

POLISH POLAR RESEARCH	17	1-2	117-118	1996
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## CHRONICLE

### 23rd Polar Symposium, Sosnowiec 1996

The 23rd Polar Symposium was held in Sosnowiec from 27 to 29 of September 1996. It was attended by 116 participants including guests from abroad (Vladimir Mikhalenko, Institute of Geography, Russian Academy of Sciences, Moscow; Yoshihide Ohta, Norsk Polarinstitut, Oslo; Zdenek Duriš, Department of Biology, University of Ostrava; and Andrew Parker, Australian Museum, Sydney).



Participants of the 23rd Polar Symposium,  
Sosnowiec 1996

The Symposium was organised by the Faculty of Earth Sciences, University of Silesia, and the sessions took place in the Faculty buildings. The Committee on Polar Research, Polish Academy of Sciences and the Polar Club of the Polish Geographical Society were the co-organizers.

Professor Jacek Jania, the Vice-President of the University of Silesia opened the Symposium, and Professor Andrzej Jankowski, the Dean of the Faculty of Earth Sciences welcomed the participants as the host of the Faculty.

Four plenary sessions took place at the Symposium where 19 papers and reports were given. Also 2 poster sessions were organised where 16 posters were presented. On the first day of the Symposium, the meeting of the Polar Club of Polish Geographical Society took place. On the second day, the meeting of the Polish Section of the International Glaciological Society was conducted. On the third day, the participants visited a historical zinc and silver mine in Tarnowskie Góry.

The conference material included:

- volume of the "23rd Polar Symposium, Sosnowiec 1996" edited scientifically by Wiesława Ewa Krawczyk (185 pages + 1 map); this volume contains 8 reviewed original papers, 3 lectures, 6 communications and abstracts of 8 posters; the map shows flora zones of the Hornsund area;
- 4th volume of the Polar Bulletin;
- Conference book edited by Zbigniew Józwick (34 pages).

As a new procedure at Polar Symposiums, short presentations of the posters were given by their authors.

During the Conference meeting which took place in the Faculty Council Room, Professor Tadeusz Sławek, the President of the University of Silesia congratulated, and presented Conference souvenirs to the following participants for their jubilee: Professors Ryszard Schramm, Andrzej Karczewski, Marian Pulina, Kazimierz Pękała, and Edward Wiśniewski.

Additional activities at the Symposium included:

- sale of books on polar topics;
- sale of the former symposia books and materials in order to collect money for charity purposes;
- presentation of measuring instruments of the ELMETRON enterprise;
- party for the participants, including drinks sponsored by the Tychy Brewery.

Traditionally, in the friendly atmosphere, the scientists, explorers and tourists shared their experiences, news and recollections concerning their polar activities. Among them were both those who visited polar areas before the war, and those who have just returned from their first expeditions.

The next Symposium will be dedicated to the 40th anniversary of the Polish Polar Station at Hornsund, Spitsbergen and will be organised by the Institute of Geophysics, Polish Academy of Sciences in Warsaw next autumn.

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