List of publications:

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Izabela Polowczyk and Anna Bastrzyk  
*Wroclaw University of Science and Technology*  
*Wroclaw, Poland*

*Corresponding authors:*  
*izabela.polowczyk@pwr.edu.pl*  
*anna.bastrzyk@pwr.edu.pl*