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*The 65<sup>th</sup> Birthday of Professor Emil Chibowski*



**Professor Emil Julian Chibowski** was born on May 14, 1943 in Podlasie, a region in the Lublin district. After completing his primary education, he attended the Secondary Technical School of Chemistry and obtained a technical diploma in chemical analysis in 1962. In the same year, he enrolled in the chemistry programme at the Faculty of Mathematics, Physics and Chemistry of the Maria Curie-Skłodowska University (UMCS) in Lublin. He received his M.Sc. degree (1967) and Ph.D. degree (1973) in chemistry under the supervision of Professor Andrzej Waksmundzki. He joined the faculty of the Physical Chemistry Department at UMCS in 1973 and started researching electrochemical phenomena, the electrokinetic potential and surface free and interface energy in particular. On presenting his habilitation thesis “Studying the properties of films of organic liquids on the surface of minerals by electrokinetic potential measurements”, Dr. Chibowski received the habilitated doctor degree in chemistry in 1980 and then in 1989 he obtained scientific title of professor of chemistry. As the head of the Department of Physical Chemistry at UMCS, Professor Chibowski continues his research work in the Laboratory of Interfacial Phenomena.

He is also a member of the Scientific Council of the Institute of Agrophysics, Polish Academy of Sciences in Lublin; a member of the Editorial Board of *International Agrophysics*; a member of the Editorial Advisory Board of the *Journal of Adhesion Science and Technology*; a member of the Polish Chemistry Society, and of ELKIN International Advisory Board, and sits on several scientific committees of Faculty Chemistry Council. His administrative experience involves a function of the Vice-Director of the Institute of Chemistry at UMCS in the years 1987–89.

In his research work Professor Chibowski focuses mainly on physico-chemistry of solid/liquid, liquid/gas and liquid/liquid interfaces, electrochemical phenomena, intermolecular and interfacial interactions, floatability of minerals, wettability and adhesion, contact angles, theoretical aspect of contact angle hysteresis, surface free energy of solids and its components, stability of dispersed systems, emulsion stability, influence of the external radio-frequency and magnetic electric fields on the properties of dispersed systems, superhydrophobic surfaces and biochemical layers deposited on solid substrate.

Professor Chibowski visited and worked at several research institutions abroad: Department of Chemistry, Baylor University, Waco, Texas (USA); Departamento de Fisica Aplicada, Facultad de Ciencias, Universidad de Granada, Granada (Spain), Departamento de Fisica, Facultad de Ciencias, Universidad de Jaén, Jaén (Spain).

He is also the author of about 180 research works published in international journals, including four chapters in different books. He presented his research results at numerous international symposia and conferences in Poland and

abroad. He was a recipient and leader of three government research grants in chemistry, and is currently working on his fourth grant project.

Professor Chibowski's academic teaching at UMCS has comprised lectures, seminars and laboratory classes in physical chemistry for graduate and post-graduate students of chemistry, biology and pharmacy. Over 80 students obtained M.Sc. degree in chemistry under his supervision. He was the supervisor of three doctoral candidates, all of whom completed their theses. Two of them, Dr. Lucyna Hołysz and Dr. Agnieszka Ewa Wiącek, joined the team of his Department of Physical Chemistry-Interfacial Phenomena, and Dr. Monika Lubomska works at the DE IVS Optics Lifetime & Materials (the Netherlands) as Lead Engineer. During his one-year sabbatical at the University of Granada, Professor Chibowski supervised research work of two Spanish doctoral candidates. A doctoral student of Professor Robert Rowell of the University of Massachusetts, Mr. Lee Yezek, undertook two 3-month research visits to UMCS and worked under Professor Chibowski's guidance.

As a result of scientific cooperation between Professor Chibowski and Professors Kenneth Busch and Marianne Anderson Busch, twelve students of the UMCS Faculty of Chemistry made 10-week academic visits to the Baylor University in Waco (Texas, USA) in order to become acquainted with the structure and university infrastructure in America, and conduct some studies. Cooperation with Professor Fernando Gonzáles-Caballero of Granada University resulted in about 20 joint publications, and also in several visits to Granada University by young scientists of UMCS Lublin, one of whom, Mr. Mariusz Barczak, an Erasmus programme student, completed his M.Sc. thesis at the Facultad de Ciencias of the Granada University. In recognition for his fruitful cooperation with the Faculty of Chemistry, Fernando Gonzáles-Caballero received honorary professorship of UMCS on Professor Chibowski's recommendation. Professor Chibowski also suggested Doctor Kash L. Mittal from USA, editor of the *Journal of Adhesion Science and Technology*, for the honorary doctoral degree of UMCS.

For his achievements as a scientist and as an academic teacher, Professor Chibowski has been honoured with many awards of the UMCS Rector, the prize of the Minister of National Education and Sports, the Golden Cross of Merits and the Medal of National Education.



Associate Professor Lucyna Hołysz