

## NEW HONORARY MEMBERS OF THE MINERALOGICAL SOCIETY OF POLAND

### ANDRZEJ MANECKI



On December 16, 2004, the Mineralogical Society of Poland conferred its Honorary Membership to Professor Andrzej Manecki, appreciating his merits in the development of mineralogical sciences in Poland.

Andrzej Manecki was born on September 8, 1933 in Cracow. In 1957 he graduated as a geologist from the Academy of Mining and Metallurgy in Cracow, Faculty of Geological Prospecting. Employed there at the Chair of Petrography and from 1960 at the Chair of Mineralogy and Petrography, he followed his academic career at his mother university till the formal retirement in 2003.

Scientific interests of A. Manecki have always been diversified. As a student he co-authored a university textbook on palaeontology, then specialized in petrography and mineralogy.

His Ph.D. dissertation at the Academy of Mining and Metallurgy (AGH) in 1964 is a complex monograph of the Stara Góra abandoned deposit (rocks, ores, barren minerals) and the next fundamental study "Investigations of the alkali metasomatism in feldspars" in 1968 gave him the degree of *doctor habilitatus* (Associated Professor). The latter paper presents results of experiments on the exchange of  $K^+$ ,  $Na^+$  and  $Ca^+$  ions in low- and high-temperature alkali feldspars and oligoclases and is an attempt to explain the origin of K-feldspar megacrysts in the pegmatitic granites of the Tatra Mts. He was promoted to extraordinary professorship in 1978, and in 1989 was employed as Full Professor at the Academy of Mining and Metallurgy, Faculty of Geological Prospecting.

Other important problems which A. Manecki successfully dealt with are cosmomineralogy (cosmic dust, chondrules and chondrites) and aeromineralogy (mineralogy and chemistry of air-born dusts of natural and industrial origin). As early as in 1970s he initiated research on the effects of environmental pollution and its impact on geochemical systems and later was a leader of numerous relevant scientific projects and applications. In 1988 he received a State Team Award for his environmental inves-

tigations. Another focus of his activity is associated with polar research. He organized and supervised seven geological expeditions of AGH staff members and students to Spitsbergen, took part in three of them (1984, 1985, 1988), and later edited in English the geological map of the Wedel Jarlsberg Land area (1993).

Professor Andrzej Manecki is an author and co-author of several academic textbooks on mineralogy and methods of study of minerals and rocks, and currently (2004) published the first Polish "Encyclopedia of Minerals — Minerals of Earth and Cosmic Matter", containing the list of English mineral names. A long record of his papers reaches over 160 positions and this number is still growing. He works also on editorial boards of several periodicals, being Editor of the *Mineralogical Transactions* and the *Polar Bulletin*, both journals published by the Polish Academy of Sciences.

At the Academy of Mining and Metallurgy Professor Andrzej Manecki was the Dean of the Faculty of Geological Prospecting (1984–1990), the Head of the Department of Mineralogy, Petrography and Geochemistry (1991–2002) and the Head of the Post-graduate Studies for Geologists Working Overseas. He also headed departments at the Institute of Mineral Raw Material of the Polish Academy of Sciences (Dept. of Economic Geology and Deposit Protection, 1985–1989; Dept. of Sozology, 1995–2000), to mention only some of such posts.

As a mineralogist and petrologist from the beginning of his academic career, he was a founding member of the Mineralogical Society of Poland in 1969. He has also been a Chairman of the Committee of Mineralogical Sciences of the Polish Academy of Sciences since 1991. His mineralogical achievements were appreciated also in a wider scale: in the years 1974–1988 he represented Poland in the Commission for Cosmominalogy of the International Mineralogical Association (IMA) and since 1988 he has represented Poland at the Commission of New Minerals and Mineral Names of IMA.

Professor Andrzej Manecki supervised nine Ph.D. dissertations and many M.Sc. projects, devoted also much of his time to numerous undergraduates active at the Scientific Association of Geology Students at his mother university, wrote numerous scientific opinions to very different scientific and administrative bodies in Poland. Listing his obligatory end of employment in 2003, I should make clear that this retirement is only formal. Being relieved of teaching duties, he continues his "adventure with mineralogy" (research, publications, Ph.D. supervisions). His wide scope of scientific interests, academic textbooks, and activity in numerous mineralogical bodies in Poland, to list only a few of Professor Andrzej Manecki's achievements, duly earned him the Honorary Membership of the Mineralogical Society of Poland.

Andrzej SKOWROŃSKI