

LAUDATIO

to Professor Marek Pawlikowski,
outstanding endocrinologist and great
humanist, on his 70th birthday and 50th
anniversary of scientific and didactic activity



PROFESSOR MAREK PAWLIKOWSKI was born on December 31st, 1933 in Poznan. In 1951 he joined the Medical Faculty, Silesian Medical Academy in Zabrze-Rokitnica where his father professor Tadeusz Ewaryst Pawlikowski had become the head of the Chair of Histology and Embryology. As an undergraduate student, he started his research in the Department of Anatomy in October 1953, as a junior assistant, and in 1956 he published the first paper in *Folia Morphologica* (1956; 7:225). He gained his M.D. in 1957. In 1958 Marek Pawlikowski moved to Lodz where from 1958 to 1964 he served as an assistant in the Department of Endocrinology, Medical Academy of Lodz (presently Medical University of Lodz). On the basis of the thesis on innervation of endocrine glands he obtained Ph.D. in 1960 in Silesian Medical Academy, and in 1964 he obtained a doctor habilitatus (docent) degree in Medical Academy of Poznan after the presentation of the thesis on peripheral neurosecretion. In 1974 Marek Pawlikowski received the title of professor, and was at that time the youngest professor in Polish medicine.

From 1965 he was the associated professor, and since 1974 he has been professor in the Department of Endocrinology of the Medical Academy of Lodz. In 1975 he was appointed Director of the Institute of Endocrinology and the head of the Department of Experimental Endocrinology and Hormone Diagnostics in this medical school. He has performed both the functions till today.

Professor Marek Pawlikowski is an author or co-author of several books and over 250 scientific papers on endocrinology and neuroendocrinology. His main scientific achievements include: description of neurosecretion-like phenomena in the peripheral autonomous nerve system (1962–1963); demonstration of direct effects of certain neurohormones, namely TRH, dopamine and somatostatin on anterior pituitary cell proliferation (1975–1978); demonstration of some immunomodulatory effects of somatostatin (1985) and TRH (1992–1997). He contributed also to the studies on angiotensin effects on the anterior pituitary and to immunocytochemical studies of pituitary adenomas.

Professor Pawlikowski is a widely known scientist. He serves as a member of the Editorial Board of several international and Polish scientific journals (including *Neuroendocrinology Letters*, *Neuroimmunomodulation*, *Endokrynologia Polska* – Polish Journal of Endo-

crinology, and others). Professor Pawlikowski organized several international and national conferences, and was member of Scientific Committees or invited speaker in many such scientific events.

Beside scientific achievements Professor Pawlikowski was actively involved in the administrative work in his University. Professor Pawlikowski was Vice-Dean of the Medical Faculty (1981–1984), Pro-Rector (1984–1987) and Rector of the Medical Academy of Lodz (1987–1990). He is also a member of the National Central Committee for Scientific Degrees and Title.

In years 1992–1993 he was a visiting professor of endocrinology at the Claude Bernard University in Lyon, France.

Professor Pawlikowski served also as President of the Polish Society of Endocrinology (1977–1980), and is a honorary member of this Society. He was one of the founders of the Polish Society of Neuroendocrinology and since 2000 he has been the first president of the Society.

Very high level of Professor Pawlikowski scientific achievements drew many young enthusiastic colleagues around him. Therefore, he was able to create “Lodz’ endocrinological school”. Five persons from his postgraduate students became full professors, and additional three persons obtained doctor habilitatus degree.

Because of the outstanding level of scientific activity Professor Pawlikowski was granted many awards, including Abbot Award for achievements in endocrinology (1990), Award of the Scientific Society of Lodz (1994), and many awards of Minister of Health.

Besides being physician Marek Pawlikowski is also a great humanist. He published two collections of poems [“Rzeka bez powrotu” (“*River without return*”) – 1996, and “*Proporzec Don Kiszota*” (“*Don Quixote’s lance-pennon*”) – 2002]. Some of his poems were published in *Neuroendocrinology Letters* (2001; 22:386). Since 2003 Professor Pawlikowski has been the President of the Polish Union of Physicians-Writers.

We cordially wish Professor Marek Pawlikowski excellent health and thank him for the outstanding research he has done in neuroendocrinology. We wish Professor Pawlikowski further successful scientific achievements.

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