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25 years of the Faculty of Educational Studies of the Adam Mickiewicz University in Poznań

The 2018/2019 academic year included numerous celebrations related to the establishment in 1919 of *Wszecznica Piastowska* (Piast University) in Poznań. It was also the time of the solemn celebrations of the 100th anniversary of the academic pedagogy in Poznań and the 25th anniversary of the establishment of the Faculty of Educational Studies being part of the Adam Mickiewicz University in Poznań. The twenty-fifth anniversary of existence of the Faculty of Educational Studies became an opportunity for celebration, which took place on 21–22 November 2018 within the walls of the University.

On the first day of celebrations, a solemn anniversary gala was held in the university auditorium of the Collegium Minus building of the Adam Mickiewicz University in Poznań. The authorities of the Adam Mickiewicz University, authorities of the Faculty of Educational Studies, the academic community and invited guests were welcomed by the current Dean of the FES – prof. zw. dr hab. Agnieszka Cybal-Michalska. In her speech, she emphasized that the Faculty of Educational Studies of the Adam Mickiewicz University may in many respects be a model for other scientific and research units in Poland. The Faculty owes its position to the wisdom, courage and talents of the subsequent rector's teams. The essential part of the Faculty's development is due to the continuation and preservation of the heritage of its predecessors, respecting tradition and responsible implementation of changes dictated by the socio-cultural and economic-legal dimension of reality, so that they best serve the achievement of the goals and intentions of the Faculty. The important role of the Faculty in the structures of the Adam Mickiewicz University was then highlighted by the Rector of the Adam Mickiewicz University, prof. dr hab. Andrzej Lesicki, who emphasized that for 25 years of its existence, the Faculty of Educational Studies has become one of the most important units of the Adam Mickiewicz University in Poznań conducting research within a wide range of disciplines in the field of education sciences.

Another event of the anniversary gala was the projection of the film “25 lat Wydziału Studiów Edukacyjnych Uniwersytetu im. Adama Mickiewicza w Poznaniu” (25 years of the Faculty of Educational Studies of the Adam Mickiewicz University in Poznań) by dr Konrad Nowak-Kluczyński (selection of content and list of historical themes) and dr Mariusz Przybyła (design and execution) with the knowledge and support of the Faculty’s dean authorities.

The gala also included awarding the Medal of the Faculty of Educational Studies to prof. dr hab. Heliodor Muszyński, Director of the Institute of Pedagogy of the Adam Mickiewicz University in the years 1970–1987, Head of the Department of Social Education (until 1968), Department of Theory of Education (until 1970) and of the Institute of Education and Care, which is still operating under this name. Professor Heliodor Muszyński thus joined the group of other personalities awarded with the Medal, including professors: Bogusław Śliwerski, Harvey Svi Shapiro, Melinda R. Pierson and Zbigniew Kwieciński.

The subsequent deans of the Faculty of Educational Studies of the Adam Mickiewicz University took the floor: prof. dr hab. Zbigniew Kwieciński, prof. dr hab. Kazimierz Przyszczypkowski, prof. dr hab. Wiesław Ambrozik and prof. dr hab. Zbyszko Melosik summarized their scientific, organizational and didactic achievements in the course of their function. The merits of the Faculty of Educational Studies of the Adam Mickiewicz University for Polish pedagogy were praised by numerous representatives of universities from all over Poland.

The perspective of time prompted the Professors taking part in the anniversary celebrations to make summaries, show turning points and highlighting people important to the Faculty in the past decades. Therefore, it is worth briefly outlining the genesis and development of this discipline in the Poznań academic centre¹.

In the autumn of 1992, the Council of the Institute of Pedagogy gave a positive opinion on the separation, as of 1 September 1993, of the Institute of Pedagogy and the Educational College from the Faculty of Social Sciences into a separate department, which adopted the name of the Faculty of Educational Studies. However, the beginnings of the academic pedagogy in Poznań date back to 1919, when the first Chair of Pedagogy and Didactics in Poland was established as part of the Poznań University, which is considered a unique event for the development of Polish pedagogy. However, it was already on 10 December 1918, during the fourth meeting of the University Committee, that a resolution was adopted at the request of prof. Heliodor Święcicki to create as part of the planned Wszechnica Piastowska (Piast University) the Chair of Pedagogy and Didactics, headed by prof. Antoni Danysz. He was the first one in Poland to use the term of the “pedagogical teleology” which was to cover the field of general pedagogy, focused on the objectives of education. Prof. Danysz was one of those historians of education whose work is characterized by careful consideration of the subject, broad comparative basis and perfect finish-

¹ See e.g. K. Nowak-Kluczyński, *Pedagogika na Uniwersytecie Poznańskim 1919–1933*, in: *Spoleczeństwo i edukacja. Teorie a implikacje praktyczne*, eds. A. Ćwikliński, M. Przybyła Poznań 2015, pp. 45–69; K. Nowak-Kluczyński, *Kierownicy Katedry Pedagogiki i Dydaktyki na Uniwersytecie Poznańskim w okresie dwudziestolecia międzywojennego*, in: *Wielkopolska i Wielkopole w dziejach polskiej edukacji*, eds. E. Głowacka-Sobiech, K. Kabacińska-Luczak, Poznań 2017, pp. 231–256.

ing. At the beginning of its activity, the Chair of Pedagogy and Didactics of the University of Poznań focused on problems related to the theory of education, adult education and the history of education. Antoni Danysz worked as the head of the Chair of Pedagogy and Didactics at the University of Poznań until 30 September 1924. It was then that he was retired at his own request (deterioration of health). However, in order to supervise the staffing of the Chair, he proposed the Faculty Council to appoint prof. Stanisław Kot from Cracow, an eminent historian of education, as the new head of the Chair of Pedagogy and Didactics. When prof. Kot rejected this proposal, Antoni Danysz put forward the candidacy of Bogdan Nawroczyński, a scholar associated with the pedagogy of culture. The offer was accepted and thus prof. Nawroczyński became the head of the Chair, being awarded at the same time the title of the associate professor of pedagogy. He headed the Chair temporarily (from 1 January 1925) in the 1924/1925 academic year, after which he moved to the University of Warsaw. Within his scientific work at the University of Poznań, he focused on the idea of the “new upbringing”, with particular emphasis put on issues related to the school work. In the years 1927–1933, the Chair of Pedagogy was headed by Ludwik Jaxa-Bykowski, a pioneer of educational psychology and experimental pedagogy in Poland. He promoted, among others the idea of student self-government, he classified the fields of pedagogical anthropology, and made a significant contribution to the development and separation of research methods. As head of the Department, he created a pedagogy laboratory, a science and specialist library, and a school museum. In 1933, the Chair of Pedagogy and Didactics was liquidated, and its then head moved to the Chair of Psychology and Experimental Pedagogy. Despite the enormous amount of work done by the academic youth and the Council of the Faculty of Human Sciences of the University of Poznań, until the outbreak of World War II in 1939, the Chair of Pedagogy and Didactics could not be restored at the University of Poznań. However, pedagogy – as an academic science – was operating during World War II within the Faculty of Human Sciences of the “Secret” University of the Western Territories in Warsaw, considered as one of the great achievements of the underground activity in the western part of occupied Poland. From 11 January 1941 to the end of the 1942/1943 academic year, the function of rector was held by prof. Ludwik Jaxa-Bykowski, operating under the pseudonym “Kulczycki”. In 1946, all the pre-war chairs of the University of Poznań, including the Chair of Pedagogy, were reactivated. Ludwik Jaxa-Bykowski was then reappointed the head of the Chair of Pedagogy. In the years 1947–1950, the post of head of the Chair of Pedagogy at the University of Poznań was vacant. The function of curator was then entrusted to one of the founders and organizers of the University of Poznań, professor Stefan Błachowski, who worked at the University until 1960. In the years 1950–1953, the Chair of Pedagogy at the University of Poznań was headed by Stefan Wołoszyn, a historian of education. Starting from 1950, the research situation in the Chair of Pedagogy became normalized. As result of Stefan Wołoszyn moving to the University of Warsaw, as of 1 September 1953 the post of head of the Chair of Pedagogy at the Faculty of Philosophy and History of the University of Poznań was taken up by Józef Kwiatek. On 1 October 1970, the Chair of Pedagogy, headed by Stanisław Kowalski (from 1 October 1961) was transformed into the Institute of Pedagogy. At that time, the Institute included five departments: Department of Didactics,

Department of Adult Education, Department of Theory of Education, Department of Social Pedagogy and Department of History of Education, and it was included in the structures of the Faculty of Philosophy and History of the University of Adam Mickiewicz in Poznań (until 1975). The new Institute of Pedagogy was headed by Heliodor Muszyński, who held this position until 1987. This is the time of numerous awards and distinctions awarded to prof. Heliodor Muszyński and his team for the development, implementation, scientific verification and methodical approach to the educational system of elementary and high school. In the academic year 1987/1988 there was a change at the post of the head of the Institute. In 1987–1991, it was run by Benon Bromberk, who used to work at the Adam Mickiewicz University in Poznań since 1961. In the years 1969–1972, he was the deputy dean of the Faculty of Philosophy and History of the Adam Mickiewicz University and in the years 1969–1974 the deputy director of the Institute of Pedagogy. In 1972–1982, in turn, he organized the Inter-Faculty Pedagogical Studies at the Adam Mickiewicz University, he was also the creator and head of the Department of College Pedagogy founded in 1974. Benon Bromberk's scientific interests revolved around teaching issues, student socialization and university didactics. From February 1991, the Institute of Pedagogy of the Adam Mickiewicz University was headed by the creator of the Polish school of sociology of education, Zbigniew Kwieciński. He was also the first dean of the Faculty of Educational Studies, until 1999. In the early 1990s, Institute became a powerful scientific, research and teaching centre. It belonged to one of the potentially strongest university teaching environments. The names of the Institute's academics can be found among significant or important scholars in the Polish general pedagogy of the 20th century. In the following academic years, the function of dean was held by: Kazimierz Przyszczykowski (1999–2002), Wiesław Ambrozik (2002–2008) and Zbyszko Melosik (2008–2016).

The next item on the agenda of the first day of the twenty-fifth anniversary celebration was the projection of the film “WSE w roku jubileuszowym z perspektywy społeczności studenckiej” (FES in the anniversary year from the perspective of the student community), prepared by the student community of the Faculty, which in its anniversary year counts almost five thousand full-time, part-time and post-graduate students. The anniversary gala was crowned with the anniversary concert “W rytmie tanga...” (In the rhythm of tango...) with the participation of the Adam Mickiewicz University Chamber Choir conducted by prof. dr hab. Krzysztof Szydzisz and a gala dinner at the university's Collegium Maius building.

The jubilee was also celebrated with the publication by the Adam Mickiewicz University of an Anniversary Book “XXV lat Wydziału Studiów Edukacyjnych Uniwersytetu im. Adama Mickiewicza w Poznaniu 1993–2018” (XXV years of the Faculty of Educational Studies of the Adam Mickiewicz University in Poznań 1993–2018) edited by the dean authorities composed of professors: Agnieszka Cybal-Michalska Dean of the Faculty, Agnieszka Gromkowska-Melosik – Deputy Dean for doctoral studies and international cooperation, Kinga Kuszak – Deputy Dean for student affairs and organization of education, Magdalena Piorunek – Deputy Dean for scientific planning, reporting and cooperation with the environment, as well as Waldemar Segiet – Deputy Dean for publishing and organization of part-time and postgraduate studies. The Book presents the

Faculty of Educational Studies as at the anniversary year – its activities in the field of scientific, didactic, organization and international cooperation. The pages of the Book present the composition of 23 departments and 6 laboratories included in the Faculty and its administration. The publication is enriched by galleries from the previous celebrations of the 10th and 20th anniversary of the Faculty, and is closed by a note by dr Konrad Nowak-Kluczyński entitled “Pedagogika na Uniwersytecie Poznańskim i Uniwersytecie im. Adama Mickiewicza w Poznaniu (lata 1919–1993)” (Pedagogy at the University of Poznan and the Adam Mickiewicz University in Poznań (1919–1993))

On the second day of the celebrations of the 25th anniversary of the Faculty of Educational Studies of the Adam Mickiewicz University and the 100th anniversary of the academic pedagogy in Poznań, i.e. on 22 November 2018, an anniversary conference was held in the Lubrański Hall entitled “1993–2018. Tożsamość pedagogiki współczesnej” (1993–2018. Identity of contemporary pedagogy) under the patronage of His Magnificence Rector prof. dr hab. Andrzej Lesicki. The conference was included in the celebrations of the 100th anniversary of the University of Poznań. *As part of the conference, the strictly scientific discourse will refer to the level of cognition associated with responsible reflection on a possible epistemological approach to explain a wide spectrum of educational processes. In this context it is not insignificant to discuss the dynamics of the development of “pedagogical” theoretical activity, which depends on the high philosophical and methodological culture. Reflection on the identity of pedagogy will inspire and update the reflection on the search for theoretical solutions focused on educational practice – to cite the invitation by the Dean of the Faculty of Educational Studies of the Adam Mickiewicz University, prof. dr hab. Agnieszka Cybal-Michalska.*

In the first plenary session the lectures were given by: prof. dr hab. Zbigniew Kwieciński, dr h.c. mult., regular member of the Polish Academy of Sciences, first dean of the Faculty of Educational Studies in the 1993–1999 term., entitled “Zamęt pedagogii współczesnych” (Confusion of contemporary pedagogies); prof. dr hab. Zbyszko Melosik, dr h. c., Deputy Chairman of the Pedagogical Sciences Committee of the Polish Academy of Sciences, Dean of the Faculty of Educational Studies at the Adam Mickiewicz University in Poznań in the years 2008–2016, entitled “Pedagogika i edukacja dyskursy wolności, wiedzy i władzy” (Pedagogy and education, discourses of freedom, knowledge and power), as well as by prof. dr hab. Stefan Kwiatkowski, dr h. c. mult., Deputy Chairman of the Pedagogical Sciences Committee of the Polish Academy of Sciences, Rector of the Maria Grzegorzewska University in Warsaw, entitled “Bariery w transformowaniu teorii pedagogicznych w (na) praktykę edukacyjną” (Barriers in transforming pedagogical theories into educational practice).

In the second plenary session the lectures were given by: prof. dr hab. Kazimierz Przystczykowski, Dean of the Faculty of Educational Studies of the Adam Mickiewicz University in Poznań in the years 1999–2002, Deputy Rector of the Adam Mickiewicz University in the years 2002–2008, entitled “Edukacja – rzecz ku myśleniu” (Education towards thinking); prof. dr hab. Wiesław Ambrozik, Dean of the Faculty of Educational Studies of the Adam Mickiewicz University in Poznań in the years 2002–2008, entitled “100 lat obecności pedagogiki na Uniwersytecie Poznańskim” (100 years of the

presence of pedagogy at the University of Poznan), who quoted the poem of prof. dr hab. Maria Burtowy "Ważne miejsce" (Important place) inspired by the history of the academic pedagogy in Poznan; prof. dr hab. Dorota Klus-Stańska, Deputy Chairman of the Pedagogical Sciences Committee of the Polish Academy of Sciences, entitled "Nowe perspektywy teoretyczne i metodologiczne dydaktyki ogólnej" (New theoretical and methodological perspectives of general didactics); prof. dr hab. Barbara Kromolicka, Deputy Chairman of the Pedagogical Sciences Committee of the Polish Academy of Sciences, entitled "Współczesne meandry pedagogiki społecznej" (Contemporary meanders of social pedagogy), as well as prof. dr hab. Marek Konopczyński, Deputy Chairman of the Pedagogical Sciences Committee of the Polish Academy of Sciences, entitled "Oblicza polskiej pedagogiki resocjalizacyjnej" (Faces of Polish social rehabilitation pedagogy).

The next item of the anniversary conference agenda was the panel discussion entitled "Udział WSE w rozwoju subdyscyplin naukowych pedagogiki" (Participation of the FES in the development of the scientific subdisciplines of pedagogy).

In the first part of the panel discussion, led by prof. dr hab. Magdalena Piorunek and prof. dr hab. Kinga Kuszak, lectures on the genesis and directions of development as well as the contribution of individual departments to the development of pedagogy as a field of science were given by the heads of respective units of the FES – prof. Eugeniusz Piotrowski and prof. Andrzej Ćwikliński (Department of General Didactics), prof. Jędrzej Stępak, prof. Barbara Nowak (Department of Creative Activities in the Social Space), prof. Lidia Suchanek (Artistic Education Department) prof. Maria Burtowy and prof. Małgorzata Cywińska (Department of Child Education), prof. Halina Sowińska and prof. Hanna Krauze-Sikorska (Department of Elementary Education and Pedagogical Therapy), prof. Agnieszka Gromkowska-Melosik (Department of Multicultural Education and Research on Social Inequalities), prof. Wiesław Jamrożek (Department of the History of Education), prof. Ewa Solarczyk–Ambrozik (Department of Continuing Education and Vocational Counselling), prof. Sławomir Banaszak (Department of Methodology of Education Sciences), prof. Aleksander Zandecki and prof. Agnieszka Cybal-Michalska (Department of Pedagogical Problems of Youth), prof. Eugenia Potulicka and prof. Aleksandra Boroń (Department of Comparative Pedagogy), prof. Danuta Kopeć (Department of Special Education), prof. Katarzyna Segiet (Department of Social Pedagogy), prof. Stanisław Dylak (Department of Pedology) and prof. Piotr Stępiak (Penitentiary Department).

In the second part of the panel discussion, led by prof. dr hab. Agnieszka Gromkowska-Melosik and prof. dr hab. Waldemar Segiet the floor was taken by: prof. Heliodor Muszyński and prof. Ewa Muszyńska (Department of Fundamental Education and Care), prof. Kazimierz Przyszczypkowski (Department of Educational Policy and Citizenship Education), prof. Magdalena Piorunek (Social Counseling Department), prof. Andrzej Twardowski (Department of Child Psychopathology), prof. Wiesław Ambrozik and dr hab. Maciej Muskała (Department of Resocialisation), prof. Zbigniew Kwieciński and prof. Zbyszko Melosik (Department of Sociology of Education), prof. Iwona Chrzanowska and prof. Jacek Pyżalski (Department of Special Educational Needs), prof. Wacław Strykowski, prof. Wojciech Skrzydlewski, dr hab. Natalia Walter (Department of Education Technology), prof. Jerzy Modrzewski and dr hab. Agata Matysiak–Błaszczak

(Laboratory of Educational Research), dr Agnieszka Kozłowska-Rajewicz (Laboratory of Ecological Education), dr Ewa Kasperek-Golimowska (Laboratory of Health Education), prof. Paweł Topol (Laboratory of Educational Applications of Computer Science), dr Renata Wawrzyniak-Beszterda (Laboratory of School Pedagogy) and dr Katarzyna Waszyńska (Laboratory of Health Promotion and Psychotherapy).

The celebrations of the 25th anniversary of the Faculty of Educational Studies of the Adam Mickiewicz University were summarised by prof. dr hab. Agnieszka Cybal-Michalska, who emphasized that FES continues the best traditions of pedagogical education in Poland and cannot ignore the topic of pedagogical science and the evolution of its identity. By combining the tradition and the present, as well as by being open to the challenges of the future of the Faculty can be shaped as a continuation of its commitments made in the past.