



IN MEMORY OF THE PROFESSOR DR HAB. BRUNON SZADKOWSKI

On February 2nd, 2007 Professor Brunon Szadkowski, an eminent scientist and meritorious research worker of the Faculty of Electrical Engineering of the Silesian University of Technology of Gliwice, departed this world.

Professor Szadkowski was born in Kanie, region Lublin, Poland. He attended primary school in Tarnowskie Góry, then secondary comprehensive school in Chorzów which he finished in 1956. He continued his education, studying at the Faculty of Electrical Engineering of Gliwice. Brunon Szadkowski graduated in 1962, receiving the M. Sc. degree in electrical engineering, specializing in Electrical Machines. After studies he was employed as an assistant in the Department of Electrical Measurements. All his scientific, research and didactic activity was connected with this organizational unit of the Silesian University of Technology. The fields of his interests were methods and measuring systems for electro-insulating materials, especially at infra-low frequencies. In the year 1969 he received the Ph.D. degree in technical sciences from his mother Faculty. His Doctor's Thesis was closely related to the area of his interests and was awarded by the Faculty Board. He was promoted to the post of assistant professor. In 1972 he was appointed assistant professor at the Silesian University of Technology by the Minister of Science and Higher Education. Brunon Szadkowski received the scientific degree of D.Sc. for his Thesis "Synthesis of methods for immitance measurement" in 1984. In the year 1990 he received the title of professor and in 1996 the Minister of National Education appointed him to the post of a full professor.

Professor Brunon Szadkowski was dean of the Faculty of Electrical Engineering in the years 1979–1981. For 9 years he was vice-director, and for the next 19 years director of the Institute of Measurements and Control in Electrical Engineering. During those years the Institute developed into one of the most significant scientific centres for measurements in Poland.

Professor was a member of numerous institutions and scientific committees, among others the Committee of Electrical Engineering of the Polish Academy of Sciences, Scientific Boards of Institutes all over Poland, the Committee of Scientific Research. Moreover, he was a member of the Society of Polish Electrical Engineers, the Polish Society of Theoretical and Applied Electrical Engineering and the Polish Teachers Union. He was a supporter of a scientific magazine “Measurements, Automatics, Control” in which he published his papers and reviewed papers of other authors.

Professor was awarded, among others, the Order of Poland Restored, Golden Cross of Merit, Distinction for Merit for the Silesian University of Technology and other distinctions, including 30 prizes of the Rector of the Silesian University.

During almost 45 years of professional work at the Faculty of Electrical Engineering, Professor Brunon Szadkowski became one of the best-known scientific and didactic workers in Poland in the measurement science field.

Professor’s scientific and research works were focused on the following fields:

- construction of systems for measurements of insulating material parameters,
- construction of stands for diagnostic of electric machines and devices during exploitation,
- development of measuring methods for evaluation of condition and quality of products as well as monitoring of technological processes,
- development of immitance measuring methods and systems.

Professor Brunon Szadkowski was valued and esteemed by specialists in the field of measurements. He took part in numerous conferences and seminars as well as cooperated with scientific and industrial institutions. Many of his designs were practically implemented in industry. The best known of them are: the system for checking dielectric parameters of insulating plates used in ERG Plastics Plant of Gliwice and measuring systems for the evaluation of local insulation humidity used in Energopomiar and Energoprem Companies.

As a didactic worker, Professor Szadkowski conferred the doctor’s degree on 7 masters of science, as well as conferred the B.Sc. or M.Sc. degree in Measurements and Control on 120 students. He was a reviewer of 16 Doctor’s Theses, one Doctor’s of Science Thesis and over 20 applications for a post of professor. Professor was an author of over 100 publications in the field of measurements, including 4 scientific books and monographs, as well as numerous patents and books for students. His lectures were always unusually clear and interesting, illustrated by his real experience gained in industrial practice. Professor was an animator of many educational undertakings, he participated actively in working out new programs and courses of studies as well as

modernizing the specialization according to new trends in science and requirements of industry.

Professor Brunon Szadkowski was modest, optimistic and always ready to come to his workmates' help. He liked students, spent time with them willingly and gave them good advice. In the Institute of Measurements he created the conditions for effective, unstressed and good work. His attitude towards co-workers' problems was sympathetic and understanding. He treated people with respect, regardless of their social or professional status. He was a perfect organizer, which enabled him to devote his time both to science and numerous professional responsibilities. Professor admired nature and was a lover of classical music.

Professor will remain in our memory not only as a great scientist but also a good friend and conscientious teacher.

dr inż. Maria Bojarska