

THANKS TO PROFESSOR
JANINA JÓŹWIAK

Professor Janina Józwiak, a scholar with remarkable brains and knowledge that contributed so much to the development of science in Poland as far as the theory, management, and education is concerned, is no more. Her charisma was incredible and she attracted people like a magnet. Every death brings pain and suffering, especially to the family and friends. I certainly don't belong to the inner circle but Professor Janina Józwiak was special to me so let thank you for everything, Nina.

First of all, thank you for who you were and how lucky I was to meet you. There is no doubt that one of the merits of projects delivered as part of the so-called Central Programme for Basic Research was integration of the demographers' academic and research community. I met you in the mid-1980s at one of my first conferences in Jadwisin and I was lucky that you attended the event, too. I was a scared assistant, while you were already a renowned authority but it didn't matter – you just reached out your hand and invited me to share a table with you. One image, which stuck in my memory, is an excellent illustration of your character: while receiving the Editorial Board of *Demographic Studies* in your office as SGH's Rector, you helped the ailing editorial secretary Basia with her coat and offered her your chair. Your natural openness and respect for others, however 'little' or 'great', regardless of their position or job title made everyone regard knowing you as an honour.

Thank you for your tips in the course of my professional development. Your works were my inspiration and an example to follow so thank you for your kind suggestions and constructive reviews of my doctor's thesis and scientific works. Your "*Matematyczne modele ludności*" monography ("*Mathematical Population Models*") and insightful remarks included in the "*Ocena dokładności predykcji demograficznych*" article ("*Evaluation of the accuracy of demographic predictions*") have led me to demometrics and indirect estimation. Additionally, the assessment of data source quality made me reflect and fish for the truth in the results of census. Following the discussion during preparation for the Congress it was you, who articulated the title of my speech and article as "*Spis ludności i prawda*" ("*Census and the truth*"), which synthesized my bothering dilemmas.

I can see traces of you and your approach to social involvement in my today's duties. Another object of your interest were the issues of organisation and development of science in Poland and the world. You always attached great significance to the

problems of academic education and research management. In the difficult times of system and social transformations, in the era of general indifference and egocentrism, you faced the challenges of restructuring the Polish science and higher education system with passion. As the Rector of the Warsaw School of Economics 1993–1999, you undertook fundamental reforms of the school. You also were a Vice-chairman of the Conference of Rectors of Academic Schools in Poland in the years of 1997–1999. To realize the enormity of Professor Janina Józwiak's commitment and activity, it's worthwhile listing at least a few institutions and organisations for science and research, both Polish and international, she was a member of or performed responsible functions at. Among, others, she was a member of the National Science Centre's Council (NCN) and she had chaired the Humanities, Social Sciences and Arts Committee by the NCN, she was a Vicechair of the Committee for Science Policy and the Science Board for Science and Technology, chaired the Foundation for Polish Science, was a President of the Polish Higher Education-Business Forum and the Association of Management Education FORUM, chaired the Chapter of the President's Business Awards, and was a Board member at CRE-Association of European Universities. Nina, thank you for your commitment to the work for the development and organisation of science in Poland.

The services of Professor Janina Józwiak for the Polish academic community are invaluable. She was an outstanding scholar, a great scientific and moral authority. As a member of the community, I bid farewell to her with profound sadness and grief. I also say goodbye to a good friend, a humble and kind-hearted person, full of respect for other people. Thank you for your willingness to come to Poznań, Rydzyna, Puszczykowo or Zielonka for demographic conferences. Also, thank you for the memorable evening in Brussels. Regardless of other duties and prestigious functions, you were an epitome of modesty and humility, always finding the time to be with us. Thanks for being with us at the Polish Statistics Congress organised on the occasion of 100th anniversary of the Polish Statistical Association in April 2012 and during the sessions of the *Flying School of Demography* in June 2015, although you suffered more and more from the disease. You took interest in everything and passionately discussed population problems of Poland and Europe, and also the need for changes in the higher education system. You emanated social sensitivity and you could not face social problems with indifference or passively, you always noticed the other person but heard the nightingales singing, too. I will never forget any of the meetings and I'm very grateful for them, I will cherish every moment we spent together.

Doctor habilitatus Elżbieta Gołata, Professor extraordinarius
Vice-rector for Research and International Relations
Poznań University of Economics and Business