

IN MEMORY

Anna Sadowska

March 20, 1937 – October 10, 2005



It is with deep sorrow that we must notify of the death of Professor Anna Sadowska, who passed away on October the 10th, 2005. She was an outstanding paleobotanist and palynologist of the Faculty of Geological Sciences of the University of Wrocław.

Anna Sadowska was born on March the 20th, 1937, in Lwów. After the Second World War she moved to Wrocław, where she completed high school and then was accepted to study botany at the University of Wrocław. In 1962, she started to work for the Faculty of Botany in the Department of Paleobotany under the mentorship of Dr. Anna Stachurska. She specialized in Neogene palynology and the morphology of sporomorphs. Her first major publications were published in joint authorship with Dr. Anna Stachurska and Dr. Stanisław Dyjor.

In 1970, Anna Sadowska defended her Ph.D., for which the conferring professor was Dr. Anna Stachurska. In 1974, the Department of Paleobotany was transferred to the Faculty of Geological Sciences, and one year later, she was nominated the head of the department. Despite having many administrative duties, she continued lecturing and running classes on paleobotany and Cainozoic geology for students of paleobotany and geology.

In the years to follow, Dr. Anna Sadowska cooperated closely with geologists and geomorphologists, providing necessary stratigraphic consultations. Of particular interest and importance were the palynological investigations of deposits from Gozdnica, Sośnica and Ruszów, which concerned the history of Tertiary vegetation of the Lower Silesian Lowland and were carried out together with Dr. Stachurska and Dr. Dyjor.

In 1978, Dr. Sadowska did her habilitation at the Jagiellonian University and became a Senior Lecturer on the basis of her treatise entitled: "The Vegetation and Stratigraphy of the Upper Miocene Coal Seams in south-western Poland". In it, she devoted a lot of attention to studies of

the Tertiary in south-western Poland and to the correlation of brown-coal sediments in the Miocene. Her next important investigations, done together with Professor Alfred Jahn and Professor Maria Łańcucka-Środoniowa, concerned the Pliocene deposits from Kłodzko.

In 1990, Dr. Sadowska received the title of Associate Professor, and in 2000, she became Full Professor. In that time, she acted as the Dean of Students in the Faculty.

Apart from her own studies, Professor Anna Sadowska cooperated also with researchers of many scientific institutions and centers, including the Institute of Botany of the Polish Academy of Sciences in Kraków, the State Geological Institute and the Museum of Earth of the PAS in Warsaw. That cooperation formed the basis for the later stratigraphic correlation of Neogene deposits from Paratethys area and the European Lowland basins.

Working with a group of Polish Tertiary palynologists enabled Prof. Sadowska to start new, interesting and important investigations concerning Tertiary sporomorphs. She is one of the authors of "The Atlas of Pollen and Spores of the Polish Neocene (Vol. I, II)". The results of another study on the morphology of sporomorphs resulted in "The Palynological Card Index of Polish Plants" (Kartoteka Palinologiczna Roślin Polskich). Each card of that index includes the morphological description of a given species, and numerous micrographs in various positions and focuses. The Card Index was distributed to over 80 palynologists and libraries in 20 countries.

Professor Anna Sadowska's scientific output consisted of publications, in both Polish and International Journals. She was the author and co-author of over 100 published titles. Together with Professor Sonia Dybowa-Jachowicz, she edited the textbook "Palynology". She was also author or co-author of many expert scientific reports concerning Tertiary and Quaternary deposits from various stands in Poland for the State Geological Institute and other institutions dealing with geology.

Professor Sadowska supervised three Ph.D. and many MSc degrees. She also represented Polish palynology abroad, presenting her work at conferences and congresses worldwide, visiting countries as far flung as Canada, France, Great Britain, Hungary, the Netherlands and India.

Professor Sadowska played an important part in recognizing the changes in paleoflora, paleoclimate, biostratigraphy and age determination of numerous Tertiary deposits in south-western Poland. Her scientific achievements mainly concerned Neogene plant communities, and in that domain she is still recognized as an authority in Poland. Her studies and academic achievements received with many awards, including State and University medals.

Professor Sadowska was member of the International Working Group of Palynologists and of the Academic

Board of the Institute of Botany of the Polish Academy of Sciences. She was always ready to help other researchers and her students in their work. Her devotion to palynological research never diminished. She was scientifically active right up until the end of her life.

She was a wonderful colleague, a good teacher and a kind person, and will be missed by all who knew her. Her early and unexpected death was a sad blow to the palyno-

logical and geological community and academic circles of Wrocław, and most of all to our Department of Paleobotany.

Semper nomen Tuum laudesque manebunt.

*Teresa Kuszell & Małgorzata Malkiewicz
(Wrocław University)*