In Memoriam

Professor Wojciech Majewski

Professor Wojciech Majewski was born on April 4, 1931 in Warsaw. He began his scientific and teaching activity in 1954 at the Department of Wired Teletransmission, Wrocław University of Technology, and he went through all levels of scientific and professional career at that University. Wojciech Majewski received PhD degree in 1964 under the supervision of Professor Zbigniew Żyszkowski. In the years 1966–1968 and in 1973 he was on a scholarship in the Communication Sciences Laboratory at the University of Florida, in Gainesville, and in 1979 he participated in 2-month scholarship programme at Michigan State University in East Lansing. In 1969–1981 he served as a deputy director in the Institute of Telecommunications and Acoustics for Research and Cooperation with Industry, and in 1981–1984 he was the director of that Institute. In 1993–1996 he was the vice-rector of the Wrocław University of Technology. From 1985 until his retirement in 2002, professor Wojciech Majewski was the head of the Department of Analysis and Signal Processing in Acoustics. In 1993 he obtained the title of full professor.

Professor Wojciech Majewski was a specialist in the field of telecommunication acoustics, dealing particularly with the issues of analysis, synthesis, transmission and recognition of speech and speakers, as well as methods of assessing the quality of speech signal transmission. He was the author or co-author of over 100 scientific papers and 4 books. He promoted 11 doctorates in technical sciences.

Particular scientific achievements include comparative research on subjective and objective methods of speaker recognition under conditions of voice masking and imitation of the voice of other speakers, as well as leading participation in the development of an integrated voice recognition method, which was applied in the process of combating crimes committed using the telephone. In 1979, during his visit at the Michigan University, he participated in the development of phonoscopic expertise in connection with the
kidnapping and murder of the Italian Prime Minister Aldo Moro. In 1969–2006, he was a member of the Acoustics Committee of the Polish Academy of Sciences, and in 1987–2008, a member of the Advisory Board of Archives of Acoustics, as well as a member of many scientific and professional societies, including Wroclaw Scientific Society, International Society of Phonetic Sciences, Audio Engineering Society, European Acoustics Association and International Association for Forensic Phonetics and Acoustics. He was an honorary member of the Polish Acoustical Society and the Polish Phonetic Society.

Professor Majewski was awarded the Gold Cross of Merit, the Knight’s and Officer’s Crosses of the Order of Polonia Restituta, the Medal of the National Education Commission, the Gold Medal of the Wroclaw University of Technology, the Medal on the occasion of 100 anniversary of Technical Universities in Wroclaw, and the Medal of Merit of the Faculty of Electronics of the Wroclaw University of Technology. He received three awards from the Minister of Science, Higher Education and Technology and an award from the Senate of Wroclaw University of Technology for his teaching activities.

Professor Wojciech Majewski died in Wroclaw on 6 July 2021.

Andrzej Dobrucki
Department of Acoustics, Multimedia and Signal Processing
Wroclaw University of Science and Technology