



POLISH ACADEMY OF ARTS AND SCIENCES

KRAKÓW 2014

FROM THE PAST

The Academy of Arts and Sciences was founded in 1872 as a result of the transformation of the Kraków Learned Society, in existence since 1815. Though formally limited to the Austrian Partition, the Academy served from the beginning as a learned and cultural society for the entire Polish nation. Its activity extended beyond the boundaries of the Austrian Partition, gathering scholars from all of Poland and many other countries as well. Some indication of how the Academy's influence extended beyond the boundaries of the Partitions came in 1893, when the collection of the Polish Library in Paris, the largest collection of Polish materials amassed by the Great Emigration, was transferred to the ownership of the Academy, and a station was founded in Paris, though the latter step had been preceded by the establishment of the Rome Expedition (annual trips to Roman archives).

After the First World War the Academy was renamed the "Polish Academy of Arts and Sciences" (PAU) and became an independent, national and supported by the state, official representative of Polish learning, which entailed its participation in works of international learned organizations. Among other things, the PAU was a founder member of the International Union of Academies (IUA). The period between the world wars was the time of greatest activity at the PAU, especially in the sphere of publications: over 100 publication series were then in print, among them the monumental *Polski Słownik Biograficzny* [*Polish Biographical Dictionary*]. It was also in that period when the Scientific Station in Rome replaced the Rome Expedition.

After the German occupation, the PAU continued its activities in the same fields until 1952, when the authorities decided to take over its agencies and assets on behalf of the Polish Academy of Sciences in Warsaw, which was then being established. The PAU was never formally dissolved, however, and after two unsuccessful attempts at its reactivation in the years 1956/57 and 1980/81, it finally was able to resume its activity right after the systemic transformations of 1989.

The process of reconstructing the PAU's structures and agencies commenced immediately. To begin with, the Classes were reconstituted. As a result, the PAU, as of May 1990, had five Classes: Class I: Philology; Class II: History and Philosophy; Class III: Mathematics, Physics and Chemistry; Class IV: Natural Sciences; and Class V: Medicine. In March 1993 Class VI: Creative Arts was added.

It was already in 1990 when the PAU's publication activities were reactivated. Successively, when the perceived need coincided with possibilities, Commissions began to be formed. There are presently 33 of them within the structure of the PAU.

As of June 2014, the PAU had 514 members, including 150 regular members, 162 corresponding members and 200 foreign members, each of whom maintains active contacts with Polish science and learning. There are also 2 honorary members.

THE STRUCTURE OF THE PAU

The General Assembly is the PAU's highest authority. It is comprised of the regular members (with a maximum number of 27 in each Class) and the corresponding members (in principle not more than 36 in each Class, yet the number may be slightly exceeded). The foreign members (limited to 41 in each Class) are not obliged to participate in the General Assembly, yet they are free to take part in it as well as in all the meetings and scientific endeavours of the PAU. If they participate in the meetings they have a right to vote, however they are not included in the obligatory quorum. The General Assembly elects the members of the Executive Board for a three-year term. The Executive Board is composed of the President, two Vice-Presidents (one from the Warsaw area), the Secretary-General, and the Delegate of the General Assembly. With the exception of the Delegate, all the elected officers must be approved by the President of the Republic of Poland.

Pursuant to statutory changes introduced by the General Assembly resolution of 18 June 2005, a new body, namely the PAU Council, was established. It comprises the officers of the Executive Board (as stated above), Directors, Deputy Directors, and Secretaries of the Classes, representatives of the PAU's branches and the Executive Board representatives for the international cooperation.

The Classes hold scientific meetings (should be monthly), where papers are read and discussed. The PAU's activities are described and documented in the *PAU Annual*. Each of the Classes issues its own *Papers* or other publication series, where they publish works that fall within the scientific purview of the Class or other texts of scientific or scholarly value, especially historical sources. The Commissions have their own series of *Works* or periodicals, according to their respective specialities.

CLASSES AND COMMISSIONS

CLASS I: PHILOLOGY

This Class brings together scholars who represent different philologies (Polish, Classical, English, Germanic, Romance, Slavic), including linguists and literary scholars (theorists and historians) as well as art historians.

The primary fruits of the Class's works are its publications, consisting of the following series: *Rozprawy* [*Papers*], *Biblioteka Przekładów z Literatury Starożytnej* [*Library of Translations from Ancient Literature*] (including 8 volumes published before the WWII) and Old Polish sources. Twelve volumes of papers, 10 volumes of translations, and one three-volume publication of source materials (*Listy polskie XVI wieku* [*Polish Letters from the 16th Century*]) were published within the years 1990–2012.

Some publications written by members of Class I have appeared in the publication series of Class II, such as the Latin text of Vincent Kadlubek's *Chronicle*, in a critical edition by Marian Plezia.

Class I also organizes scientific sessions devoted to late scholars, mostly connected with jubilees and related to scientific interests of its members.

COMMISSIONS IN CLASS I

COMMISSION ON CLASSICAL PHILOLOGY

The main purpose behind the Commission's works is to bring together representatives of various humanistic disciplines who share an interest in the study of Greco-Roman antiquity, broadly conceived, and its reception in the culture of Medieval and modern Europe. It gathers Hellenists and Latinists, specialists both in the history of literature and linguistics (classical linguistics): Byzantinists, Neo-Latinists, ancient historians, historians of ancient culture and philosophy, Patristicists, archaeologists, numismatists, specialists in ancient law (especially Roman), and scholars interested in the reception of antiquity in the culture and literature in Europe, especially in Poland.

The thematic scope of the Commission's activities covers virtually all areas of knowledge about antiquity. The focus of scholarly attention has been on the study of:

- 1) the grammar, syntax, semantics, and stylistics of the classical languages;
- 2) the types and genres of Greek literature of the classical period, especially drama, historiography and rhetoric;
- 3) Roman literature of the Augustan Age.

The Commission annually publishes its *Works* (which is a volume of collected papers by various authors edited by Stanisław Stabryła), and is engaged in the already mentioned PAU series *Library of Translations from Ancient Literature* (edited also by Stanisław Stabryła). Starting from 2012, the Commission has been publishing a periodical "Nowy Filomata. Czasopismo poświęcone kulturze antycznej" ["New Philomath. A journal devoted to ancient culture"], taken over from the Jagiellonian University, edited by: Józef Korpanty (editor in chief), Antoni Borowski (managing editor), Kazimierz Korus, Maciej Salamon, Stanisław Stabryła, Joachim Śliwa.

COMMISSION ON ART HISTORY

The research issues presented at this Commission's meetings involve Polish and European art, from antiquity to the most recent times. Papers read before the Commission must display both a solid methodological base and a profound exploration of the subject matter, based

on a thorough review of the literature on the subject matter. It is quite frequent that scholars from different universities from Poland and foreign academic centres who do not belong to the Commission present their papers as well. The Commission's meetings have earned considerable respect and popularity among young art historians. Discussions have also been organized on the organizational framework of the Polish Committee on Art History.

The majority of the papers presented are published in the Commission's scholarly yearbook, *Folia Historiae Artium, series nova* (Adam Malkiewicz scientific editor, Marcin Szyma, managing editor, editorial committee: Wojciech Balus, Jerzy Gadomski, Jan K. Ostrowski, Zdzisław Żygulski), earlier subsidized by the Lanckoroński Foundation, and commenced by the PAU in 1995.

COMMISSION ON MODERN LANGUAGES

The Commission gathers scholars in modern languages, with a goal of achieving integration in terms of research methodology and facilitating the exchange of experiences. Starting from 2000, the Commission has been publishing annually *Works of the Commission on Modern Languages* (Marta Gibińska-Marzec and Stanisław Widlak eds), featuring the papers from the scholarly meetings held to date. So far, 12 volumes have been published.

COMMISSION ON SLAVONIC CULTURE

Formed in 2000, the Commission is to some extent an interdisciplinary endeavour, including certain aspects of the field of interest of Class II. Accordingly, the members of the Commission represent not only scholars in Slavonic philology, but also archaeologists, historians and ethnographers. Starting from 2001 the Commission has been publishing its *Works*, Lucjan Suchanek ed. Volume I: *Rosyjskie bajki ludowe ze zbioru Aleksandra Afanasjewa [Russian Folk Tales from the Aleksander Afanasjew's Collection]* made a selection of folk tales with a commentary, the other volumes are monothematic collections of papers by various authors. Until now, 10 volumes have been published.

CLASS II: HISTORY AND PHILOSOPHY

This Class comprises historians, archaeologists, philosophers, lawyers, and sociologists. The Class has monthly meetings, some of which are organized jointly with Class I.

Class II is involved in studies and publications on the following topics:

1. Sources for the history of the Polish Government-in-Exile: minutes of the meetings of the Council of Ministers (volumes I–VIII have been published) and a volume of supplements *Documents of the Polish Government-in-Exile*.
2. Sources for the history of Old Poland: the completion of the works on the critical re-edition of the great work by Jan Długosz (*Annales seu Cronicae incliti Regni Poloniae*); the whole project comprises 11 volumes in Latin and 11 volumes in Polish; 4 volumes of the series *Monumenta Poloniae Historica* (new series), 4 volumes of the series *Monumenta Sacra Polonorum*, 2 volumes of the series *Monumenta Poloniae Vaticana*.
3. The publication of the acts of the Apostolic Nunciature in Poland, a project which was commenced already by the Academy of Arts and Sciences (four large volumes came out between 1915 and 1952), was being continued until 2003 (as a new series) by the Polish Historical Institute in Rome under the direction of Karolina Lanckorońska (24 volumes appeared). Class II continues that series, but the enterprise is still financed by the Lanckoroński Foundation (so far 14 volumes have been published in the PAU).
4. Among the sources published by Class II there is a noteworthy series of 3 volumes by Karolina Grodziska *Polskie groby (Londynu i Walii)* [*Polish Graves (London and Wales)*].
5. Since the reactivation of the PAU the Class has published over 40 volumes in its *Papers*, mostly in Polish but also in English and in French.
6. The Class has produced several important publications outside of its series, including those in collaboration with the academies of sciences in Austria, Czech Republic, Greece, Hungary, and Ukraine.
7. Each year Class II organizes scholarly symposia.

COMMISSIONS IN CLASS II

COMMISSION ON CENTRAL EUROPE

The Commission was founded in 1991 and assembled scholars interested in archaeology, history, philology, and culture of nations inhabiting Central and Eastern Europe. In 1993, the Commission on Eastern Europe emerged and since that time, the Commission on Central Europe (one of the most active) has covered the area between the Baltic and the Adriatic, and between the Elbe, Niemen and Bug Rivers as well as on both sides of the central Danube.

At present the primary focus of the Commission's research work is on national renaissance, the history of state formations (including, among other things, the former Czechoslovakia and Yugoslavia as well as Hungary), and the political history of regions inhabited by populations of mixed ethnic, cultural and religious backgrounds, along with their mutual relations.

The Commission's publication record is imposing. The effects of its works are reflected in the series *Works of the Commission on Central Europe* (Jan Machnik and Irena Stawowy-Kawka eds). To date, 21 volumes have been published.

COMMISSION ON EASTERN EUROPE

This Commission was created in 1993, when the Commission on Central Europe (founded two years earlier) was divided.

The area of interest of this Commission extends to all countries of Eastern Europe, though, now, due to the research specializations of its members, this means primarily Russia, Belarus, and Ukraine. The Commission attempts to include in its research activity the broadest possible spectrum of issues involving the culture of this region, both its past and the present day: from archaeology through history, literature, religion, art, and languages, to political and sociological problems.

The Commission's activity is not limited to monthly meetings for papers and discussions. It has also organized several scholarly symposia (among others *Lemkowie i lemkoznawstwo w Polsce* [The Lemkos and Lemko Studies in Poland], *Formuły patriotyzmu w Europie Wschodniej i Środkowej* [Formulas of Patriotism in Central and Eastern Europe]) as well as panel discussions. The publication series *Works of the Commission on Eastern Europe* (Andrzej Zięba ed.) includes both multi- and monothematic volumes. So far, twelve volumes have been published.

COMMISSION ON THE PREHISTORY OF THE CARPATHIANS

This Commission was founded in 1996. It brings together scientists interested in the history of oldest settlements in the Carpathians, primarily archaeologists as well as palaeobotanists and palaeogeographers who collaborate with them. The main research projects now in progress are the following:

1. The first farmers and herders in the Carpathians: problems of the Neolithization in the Carpathians.
2. Adaptation of settlement from the late Neolithic and early Bronze Age to the environmental conditions of the Carpathians: the development of pastoral societies.
3. Settlement processes in late prehistory and protohistory, with particular emphasis on the early Middle Ages.

The Commission's works appear annually in the series *Works of the Commission on the Prehistory of the Carpathians*; every few years, however, a large volume comprising research results (mostly Polish-Slovak projects) comes out. Until now, six such volumes have been published.

COMMISSION ON THE HISTORY AND CULTURE OF JEWS

The Commission was formed in 1995 and its activities are focused on Jewish history and culture in Poland and Europe. It gathers scholars from various specialties who share an interest in Jewish studies. In addition to regular meetings featuring lectures and discussions, the Commission, in collaboration with the Polish Society of Jewish Studies and the Chair of the History and Culture of Jews, and with the Institute of Religious Studies of the Jagiellonian University, organizes also scholarly symposia on Jewish studies (1995, 1998, 2002, 2007, 2010) entitled *Żydzi i judaizm we współczesnych badaniach polskich* [*Jews and Judaism in Contemporary Polish Research*], the materials and results of which are published in the series under the same title. Currently, the Commission is concentrating its interest on Jewish associations, Jewish necropolises, and Jewish art.

So far, five volumes of *Works of the Commission on the History and Culture of Jews* and five volumes of conference materials *Żydzi i judaizm* [*Jews and Judaism*] have been published.

COMMISSION ON LAW

The Commission, reactivated in 1991, is the successor to the Commission that was active in the PAU before 1952. It is involved with current-day legal problems concerning the justice

system (broadly understood), political reforms, adaptation of Polish law to European norms, and the history of legal sciences in Poland. International cooperation is also being developed.

The Commission publishes *Kwartalnik Prawa Prywatnego* [*Quarterly of Private Law*], which appears regularly and has won recognition among specialists involved in private law. The Commission has also created a periodical publication entitled *Czasopismo Prawa Karnego i Nauk Penalnych* [*Journal of Criminal Law and Penal Sciences*], which has appeared since 1997. Initially, the journal appeared every six months, since 2009, however, it has become a quarterly.

COMMISSION ON THE HISTORY OF WARS AND MILITARY SCIENCE

The Commission was formed in 2002 as the Commission on the History of WWII in connection with the conference organized in Kraków and devoted to Polish intelligence service in the time of WWII. The publication of the conference materials under the title *Wkład polskiego wywiadu w zwycięstwo aliantów w II wojnie światowej* [*The Contribution of Polish Intelligence Service to the Victory of the Allies in WWII*] (2004) initiated the activities of this Commission. In 2005, the Commission changed its name to the Commission on the History of Wars and Military Science, which reflects its field of scientific interest. The Commission's output is 8 volumes of *Works*: 6 monothematic and 2 multi-thematic ones.

COMMISSION ON ETHNOGRAPHY

The Commission was established by the resolution of the PAU in 2011, thus relating to the Ethnographic Commission, which operated in the PAU before 1952 (since 1874 as a section, and from 1926 as the Commission), and then found itself in the Branch of the Academy of Sciences in Kraków and, in turn, at the request of its members, it returned to the PAU. While retaining the old name, it has in its program both traditional ethnographic issues and more broad ones - ethnological. So far, six scientific meetings have been held.

COMMISSION ON ECONOMIC SCIENCES

The Commission was founded in 2004. It focuses on the creation of independent scientific opinions on fundamental economic issues of Poland and contemporary world. Its aim is also to inspire research into economic development forecasts. Its activity is limited to two meetings every year. The Commission has not announced the results of their work in print yet.

CLASS III: MATHEMATICS, PHYSICS, AND CHEMISTRY

The Class consists of mathematicians, physicists, chemists, astronomers, technicians and technologists.

One of the goals of the scientific meetings, as well as of the entire activity of the Class, is to integrate the scientific community representing the fields mentioned above, to counteract certain effects of specialization (however necessary it may be), to explore the opportunities for scientists gathered in the PAU to participate in solving important general problems and to promote the effective and sensible popularization of science.

The Class perceives the need for even broader integration of people of learning to include representatives of both science and the arts.

The Class in cooperation with the Institute of Physics at the Jagiellonian University issues a journal (monthly) of international renown, *Acta Physica Polonica B*.

The Class awards scholars the Marian Mięsiowicz Prize for outstanding achievements in the field of physics. The prize is funded by Kraków scientific institutes involved with physics. For the first time it was awarded in 1997, since then it has been granted every second year.

The Class provides patronage for scientific conferences, often with international ones, dedicated mainly to the problems of physics, mathematics and astronomy.

COMMISSIONS IN CLASS III

COMMISSION ON ASTROPHYSICS

The Commission is involved with observational astronomy in the areas of optical electromagnetic radiation of radio waves, infrared, X-rays and gamma rays, detection of loaded particles, and the astronomy of neutrinos. The Commission's interests also extend into the sphere of such fields of physics as the theory of relativity, atomic and molecular optics, nuclear physics, the physics of elementary particles and the theory of phase transitions.

One of the goals of the Commission's activities is to organize conferences. The first one was devoted to solar astrophysics, neutron stars, and gamma flashes. Conference materials have been published by the PAU in English. The Commission organizes numerous scholarly meetings, at least one a month. Papers and their summaries are published in the annually issued *Works of the Commission on Astrophysics*. Until now, 14 volumes have appeared.

The Commission undertakes publication initiatives, aiming to provide the Polish market with up-to-date textbooks and monographs. Work has begun on translating into Polish a modern textbook devoted to the structure of the Sun and the stars.

The Commission actively supports educational initiative related to astrophysics. Among such initiatives was a master's level area studies program in astrophysics at the Jagiellonian University, established in 1997.

Finally yet importantly, the Commission takes part in annual international conferences organized by the Institute of Nuclear Physics of the PAN, with the participation of the PAU, under the name of *Cracow Epiphany Conference*.

COMMISSION ON COMPLEX SYSTEMS

The Commission was established on 21 February 2012, and approved by the PAU Council on 24 April 2012. Its aim is to create in the PAU a forum for interdisciplinary research dealing with the issues of complex systems and enable discussions and exchange of information between representatives of many scientific disciplines, such as mathematics, physics, biophysics, astronomy, and social sciences, dealing with different aspects of complexity.

The rapid development of information technology, which occurred in the last decades, makes it possible to quickly obtain, collect, and analyze data on large complex systems such as: strongly correlated systems of many degrees of freedom, the Internet, social networks, ecological systems, telecommunications networks, genetic networks, neural networks, brain, etc. The study of universal laws governing such systems, which arise out of their complexity and the collective impact of individual components, is a subject of a number of interdisciplinary research works in this new and expanding field of knowledge.

The Commission has already held several scientific meetings.

COMMISSION ON TECHNICAL SCIENCES

The Commission set itself a task of encouraging the spread of ideas and methods between technical sciences and other disciplines of sciences and arts, to inspire studies conditioning technical progress and to promote achievements of technology, which we encounter in everyday life. A certain integration of representative of various technical disciplines, which should consequently lead to the integration of technical sciences in a wider social dimension, is considered the desirable effect of the Commission's work.

The Commission's publications series *Works* includes 7 volumes.

CLASS IV: NATURAL SCIENCES

Class IV brings together representatives of biological, agricultural and earth sciences. Lectures at the Class's meetings, typically held jointly with the Class of Mathematics, Physics and Chemistry and the Class of Medicine, deal with current interdisciplinary problems in biology and earth sciences. In addition to Polish members, the lectures are delivered by foreign members of the PAU. The Class has also taken part in organizing symposia, e.g. the National Conference on Cell Biology (1996) and the International School on the Biophysics of Membrane Transport (1997).

In the Class's series entitled *Papers*, many noteworthy studies have been published. Some of the books published in the series of the Commission on the History of Science have become an inherent part of the scientific achievements of this Class.

COMMISSIONS IN CLASS IV

COMMISSION ON GEOINFORMATICS

The Commission was founded in 1998. Its focus, in keeping with the definition of geoinformation, is the methodology of collecting, storing, analyzing, and presenting data pertaining to terrestrial time and space, using appropriate information technology. This involves information regarding the Earth itself and the objects, phenomena and processes encountered on and beneath the surface of the Earth. Research topics include the physical environment and its properties or natural and anthropogenic resources, as well as the changes taking places in these resources. Due to the composite nature of the discipline, the Commission includes geographers, geologists, geophysicists, geodetic scientists, specialists in photogrammetry and teledetection, representatives of mining-related sciences and information scientists.

The main task of the Commission is to facilitate the exchange of experiences among specialists from different disciplines involved with geoinformatics, to stimulate the development of this branch of science and to promulgate its results.

The Commission's basic forms of activity include monthly scientific meetings as well as organizing or co-organizing national and international scientific conferences. The results are published in the periodical (yearly) of the Commission, *Geoinformatica Polonica*. So far, 12 volumes have appeared.

COMMISSION ON AGRICULTURAL, FOREST AND VETERINARY SCIENCES

The germ of the Commission was the Scientific Panel for Agriculture, created in 1991, which the following year became the Commission on Agricultural, Forest, and Veterinary Sciences. The Commission's activities are focused on the organization of scientific symposia, whose materials are published in the series entitled *Works*, in volumes comprising single-topic papers by various authors. The Commission cooperates with the Georgofili Academy in Florence. In 2000, on behalf of the PAU, the Commission co-founded the Union of European Academies for Sciences Applied to Agriculture, Food, and Nature. Until now, 19 volumes of the Commission's *Works* have been published.

COMMISSION ON QUATERNARY PALAEOGEOGRAPHY

This Commission was founded in 1979 within the Kraków Branch of the Polish Academy of Sciences, but since 1993 it has been a part of the PAU. Its roots can be traced back to the Committee for Research in Starunia, created by the PAU in 1928, and to its official publication *Starunia*, in print since 1933. The Commission integrates various disciplines involved in the study of the Quaternary Period: geology, geomorphology, palaeontology, archaeology, and others. It gathers both members of the PAU and researchers from outside the corporation.

The Commission's works are published annually in the *Folia Quaternaria*, which comprise collections of papers dealing with neotectonics, Palaeolithic settlement on the less lands of the Kraków region, palaeomalacology, and dendrochronology. The Commission's meetings have heard papers on the stratigraphy of Pleistocene and Holocene sediments in the light of malacological and palinological analyses, the age of shifts, the conditions for the deposition of lake chinks and the formation of cave dripstones.

Since 2003, beside the *Folia Quaternaria*, the Commission has been publishing the series entitled *Works of the Commission on Quaternary Palaeogeography* (10 volumes so far).

COMMISSION ON EMBRYOLOGY AND MORPHOLOGY

Founded in 1996, the Commission brings together researchers from all major research centres in the country and serves to integrate research on the embryological development and morphology of plants and animals. The task it has established for itself – besides regular meetings - is to organize annual national scientific conferences in collaboration with the Kraków Branch of the Polish Academy of Sciences and with the Jagiellonian University. The Commission is composed of scientists representing all leading Polish scientific centres. To date it has organized or co-organized several national scientific conferences and meetings with single papers. The costs of printing abstracts in the *Acta Biologica Cracoviensia* are covered by the PAU. Other results of its activities the Commission publishes also in periodicals: *Folia Histochemica et Cytobiologica* and *Folia Morphologica*.

COMMISSION ON GEOGRAPHY

The Commission was established by a resolution of the PAU Council of 19 April 2011, replacing the Geographical Sciences Commission attached to the Kraków Branch of the Polish Academy of Sciences. Since it was constituted in May 2011 it has held regular monthly meetings.

CLASS V: MEDICINE

The members of Class V include physicians, pharmacists, and biologists whose scientific work is directly connected with medicine. The meetings of the Class are regularly held jointly with Classes III and IV, and have included papers on general problems of medicine, presented both by members of the Class and by foreign scientists visiting Kraków.

Important scientific symposia in the medical sciences have taken place under the auspices of the PAU. One of them, organized in cooperation with the Medical Research Centre of the Jagiellonian University and the Polish Physiological Association, dealt with the centennial of the discovery of adrenaline, which was made simultaneously by Polish and English researchers. Another symposium dealt with the problem of the role of infection by *Helicobacter pylori* in inflammations of the mucous membranes of the stomach.

On the initiative and on behalf of the Class, the Tadeusz Browicz Prize has been awarded since 1998 to recognize outstanding achievements in the field of medicine and pharmacology. The Prize was funded by the PLIVA SA and Novartis Poland pharmaceutical companies, but recently by the School of Medicine in English at the Jagiellonian University's Collegium Medicum (Medical College) was the sole sponsor, but also the Jagiellonian University's Collegium Medicum (Medical College) and the Institute of Pharmacology of the Polish Academy of Sciences, with the participation of the PAU.

In its publishing output the Class has a volume *Dzieje nauczania medycyny na ziemiach polskich* [*The History of Medical Education in the Polish Lands*] and a large two-volume study *Patologia znaczy słowo o chorobie* [*Pathology Means a Word about a Disease*] (published in 2003, 2005 and 2008/2009), which is used as a textbook for students of medicine.

CLASS VI: ARTISTIC CREATIVITY

This Class was founded in 1994. The goal of the Class was to bring together persons from the world of art, outstanding creators whose careers have made a significant contribution to the development of culture, and include them among the members of the PAU. The areas of artistic creativity represented in the Class include literature, music, architecture, painting, sculpture, theatre, and film.

The main task of the Class is both the integration of the creators of literature and art and the search for a common language for various forms of artistic expression. Class members meetings are held very rarely and usually not all Class members are present. The Class has recorded publications devoted to painting and music.

INDEPENDENT INTERDISCIPLINARY COMMISSIONS

COMMISSION ON THREATS TO CIVILIZATION

In 2008 the Commission suspended its activity.

This Commission was founded in 1998 on the initiative of Class III, from which it draws its main inspirations. Yet, it is an interdisciplinary body by nature, comprised of members drawn from several different PAU Classes, from History and Philosophy to Creative Arts. Threats to the harmonious development of humanity should be the object of interest and research not only for representatives of science and technology, including biology and medicine, but also for historians, philosophers, lawyers, and even writers and artists from other field of cultural endeavour.

For most people, threats to civilization are associated first and foremost with the improper exploitation of results of scientific research, and with the growth of technology and industrial activities that are harmful to the natural environment. However, threats to the future of humanity also lurk in climatic changes, population growth, and appearance of new diseases. Ominous are ideologies that wield people's minds and lead to fundamentalism, lying and hatred, which are the primary causes of terrorism and wars. It is necessary to bear constantly in mind that during the last century humanity acquired the technological capacity to self-destruction.

Ethical evaluations are not applicable to the results of scientific research, for which the sole evaluative criterion is objective truth. The evil dwells within ourselves, and this is what causes research results to be used to the detriment of humanity. Pseudosciences, the antithesis of rationalism, lead their followers down a blind alley, ostensibly replacing lost faith in the value of scientific progress. It is of vital importance to convince the public that it is the only through and further development of science that the results of the threats can be counteracted. Scientific truth and the love for one's neighbour are the basic factors that create the opportunity for harmonious growth and the survival of humanity.

The Commission discussed the threats that had appeared and provided accurate information about their causes and the ways to counteract their consequences. Apart from its

regular meetings, the Commission organized public lectures for a broad audience and attempted to reach public opinion through the mass media: press, radio, and television.

The Commission had seven volumes of its *Works* in its scientific output.

Having decided that the subject matter as assumed by the project was exhausted, the Commission suspended its activity in 2008.

COMMISSION ON THE HISTORY OF SCIENCE

This Commission was founded in 1998 on the initiative of Class III. The Commission's task is to stimulate research on the history of particular scientific disciplines, conducted by representatives of those disciplines rather than by historians, who lack specialized education needed to comprehend fully the substance of highly specialized disciplines. This idea fell on fertile soil, since there had already been great interest within the PAU in the history of the organization of science (the works such as: Julian Dybiec *Polska Akademia Umiejętności 1872–1952* [*Polish Academy of Arts and Sciences 1872–1952*], Piotr Hübner *Sila przeciw rozumowi* [*Strength against Reason*], Danuta Rederowa *Z dziejów Towarzystwa Naukowego Krakowskiego* [*From the History of the Kraków Learned Society*], Jan Piskurewicz *Prima inter pares*, and others) and in the biographies of eminent scholars (several symposia and exhibitions devoted to outstanding scientists and the series entitled *W służbie nauki* [*In the Service of Science*]).

The Commission has been very active. It organizes monthly meetings with papers and discussions as well as scientific symposia. The results of the Commission's work are printed in the series *Works of the Commission on the History of Science* (reports presented at the Commission's meetings, 12 volumes so far), in *Monographs* (21 volumes) and in *Studies and Materials for the History of the Polish Academy of Arts and Sciences* (6 volumes so far).

COMMISSION ON THE EVALUATION OF TEXTBOOKS

Out of concern for the proper intellectual level of textbooks used in public schools, the PAU Executive Board decided in late 2000 to found a Commission, comprised of specialists in the various subjects taught in the secondary school curriculum, to provide completely independent evaluations (ca. 50 opinions per year) of the textbooks adopted for use in public schools. The work of such a Commission ought to be of considerable social benefit. The very

existence of such an independent body should help make authors and publishers more sensitive to the intellectual level of the textbooks being introduced into the public school curriculum.

Satisfactory, the forecast has proved correct. The Commission's current activities as well as published volumes of its *Works* (11 volumes until now) have aroused enormous interest. Following the Commission's motion, honorary diplomas are conferred on the outstanding authors and publishers of best textbooks during the annual June General Assembly of the PAU.

COMMISSION ON EUROPEAN MATTERS

This Commission was formed in 2003. Originally, it aimed at investigating the problems related to the Poland's accession to the European Union. Several open sessions were organized and all of them attracted considerable interest.

Currently, the Commission attempts to attract competent professionals willing to share their expertise on the EU mechanisms. There has been intense interest in topics related to the Treaty establishing a Constitution for Europe and the Constitution for Europe itself. Both scholars and politicians participated in discussions. Until now, six volumes of the Commission's *Works* have been published.

PAU AND PAN COMMISSION FOR THE DEVELOPMENT OF THE CITY OF KRAKÓW

This Commission was established on 20 May 2003, as a body representing both the PAU and the Kraków Branch of the PAN. Beside members of the PAU and the PAN, it gathers representatives of the world of science and culture who are deeply engaged in the problems of contemporary Kraków. The Commission was created in response to visible disproportions between the city's intellectual and scientific potential and the quality of the local government's decisions. Sadly, the situation has not improved within recent years. Therefore, there is a need to find a common ground for cooperation with the Municipality in the field of science and scientific environment, culture and national heritage protection, natural environment protection and spatial development of the city as well as the aesthetics of its landscape.

The Commission held several open discussion meetings, but recently ceased operations.

COMMISSION ON THE PHILOSOPHY OF SCIENCES

The Commission was established by a resolution of the PAU Council of 26 June 2012 as a result of the merger of two existing Commissions: on the Philosophy of Natural Sciences and “Fides et Ratio”. The first one, set itself the goal of scientific reflection on the border between philosophy and sciences included in Classes III, IV and V of the PAU. It published five volumes of its *Works*. The second one, set up in 2007, set itself the goal of scientific reflection on the thought of John Paul II, including the examination of the wider context of intellectual thought in the modern Church and the world. In the opinion of the founders of the Commission, the Polish Pope’s thought regarding the relationship faith – reason should significantly intellectually fertilize the world today. The “Fides et Ratio” Commission published two volumes of its *Works*. The Commission on the Philosophy of Sciences, as a successor of the two previous Commissions, combines the tasks and aims of both.

COMMISSION FOR THE STUDIES ON THE POLISH DIASPORA

The Commission was formed in December 2007 on the initiative of a group of researchers involved in studies on different circles of Polish emigration, many of whom earlier worked for the Institute for the Research into Polish Community Abroad attached to the Jagiellonian University. They became largely members of the Commission. Since the Institute was dissolved and its employees work for various university units, the Commission has a great opportunity to integrate their studies. The Commission feels responsible also for responding to the needs of emigration environments that seek intellectual support in the PAU and therefore it collaborates with the branch of “Wspólnota Polska” [The Polish Community] in Kraków.

In January 2010, the PAU Council passed a bill and took steps to create an information forum attached to the PAU. This forum is supposed to monitor the activity of Polish scientific societies in foreign lands.

COMMISSION ON NATURAL SCIENCES AND MEDICINE BASED IN WROCLAW

The Commission was established by a resolution of the PAU Council of 26 May 2009. The Commission is of interdisciplinary character. The Commission commenced its activities in October 2009. Premises, administrative support and funds for its operations, provides the City of Wrocław. The PAU publishes its *Reports* on the activities of the Commission, containing a summary of lectures delivered. The Commission enjoys considerable success.

COMMISSION ON ANTHROPOLOGY

The Commission is one of the oldest scientific groups of the PAU. It was established in 1873 as the Anthropological Commission of the Academy of Arts and Sciences, when the Academy commenced its activities. The acquisition in 1952 by the Polish Academy of Sciences of all agencies of the PAU put the Anthropological Commission in the new Academy and within its work. On the initiative of a group of anthropologists, with the knowledge and consent of the Kraków Branch of the Polish Academy of Sciences, the Council of the PAU, by a resolution of 21 December 2010, reconstructed the Commission on Anthropology in the structure of the PAU. On 16 March 2012 the Commission launched its activities.

POLISH CIHEC

(Commission Internationale d'Histoire Ecclésiastique Comparée) GROUP

The group worked in the years 1970–2011 attached to the Committee of Historical Sciences of the Polish Academy of Sciences [PAN], within the structure of the International Committee of Historical Sciences. As a result of the reorganization of the PAN, the body lost support in the PAN's structure. By a resolution of the PAU Council of 20 November it was restored at the PAU.

SEMINARS OF THE POLISH ACADEMY OF ARTS AND SCIENCES

Since 2002, monthly Seminars of the Polish Academy of Arts and Sciences have been organized and attracted attendance up to ca. 200 participants. Currently, the leading topic is “Patriotism yesterday and today”.

To the group of speakers invited to deliver their lectures belong eminent representatives of science, culture, and public life, such as Władysław Bartoszewski, Bronisław Geremek, Tadeusz Mazowiecki, Leon Kieres, Maciej W. Grabski, Jan Nowak-Jeziorański, Andrzej Wajda, Archbishop Alfons Nosol, Archbishop Józef Życiński, and others. Most of the lectures delivered by the authors were provided in written form and published in the series “Seminarium PAU” [The PAU Seminar] (published in ten volumes).

SCIENCE CAFÉ

Since 2004, the PAU has organized a series of events called Science Café. These are open to the public scientific meetings during which scholars present results of their research in a popular form. So it is a popularization of science at the highest possible level. Each of the meetings is dedicated to a lecture on a scientific subject and is followed by a discussion and conversations over a cup of coffee.

***PAUza Akademicka* WEEKLY**

An on-line weekly *PAUza Akademicka* [*Academic PAUse* - a pun made on the Polish pronunciation of the acronym “PAU” and the word “pauza” [“pause”] (translator’s note)], subsidized by the Municipality of Kraków, has been available since September 2008. On special occasions a paper version is printed. The weekly is devoted to the issues related to scientific life in Poland.

THE ACADEMIC LIBRARY OF THE POLISH ACADEMY OF ARTS AND SCIENCES AND OF THE POLISH ACADEMY OF SCIENCES

The Academic Library of the PAU and the PAN has been in the structure of the PAU since 1 January 2000. Its origins go back to the 19th century and to the Kraków Learned Society. Until 1952 it functioned as the Library of the Academy of Arts and Sciences [AU] (since 1872) and of the Polish Academy of Arts and Sciences [PAU] (since 1920), and starting from 1953 as an independent unit of the Polish Academy of Sciences [PAN]. As a result of the agreement between the PAN and the PAU concluded on 20 October 1999, the Library became an institution managed by the PAU. The Library numbers ca. 718,500 volumes and inventory units, including nearly 168,500 volumes and inventory units of special collections, which comprise nearly 17,045 old prints, about 14,815 manuscripts and over 99,000 graphics, drawings and bookplates (ex-libris labels). The collection is a continuation of the pre-war PAU Print Room. The Library exchanges publications with more than 860 institutions in 65 countries, publishes its *Annual* (of a volume of ca. 50 publisher's sheets), prepares and successively issues catalogues of its collections, and is engaged in gathering and providing information, for instance on didactics in tertiary education institutions in Kraków. The Library has its own Council appointed (on a fifty-fifty basis) by the PAU and the PAN.

THE ARCHIVES OF THE SCIENCE OF THE POLISH ACADEMY OF SCIENCES AND OF THE POLISH ACADEMY OF ARTS AND SCIENCES

The activities of the PAU are closely connected with the Archives of the Science of the PAN and of the PAU. Besides the PAN's collection (starting from 1953) the Archives gather also files of the Kraków Learned Society (1815–1872) and other Kraków societies, and, first of all, of the Academy of Arts and Sciences (since 1872) and the Polish Academy of Arts and Sciences

(1918–1952 and from 1989). The collection contains also numerous legacies of many scholars, not only those who were the PAU members. Currently, the collection contains 1433 meters. As a consequence of the agreement between the PAN and the PAU, since 1 April 2002, the former Kraków Branch of the Archives of the Polish Academy of Sciences in Warsaw has been functioning under the name of the Archives of Science of the Polish Academy of Sciences and of the Polish Academy of Arts and Sciences in Kraków. The Archives belong to the structure of the PAN Branch in Kraków but they are financed and have their own Council appointed by both the academies. Besides storing, working out the collected items and making them available for researchers, the Archives systematically organize various exhibitions and scientific conferences. They also publish the PAU series entitled *In the Service of Science*. The Archives work in close cooperation with the PAU's Commission on the History of Science.

POLISH LIBRARY IN PARIS

The Polish Library in Paris has become an important PAU's department. The PAU exercised its former owner's rights (since 1893) and settled the issue by arbitration reaching an agreement with the Historical and Literary Society [HLS] in Paris, the body currently managing the Library. Having agreed on the Society's co-ownership, the PAU has been co-financing (from the funds of the Ministry of Science and Higher Education) the Library and co-organizing its activities since 2004.

In accordance with the decision of arbitrators, the PAU and the HLS established and appointed the members of a new body named the Association de la Bibliothèque Polonaise de Paris, on which they passed the ownership rights to the Library.

POLISH BIOGRAPHICAL DICTIONARY

The PAU collaborates with the Institute of History of the Polish Academy of Sciences in the preparation and publishing of *Polski Słownik Biograficzny (PSB)* [*Polish Biographical Dictionary*]. From 1935 until 1949, the Dictionary was published by the PAU. Then, because of ideological reasons, the publishing was discontinued. It was two years after the political breakthrough in October 1956 when the publishing activity was reactivated and the *PSB* editorial unit was established (within the Department of Documentation of the Polish Academy of Sciences). Since 1958 the Dictionary has been continuously published. Starting from 1999 the PAU has been also involved in making of the *Polish Biographical Dictionary* by rendering its rooms of a total area of 193 m² available for the editorial staff. Since the beginning of 2012, the *PSB* Department of the PAN and the *PSB* publishing are financed by Narodowy Program Rozwoju Humanistyki [National Programme for the Development of Humanities]. The PAU remains a supporting institution by providing premises.

INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION

Since its foundation, the Academy of Arts and Sciences has been actively involved in cooperation with foreign institutions and activities on the international forum. Already in the 19th century the Academy initiated archival expeditions to study sources from the history of Poland (among other the so-called Roman Expedition to Vatican Archives connected with its opening in 1881), and sent its representatives to international congresses. In 1893, the Academy of Arts and Sciences became the owner of the Polish Library in Paris and opened a scientific station there. The Academy's library in Kraków carried on a broad exchange of publications from the very beginning. In 1921, the PAU became a founding member of the International Union of Academies (IUA).

After its activities were resumed, the PAU's membership in the IUA was restored in 1993, and the PAU began to take part in the research and publication projects of this organization. The publication of the initiated before the war Polish series of the *Corpus Vasorum Antiquorum (CVA)* was completed with volume 10, devoted to Cypriot pottery from the collection of the National Museum in Warsaw. A large volume of the so-called "Kraków sheet" in the *Tabula Imperii Romani*

(TIR) was worked out and published, and the material for sheet 12 of the *Atlas du Monde Grec and Romain* was prepared. Three volumes of the Polish series in the *Corpus Antiquitatum Americanensium* (CAA) have been published; the first two volumes are devoted to the ceramics and Peruvian textiles in the collection of Kraków Archaeological Museum (the Kluger Collection, formerly the property of the PAU), and the third one deals with the materials of the Polish archaeological mission in Peru. The edition of the Polish series *Sylloge Nummorum Graecorum* (SNG) has been commenced; its first four volumes are devoted to the collection of Greek coins from the Archaeological Museum in Łódź. PAU members are also participating in the realization of such IUA projects as *Corpus Philosophorum Medii Aevi* (3 volumes have appeared), *Civitas Litteraria Europaea* (six volumes have been published), *Moravia Magna* (four volumes have come out), *Monumenta Palaeographica Medii Aevi* (volume 1 in print). The PAU has declared its intention of joining new IUA projects, such as *Mundus Scytho-Sarmaticus et Graeco-Romanus* (together with Ukraine) or *Catalogue of Islamic Art. Objects in Central Europe*. The project of *Corpus Byzantinum* is in its initial stage. There is a chance for a speedy completion of the first volume of *Corpus Vitreorum*, taken over by the PAU from the PAN.

A cooperation agreement has been signed with the Slovak Academy of Sciences. This borne fruit especially in the field of archaeology, for instance in the realization of joint investigation of archaeological sites in eastern and south-western Slovakia as well as in the research into the archaeology and natural environment of the Lower Beskid Mountains. The results of this research are published in two large volumes, *Works of the Commission on the Prehistory of the Carpathians* and in a common volume of both the Academies.

Cooperation was initiated and an agreement was signed with the Royal Flemish Academy for Science and the Arts in Belgium. As a result of the agreement between the PAU and the Academy of Sciences of the Czech Republic the cooperation between the Archives of the Science of the PAN and of the PAU in Kraków and the Czech Academy Archive develops, which consists in the exchange of experiences, joint conferences and publications. The collaboration between Czech and Polish archaeologists has produced an important joint publication. The PAU's cooperation with Hungary is carried out in two ways. On the one hand, our archaeologists conducted joint excavation research with the Institute of Archaeology of Eötvös Loránd University and in a common publication they reported the results of these studies (2 volumes). On the other hand, the agreement between the PAU and the Hungarian Academy of Sciences enables scientific and personal exchanges; what is more, joint scientific conferences are organized, mainly for historians. The PAU's agreements with the Academies of Sciences of Slovenia, Macedonia and Romania have come down so far to sporadic exchanges of persons.

Under the agreement between the PAU and the Ukrainian National Academy of Sciences, common archaeological investigations are being conducted in the valley of the Dniester. Their results were published in the volume *Works of the Commission on Prehistory of the Carpathians* and in two publications common to both the Academies. Somewhat looser forms of cooperation exist between the PAU and the Saxonian Academy of Sciences and Humanities, as well as the Austrian Academy of Sciences (a joint publication of a four-volume work by W. Leitsch on King Sigismund III Vasa's court), with the Berlin-Brandenburg Academy of Sciences and Humanities and with the Greek Academy of Sciences in Athens (a joint two-volume publication of the results of archaeological research on Greek islands). Recently PAU signed memorandum of understanding with the Royal Society of Edinburgh.

Last but not least, Class II of the PAU signed a cooperation agreement with the Lithuanian Institute of History in Vilnius (2009) and with the Polish Scientific Society in Zhytomyr (2010; since 2011 a joint publication of a yearbook *Studia Politologica Ucraino-Polona*, vol. I, 2011; vol. 2, 2012). The PAU collaborates with the La Sapienza University in Rome (an agreement was signed in 2001) and has also been engaged in scientific cooperation based on treaties negotiated by the Polish Ministry of Foreign Affairs with several countries, including France, Italy, the Czech Republic, Macedonia, and Egypt.

Together with the Universities in Rome (La Sapienza and LUMSA), in Lecce, in Angers, in Szeged, in Lublin (KUL), and in Tallinn, the PAU constitutes – in accordance with the European Union requirements – a scientific society named Centro Interuniversitario Internazionale per il Mediterraneo, l'Europa Centro-Orientale e l'Eurasia.

In 1994 the PAU Scientific Station in New York was founded, based on the Polish Institute of Arts and Sciences in America, which continued the PAU's traditions during the WWII (since 1942) and of the period of the compulsory suspension of the PAU activities, from 1952 until 1989. Its short-term activities could not be continued due to the lack of financial support. Currently, efforts have been made in order to revive this institution.

Contacts have been established with the Polish Institute of Arts and Sciences in Canada, founded in 1943 as a branch of the Polish Institute in New York, and since 1976 operating as an independent Canadian organization. It also acquired a status of the PAU Scientific Station. Five books have been jointly published, and the PAU supports the station with their lecturers.

The PAU joined the project of the Polish Historical Institute in Rome, financed by the Lanckoroński Foundation. Recently, after the death of Karolina Lanckorońska (2002), the institute was dissolved and its property, namely numerous publications and scientific projects, such as the publications of the acts of the Apostolic Nunciature in Poland, were taken over by the

PAU. So far, 14 volumes of this series have been published by the PAU (24 volumes were published earlier in Rome).

Some foreign research conducted by the PAU, though not based on formal agreements between the Academies is also worth mentioning. Harking back to an older tradition, the PAU supported financially archaeological research and excavation of a large Scythian barrow conducted by Assoc. Prof. Jan Chochorowski in Rhyzanowka in Ukraine. In 1995–1998, they produced sensational results. The PAU also supported archaeological research carried out under direction of Jan Machnik, Member of the PAU, on the Transdnistrian settlement, before it was possible to acquire grants for this purpose from Komitet Badań Naukowych [Committee for Scientific Research].

Similarly, returning to its pre-war intentions, the PAU has also contributed to archaeological research being conducted in Greece. These investigations deal with the sequence of layers, unique in this part of Europe, in Cave No. 1 at Klisura (eastern Peloponnese), in which traces of habitation and palaeontological finds from the period of the last Ice Age occur. This research contributes to our understanding not only of the evolution of culture in Greece, but also of climatic and palaeoecological changes over the last 100,000 years. Since the very beginning, the works have been conducted under the direction of Janusz K. Kozłowski, Member of the PAU, firstly with the support of the PAU, then under research grants. They have borne fruit in the form of the already mentioned publication of the results, jointly with the Greek Academy of Sciences and the PAU.

Pursuant to the cultural cooperation treaty between Poland and Egypt, the PAU, in cooperation with the Institute of Archaeology of the Jagiellonian University, is participating in archaeological investigations in the Nile Delta.

The PAU currently leads several research projects funded by the Ministry of Science and Higher Education (now the National Centre for Scientific Research and the National Programme for the Development of Humanities) and by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs; the PAU also benefited from grants of the Ministry of Culture and National Heritage. And, what has already been mentioned, the PAU publishes a series of *Acta Nuntiaturae Poloniae* under a perpetual grant of the Lanckoroński Foundation.

SUPPORTING YOUNG SCHOLARS AND JUNIOR RESEARCH WORKERS

The PAU co-finances the Winter School of Theoretical Physics of Wrocław University (for students in senior years, PhD students, and junior research workers), international workshops for young mathematicians (students), and the Cracow School of Theoretical Physics (for junior research workers from Poland and from abroad).

SCIENTIFIC SCHOLARSHIPS

The PAU controls the foreign research fellowships funded by the Lanckoroński Foundation and the Lanckoroński of Brzezine Foundation. This involves a large number of scholarships for resident fellowships in Rome (recently their number has been reduced considerably), Vienna, and London, and occasionally in other cities as well. The PAU Scholarship Commission, which also includes representatives from five Polish universities: Jagiellonian University, Warsaw University, Wrocław University, Adam Mickiewicz University in Poznań and Nicholas Copernicus University in Toruń, awards these scholarships each year.

In 2005, the Maria Zdziarska-Zaleska Scholarship Fund was set up at the Historical and Literary Society in Paris to provide money for research in the Polish Library in Paris. The commission attached to the PAU awards the scholarships (recently their number has been reduced).

PRIZES

The PAU awards prizes for outstanding research achievements. These include the following:

1. The Erazm and Anna Jerzmanowski Prize, constituted by the will of Erazm Jerzmanowski in 1908, was first presented by the AU in 1915, the last time before the war in 1938, and was considered to be “Polish Nobel Prize”. As a result of World War II, the large funds which were used to finance the prize ceased to exist. After the war the funds

were not recovered. Only in 2008, on the occasion of the centenary of the establishment of the prize, thanks to the kindness of the Lesser Poland Region authorities, in particular Marshal Marek Nawara, it was restored as “The Erazm and Anna Jerzmanowski PAU Prize under the auspices of the Lesser Poland Region”, which means that it is funded by the Region. For the first time after the war, it was awarded on 9 February 2009, almost exactly on the 100th anniversary of the death of Erazm Jerzmanowski (died 7 February 1909). The prize award ceremony is held in the Hall of Senators in the Wawel Royal Castle and is regarded as very prestigious.

2. The Nicholas Copernicus Prize, funded by the City of Kraków by a resolution of the City Council passed on 9 July 1993, in conjunction with the foundation act of the Municipal Commune of 18 February 1873. By tradition, the PAU awards this Prize every year in the fields of astronomy, earth sciences, economy, natural philosophy, medicine, military defence sciences, and law. In 1995, for the first time since the revival of the PAU, six Prizes were awarded.
3. The Marian Mięśowicz Prize awarded every two years for outstanding achievements in the field of physics. It is granted by the PAU Council at the request of Class III of the PAU. The Prize, funded by institutes of physics working in Kraków, was awarded for the first time in 1997.
4. The Tadeusz Browicz Prize, awarded annually since 1998 for outstanding achievements in the field of medicine. It is granted by the PAU Council at the request of Class V of the PAU. To date the prizes have been funded by the PLIVA Pharmaceutical Company in Kraków, Novartis Poland, and the School of Medicine in English at the Jagiellonian University’s Collegium Medicum (Medical College), solely by the Jagiellonian University’s Collegium Medicum (Medical College), and by the PAU.
5. In 2003, the Marian Kukiel Prize for outstanding achievements in the field of military history was awarded for the first time. Late Prof. Leszek Suski, Gen. Marian Kukiel’s copyright heir, and the PAU co-fund the prize. Since then the prize has not been awarded.
6. Every year, upon a motion of the Commission on the Evaluation of Textbooks, the PAU confers honorary diplomas on the authors and publishers of highest rated textbooks for intermediate schools and secondary schools.

Additionally, the PAU actively participates in awarding the following prizes:

1. The City of Kraków Prize; the President of the PAU is the Chairperson of the Jury and several PAU members are the members of the Jury.

2. Jan Długosz Prize of the Kraków Book Fair; a seven-person Jury is chaired by Władysław Stróżewski, Member of the PAU, and four other PAU members are the members of the Jury.
 3. Allianz Insurance Company Prize; there are three PAU members in the Jury, including the PAU President and Secretary General.
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THE PAU UNITS OUTSIDE KRAKÓW

One of the PAU units working outside Kraków is the already mentioned Commission on Natural Sciences and Medicine based in Wrocław. Currently, in consultation with the scientific community in Katowice and based on the resolution of the PAU Council of 29 May 2012 the PAU organized its Scientific Station attached to the University of Silesia in Katowice. It is expected that the Commission for the History of Silesia, focused on recent history, will operate there. Since 2011, Wszechnica PAU [The PAU University] has been functioning in Gliwice. The meetings are organized in the Great Hall, by courtesy of the Local Ordinary of the Catholic Church.

Additionally, there are several societies and institutions working under the auspices of the PAU: “Wieniawa” Educational Society in Kłobuck, Society of Friends of Wodzisław, Society of Lovers of the Żywiec Region, Association of the Lovers of the Village of Rogi (in the vicinity of Krosno), Historical Museum in Sanok, Academy within additional hours attached to the Community Centre in Wadowice, Karolina Lanckorońska Group of Educational Institutions in Jasienica (in the vicinity of Myślenice), Polish Library in Paris Intermediate School in Świątniki Górne (in the vicinity of Kraków).