

The unholy priest (or the plagiarisms of Father Tymosz)

An eminent scholar and Catholic priest, having plagiarised over a dozen publications, applied for a professorship. His misdeeds were uncovered and the promotion refused. Unconcerned, the plagiarist re-applied. The persistent priest-pirate has been a high-ranking educator and a mentor to the next generation of Polish Catholic clergy. The ecclesiastical academia has blatantly protected the unholy arrangement but the day of reckoning has arrived.

by Marek Wroński

Published in *Academic Forum* 07-08/2015¹

Translated from the Polish by Voy Le Vitzki

Discovering that a priest has committed an intellectual piracy can be devastating to his flock. The faithful consider such behaviour akin to lying and stealing – the sinful depravities that the Catholic Church sternly warns against. Even worse, if the plagiarising clergy are university teachers and mentors to the next generations of Catholic priests. Some of the academic misconduct cases are, indeed, so shocking that one can only conclude that a lot of these men of the cloth have made a grave error choosing their vocation. Yet, such incidents appear to be on the rise among the Polish Catholic clergy and the Church-based academic power structures seem to be protecting the offenders.

The unholy ambition

In July 2012, I wrote in the *Academic Forum* about a series of appalling research misconduct incidents committed by a well-respected priest-academic. In my article titled ‘Extravagant mercy for a fallen scholar’ (FA 7-8/2012, <http://www.bmartin.cc/dissent/documents/Wronski/Wronski1207.pdf>), I described massive plagiarisms, identified in over a dozen scholarly papers authored by a Polish priest, Rev. Dr.

¹ This is an English translation, predominantly dynamically equivalent, of an article published originally in the Polish language in a monthly magazine for Poland’s academics, *Academic Forum*, in July 2015. (Plagiaty ksiedza Tymosza, Marek Wroński FA 07-08/2015 Forum Akademickie, Lublin: Akademicka Oficyna Wydawnicza, ISBN:1233-0930. Retrieved on 14 Aug 2015 from <https://forumakademickie.pl/fa/2015/07-08/plagiaty-ksiedza-tymosza/>). The publication is from a series of articles that has been appearing from 2002 each month in the magazine’s section called ‘From the Archives of Research Misconduct’ [Z archiwum nieuczciwości naukowej] <http://forumakademickie.pl/publicystyka/nauka/z-archiwumnieuczciwosci-naukowej/>

Stanisław Tymosz, from the prestigious Catholic University of Lublin (CUL)². In 2008, Fr. Tymosz submitted an application for the title of professor to the Faculty of Law, Canon Law and Administration. At that time, he was CUL's Director of the Institute of Canon Law, Chair of the Department of History of Sources of Polish Particular Church Law, a member of the University Disciplinary Committee and Treasurer of the CUL's Scholarly Society. As per the CUL's protocol for professorial appointments, the Faculty commissioned as a referee Prof. Wacław Uruszczak, Head of the Department of History of Polish Law and the Department of Church and Religious Law at the Jagiellonian University³ in Cracow. Prof. Uruszczak reviewed works written by Fr. Tymosz since he had been awarded his post-doctoral degree, including his so-called 'professorial book'⁴. As a result, Prof. Uruszczak uncovered numerous

² Translator's comment: The Catholic University of Lublin (CUL) is the only private Polish university. It has eight faculties: Theology; Philosophy; Law, Canon Law and Administration; Social Sciences; Mathematics and Natural Sciences; Humanities; Legal and Economic Sciences; and Social Sciences. The student body numbers over 19,000. Founded in the city Lublin in the South Eastern Poland in 1918, when the country gained independence, it has since functioned almost continuously, although this was done in secret during the Nazi occupation, while under the Communist rule some of the faculties were shut down or denied awarding degrees. Yet, it was the only independent, Catholic university in the entire Soviet bloc, never adopting Marxist dogmas taught at state institutions. It was admitting students expelled from other universities for political reasons. CUL's great achievements came at a high cost, as the institution was often under surveillance by the secret service and the graduates had difficulties finding employment. After the fall of communism in 1989, the university flourished but recently has been involved in a variety of scandals related to academic misconduct.

³ Translator's comment: The Jagiellonian University, founded in 1364 in the medieval city of Cracow in the South of Poland, is the oldest and best Polish university, as well as one of the oldest universities in the world. It flourished especially after Poland gained independence in 1918. The most important in the post WWI period was the creation of the Jagiellonian Library, which includes a world-renowned collection of medieval manuscripts, e.g. Copernicus' 'De Revolutionibus', as well as a recently established, extensive collection of underground political literature from Poland's period of Communist rule between 1945 and 1989. Following the Nazi invasion of Poland in 1939, 184 professors were arrested and the university was closed. Reopened in 1945, its revival was suppressed by the Communists. Poland's entry into the European Union in 2004 resulted in huge increase in funding from both the Polish government and European authorities, permitting a rapid rejuvenation of most of the departments, despite the issues that are the legacy of the Communist period.

⁴ Translator's comment: 'Professorial book' is a major publication in book form, which constitutes one of the main requirements, especially in humanities and social sciences, for the highest academic title in Poland, that of professor. This lifetime distinction, connected with exceptionally high social status and generous remuneration, is officially conferred by the President of Poland upon a highly accomplished academic. A new professor is automatically rewarded with a professorial appointment and the associated, highly attractive salary – data from 2003 indicate that full professors were paid 300% of the average salary of public employees. They have a number of entitlements, special allowances for particular duties and special pension arrangements. Multiple employment is also common, although unless given special permission, professors can only have two full time jobs at two different Higher Education Institutions (thus doubling their salaries). The position is until retirement because the decision to terminate a professor with 'due cause', can only be made by the President of Poland, and this is unlikely to happen. Professors are frequently chosen to high-level university functions such as deans and vice-chancellors and thus have a lot of power. Their numerous

plagiarisms in the priest's publications, which he described in detail in his review report dated 6 March 2009, and sent the document to the Faculty that requested it. The University regulations required the review to be passed onto Rev. Prof. Antoni Dębiński, the then Dean of the Faculty. Prof. Uruszczyk's scathing report quoted numerous examples of 'copy and paste' type plagiarisms which Fr. Tymosz had committed, when he had lifted word-for-word excerpts from the works by other authors. In my article, I covered the cavalier attitude of the University's authorities towards Fr. Tymosz's appallingly unethical behaviour.

Fr. Tymosz presented the Faculty with a multi-page polemic where he disputed Prof. Uruszczyk's report. However, he did not manage to convince the Faculty Council and, consequently, had to withdraw his application for the promotion. On 21 April 2009, the Council issued a resolution to discontinue the approval process for awarding the corrupt priest-academic the title of professor.

Dirt under the ecclesiastical carpet

Even though it strikes as highly unusual, the Dean did not to report the plagiarisms to the then Vice-Chancellor of the Catholic University of Lublin, Rev. Prof. Stanisław Wilk. Furthermore, as serious as the misconduct was, he did not consider conducting a disciplinary investigation. Evidently, he preferred to have the matter swept under the ecclesiastical carpet. As a result of the Dean's inaction, Fr. Tymosz continued at the university as if nothing had happened. What is even more outrageous, when the annual General Meeting of the Scholarly

privileges continue after retirement. Even though the decision to award a professorship is made by the President of Poland, the Central Commission for Academic Degrees and Titles (Central Commission) submits the recommendation after they have determined that a candidate has met the mandatory requirements. In practice, the President always follows the Central Commission's suggestions. Thus, effectively, it is the members of the Central Commission, who themselves are professors, that decide upon whom to confer the title that denotes a lifetime of coveted privileges. Apart from the matters related to scientific research and tertiary education, professors decide on a variety of issues that are important to Poland's present and future. Many government ministers have this title. The condition that only the President can terminate professors fosters academic freedom due to the fact that such a decision first needs to be carefully assessed and deliberated over by the Central Commission before it can be presented to the President. This makes the termination process difficult to instigate and slow to execute, which increases the security of the professor's post. The negative outcome of the arrangement is that a rigid power structure has been created and this enables the eminent academics to misuse their power. The admission to professorship is therefore reserved to individuals of the highest personal and professional integrity of whom it is certain that their conduct will always adhere to the strictest ethical standards. Thus, extreme care must be taken when selecting candidates for this important nomination. However, in practice, the title has frequently been conferred upon undeserving individuals who did not meet the stringent criteria, which has contributed to the abuse of the institution.

Society of the Catholic University of Lublin took place on 24 March 2010, the offender was appointed to the coveted position of Treasurer. Among the event's participants, witnessing Fr. Tymosz receiving this decorous nomination, were several of the CUL's most distinguished law professors. It is hard to imagine a more blatant example of the unwillingness to accept the special responsibilities placed upon these esteemed scholars by the virtue of their legal profession. Those senior employees of the Catholic University of Lublin should at least have been able to recognise that choosing a corrupt priest for such an important function reflected negatively on the institutional integrity of their own university, and by extension, on the integrity of their own scholarly achievements. Yet, despite the damaging implications, not one of the esteemed academics dared to criticise the situation publicly.

The persistent sinner

Just one year after his first application for the title of professor was rejected on the basis of scholarly fraud, Fr. Tymosz, with full support and endorsement of the Faculty Council, shamelessly applied again for professorship. The application was submitted on 10 April 2010 on the basis of Fr. Tymosz's new book 'The impact of teachings of Pope John Paul II on the resolutions passed by the Second Polish Plenary Synod'. The hard cover edition was printed by the CUL Publishing House at the beginning of 2010. And so, on 11 May 2010, the Faculty Council issued a decision to initiate a new process aimed at promoting the corrupt priest to the position of full professor. The fact that the distinguished priests-professors, who comprised the Faculty Council, were undisturbed by the problem that the candidate had committed a series of flagrant offences, was only one more in a series of glaring examples of their lack of accountability and disrespect towards their own university. At any normally functioning research institution, misconduct of such grave nature would warrant termination of employment of the offender. In contrast, at CUL, the notorious plagiarist was not only allowed to keep his job, but even obtained unequivocal support to apply for a promotion! Evidently, the Faculty Council thought that the normal rules of ethics did not apply at the Catholic University of Lublin.

The Faculty nominated two referees. The first one, Rev. Prof. Julian Kałowski (d. 4 October 2011) was a retired Dean of the Faculty of Canon Law at the Cardinal Stefan Wyszyński

University⁵ in Warsaw. The second expert, Rev. Prof. Antoni Kość (d. 7 December 2011) was from the CUL's Institute of Theory and Philosophy of Law. He had a conflict of interest being the author of a review prepared for the publisher of Fr. Tymosz's new professorial book. The other two referees were appointed by the Humanities Section of the Central Commission for Academic Degrees and Titles (Central Commission)⁶. The first, Rev. Prof. Edward Górecki from the Pontifical Faculty of Theology in Wrocław⁷, again had a conflict of interest as a reviewer of Fr. Tymosz's post-doctoral thesis from 2003! The second referee was Rev. Prof. Jan Maciej Dyduch, the then Vice-Chancellor of the Pontifical University of John Paul II in Cracow (PUJPII)⁸ and a Head of the Department of Personal Law and Church Structure at the Faculty of Canon Law of PUJPII. All the four experts wrote excellent

⁵ Translator's comment: The Cardinal Stefan Wyszyński University in Warsaw is a state university offering religious studies at the faculties of Theology, Canon Law and Christian Philosophy, and secular studies with emphasis on Christian values. It was named after Cardinal Stefan Wyszyński (1901–1981), a highly respected archbishop of the Roman Catholic Church in Poland, known for his moral integrity, including his heroic and principled stand against Nazism and Communism.

⁶ Translator's comment: The Central Commission for Academic Degrees and Titles (Central Commission) is a national Commission at the Office of Polish Prime Minister. The Central Commission is a collective body elected for the term of 4 years out of candidates proposed by the organisational units entitled to award a doctor's degree or a doctor's degree within the scope of art. Under legislation passed in 2003, the candidates are selected by the persons who have the academic title of professor or the title of professor within the scope of art and consists solely of professors or professors within the scope of art. The Central Commission is responsible for the quality and the standards of the doctoral degree, post-doctoral degree and the academic title of professor or these degrees and titles within the scope of art. The Central Commission awards the right to confer both levels of doctoral degrees or these degrees within the scope of art to organised fields of study at Tertiary Education Institutions, controls activities of the units authorised to award academic degrees and degrees within the scope of art, connected with awarding these degrees, approves resolutions passed by the councils of the above-said units on awarding the post-doctoral degree and the post-doctoral degree within the scope of art. The Central Commission directly assesses applications for professorial title or the title of professor within the scope of art through ad-hoc committees which it nominates for each case. Applications which the Central Commission supports are forwarded to the President of the Republic of Poland, who awards the title. The Central Commission operates mainly through disciplinary sub-panels. The number of professorial titles awarded annually is approximately 500 (approximately equal to net replacement of deaths/retirements), and of post-doctoral degrees approximately 850. The numbers of both doctoral and post-doctoral degrees have been increasing since 2004, after Poland joined the European Union.

⁷ Translator's comment: The Pontifical Faculty of Theology in Wrocław is an ecclesiastical college. It offers graduate degrees in Theology, Philosophy and Pedagogy and doctoral and post-doctoral degrees in Theology. The Faculty has been awarded the right to support applications for full professorships in Theology. The institution emphasises Catholic values.

⁸ Translator's comment: The Pontifical University of John Paul II (PUJPII) was established in Cracow in 2009. It derived from the Theology Faculty of Jagiellonian University which, after being established in 1397, was expelled from the University by the Communists in 1954. The PUJPII offers graduate degrees in Theology, Philosophy, and Church History.

reviews, stressing the outstanding achievements of Fr. Tymosz. Mysteriously and by sheer ‘coincidence’, none of the above esteemed scholars mentioned the numerous shocking plagiarisms in the professorial candidate’s publications, that were identified only one year earlier.

The detestable manner in which the then Dean, Fr. Dębiński, approached the issue of Fr. Tymosz’s promotion mobilised several people from the city of Lublin who informed Prof. Uruszczak, that the priest from Lublin resumed his attempts to be awarded the title of professor. Outraged by this shocking violation of scholarly integrity and a lack of ethics of the Faculty authorities, on 24 June 2010, Prof. Uruszczak sent an emotional letter to the then Vice-Chancellor of the Catholic University of Lublin, Rev. Prof. Stanisław Wilk. In the letter, Prof. Uruszczak expressed his profound distress over the fact that a serial plagiarist was again permitted to apply for the coveted position of tenured professor. This was an appalling breach of good research practices by the CUL’s academic authorities, made even more deplorable by the fact that all the eminent scholars involved in the decision were Catholic priests.

Vice-Chancellor, Rev. Prof. Wilk, a 66 year old member of the Salesian Society and a Church historian, immediately ordered a disciplinary investigation against Fr. Tymosz. This forced the corrupt priest to formally withdraw, on 1 July 2010, his application. On 28 September 2010, the Council of the Faculty of Law, Canon Law and Administration of the Catholic University of Lublin passed a resolution to stop supporting the bid of the blatant plagiarist for professorship. In what can truly be considered as a ‘glorious’ finale of this sordid affair, finally the esteemed ecclesiastical scholars stopped assisting a serial plagiarist in his attempts to receive the distinguished title of full professor. This ‘momentous’ decision fully deserves an accolade ‘*finis coronat opus*’. My deepest respect, the venerable clergy!

Not surprisingly, the manner in which the Catholic University of Lublin handled the disciplinary investigations against Fr. Tymosz was also utterly disgraceful. I described the whole process in my earlier article ‘Extravagant mercy for a fallen scholar’. The proceedings concluded on 18 March 2011 with a decision to impose a strikingly lenient penalty of a mere reprimand on the offender who committed a series of massive plagiarisms in his publications, including in his professorial book. The ‘soft-hearted’ Disciplinary Officer, Dr. Krzysztof Motyka, Head of the Department of Sociology of Law and Human Rights at the Institute of Sociology at the CUL’s Faculty of Social Sciences, justified this charitable sanction by

presenting the ‘mitigating’ factors. He said that after the verdict of the Disciplinary Committee in December 2010, Fr. Tymosz voluntarily resigned from the membership of the University Disciplinary Committee, as well as from the position of Director of the Institute of Canon Law. However, to alleviate his ‘sufferings’, the corrupt priest allowed himself to retain the Chair of the History of Sources of Polish Church Law and, what strikes as particularly hypocritical, the prestigious and influential position of Treasurer of the Scholarly Society of CUL. At any normally functioning research institution, misconduct of such a grave nature would warrant termination of employment of the offender. But evidently, the CUL’s Disciplinary Committee operates on the basis of a different set of rules, reminiscent of the situation in which the proverbial fox guards a hen house!

At the end of 2010, in the prestigious journal *Studies in the History of Polish State and Law* (Vol. XIII, pp. 265-284), Prof. Uruszczak published an article based on his review (dated 6 March 2009) of Fr. Tymosz’s plagiarised works. The title of the article was ‘This style of research must be eradicated! The publications by Rev. Dr. S. Tymosz in the field of legal history in the years 2003-2008’. Prof. Uruszczak stressed the wide scope and the large number of plagiarisms committed by the academic who aspired to the title of full professor. The volume of the journal with this telling article appeared on the shelves of libraries of universities across Poland and on the internet, where it is still available free of charge. As a result, the matter became well known in the entire, albeit fairly small, community of law historians. Meanwhile, at the Catholic University of Lublin silence has shrouded Fr. Tymosz’s misdeeds. This lack of any reaction may seem surprising, given the fact that several prominent priests-ethicists are working at CUL. Somehow, none of the esteemed experts on ethics have spoken up about the eminent priest scholar, whose ‘style of research’ should have disqualified him from performing the role of an academic teacher.

National infamy

After my article ‘Extravagant mercy for a fallen scholar’ was published in mid-July 2012, the story of the priest-pirate was taken up by the local edition of popular newspaper *Electoral Gazette* [*Gazeta Wyborcza*]⁹ in Lublin. Journalist Paweł Reszka devoted several articles to the

⁹ Translator's comment: The *Electoral Gazette* is a daily Polish liberal newspaper with the largest circulation. It was first published on 8 May 1989, under the motto, “There's no freedom without Solidarity”. Its founding was an outcome of the agreement between the Polish communist government and political opponents centred around the Solidarity movement. The paper was to serve as the voice of Solidarity during the run-up to semi-free elections held on 4 June 1989 (hence the

issue of Fr. Tymosz's blatant plagiarisms. The nationwide publicity followed, which significantly influenced the subsequent course of events.

Let me explain what happened. In August 2012, the University Press Officer was still maintaining that the Catholic University of Lublin considered the case of Fr. Tymosz's misconduct closed. He also claimed that CUL, as a private university, was not obliged to notify the Prosecutor's Office of the offence and announced that Fr. Tymosz was re-commencing his normal classes with students from the beginning of the new academic year. On 1 September 2012, Rev. Prof. Antoni Dębiński took up the position as the CUL's new Vice-Chancellor (after he had been elected by the University Senate on 10 May 2012). He was the former Dean of the Faculty of Canon Law, who so staunchly supported Fr. Tymosz in his unscrupulous attempts to gain the title of full professor.

After the first article about Fr. Tymosz's plagiarisms was published in the local edition of *Electoral Gazette* on 24 July 2012, the District Prosecutor for Lublin-South ordered an investigation of Fr. Tymosz's scholarly publications on the grounds of suspicion of violation of Paragraph 1, Art. 115 of the Polish Copyright Law. Consequently, from the beginning of the academic year 2012/2013, Fr. Tymosz went on unpaid leave of absence. It must be noted here, that although sometimes taking an unpaid leave of absence might be a result of suspected misconduct on the part of a scholar, in most cases it does not carry any negative connotation at universities. It is usually used by academics in order to retain their original affiliation, while taking up another position that would otherwise cause a conflict of interest.

The lead prosecutor, Marzena Świdorska-Czochra SC, notified Fr. Tymosz about the allegations on 19th November 2012. On 3rd December, she questioned him in the presence of his lawyer. The priest said that he disagreed with the opinion of Prof. Uruszczak, but otherwise refused to answer questions. However, he explained that he had no intentions to conceal the authorship of the texts he borrowed from other researchers, as well as he was not aware of any wrongdoing on his part. He stated that the authors were listed in the bibliography, as well as referred to in the footnotes. Moreover, he added that his intentions

newspaper's title). It was the first legal newspaper not controlled by the communists. The paper's editor-in-chief, since its founding, has been Polish anti-communist dissident Adam Michnik. The paper's headquarters are located in Warsaw but it publishes daily local editions in over 20 Polish cities, including Lublin.

were honourable, as he hoped to disseminate the work of other scholars whom he specified in the bibliography. At the end, he said that he would testify at the trial after getting acquainted with all the submitted materials.

After the court-appointed expert confirmed the infringement of copyright, the prosecution prepared an indictment and, on 28th February 2013, filed it with the District Court Lublin-West. The criminal trial took place before Justice Agnieszka Kołodziej. The defendant filed an application with the court for conditional discontinuance of proceedings on the grounds of insignificant harmfulness of his act as per Art. 18, Par. 2 of the Polish Criminal Procedure Act of 6 June 1997 (published in the Official Journal of Laws on 4 August 1997)¹⁰. The prosecutor, Marzena Świdorska-Czochra SC, did not object and thus the judge discontinued the proceedings on 26 September 2013, despite the fact that she stated, that the evidence presented before the court unquestionably showed that Fr. Tymosz committed plagiarisms. She only placed him on probation for one year and ordered to pay court costs in the amount of PLN 4,100. Responding to this outrage, the local newspaper *Electoral Gazette* published a public appeal. Nevertheless, the prosecutor did not even request an explanation for the judge's unduly lenient approach to the priest's obvious and repeated offences. In this situation, Fr. Tymosz's lawyer also withdrew his request for the explanation! The Regional Prosecutor in Lublin, to whom I turned to intervene, 'washed hands' of the problem, on the grounds of the independence of the prosecutor during the trial.

Therefore, it remains unclear why Justice Agnieszka Kołodziej found it of insignificant harmfulness to society, when a highly qualified and accomplished academic teacher and a mentor to numerous students and future Catholic priests, plagiarised over a half of his book, which was to be the basis of his application for professorship. Not to mention extensive plagiarisms he had committed in ten of his works that had been published over 5 years ago and therefore could not have been prosecuted ex-officio due to the expired statute of limitation.

¹⁰ Translator's comment: ACT of 6 June 1997, The Code of Criminal Procedure. (Official Journal of 4 August 1997). Art. 18, Par. 2 If the court or the prosecutor sees the deed misconduct or breach of the disciplinary duties or rules of social intercourse, it can by refusing to initiate proceedings or to dismiss them, particularly because of insignificant social harmfulness of an act, to refer the case to another competent authority.

A very ‘Special’ Panel

The controversially lenient approach of Justice Agnieszka Kołodziej was described in the press all over the Poland. The new Vice-Chancellor, Rev. Prof. Dębiński, did what he refused to do when he was the Dean and at the beginning of the academic year 2013/2014, by mutual agreement, he terminated employment of Fr. Tymosz. He also announced the end to tolerating plagiarism and plagiarists. What is more, after a further few newspaper articles and my public appeal, he announced that a Special Panel will be established to examine Fr. Tymosz’s works published prior to his post-doctoral degree.

Following is a short description of the circumstances of Fr. Tymosz’s post-doctoral degree. It was awarded by the Catholic University of Lublin on 18 February 2003 and approved by the Central Commission for Academic Degrees and Titles on 23 June 2003. The referees were: Rev. Prof. Henryk Misztal from CUL, Rev. Prof. Jan Dudziak from Pontifical Academy of Theology (PAT)¹¹ in Cracow (d. 17 November 2003) and Rev. Prof. Edward Górecki from the Pontifical Faculty of Theology in Wrocław. All the referees found that the post-doctoral thesis by Fr. Tymosz was an authoritative study of the decrees of the Council of Trent and constituted an important contribution to the subject that had not yet been researched as well as presented a novel approach to the problem.

On October 28, 2013, the Vice-Chancellor appointed the Special Panel. The chairwoman was Dr Marzena Dyjakowska, Associate Professor at CUL and Head of the Department of Judicial Law. The Panel also comprised two other scholars: another Associate Professor from the same Department, Dr Waldemar Bednaruk, as well as Rev. Prof. Edward Górecki from the Pontifical Faculty of Theology in Wrocław. The latter was one of the enthusiastic reviewers of Fr. Tymosz’s post-doctoral thesis, as well as a fervent supporter in his second attempt at professorial nomination. Surprisingly, the panel did not include Prof. Uruszczyk from the Jagiellonian University, whose knowledge of the subject, expertise and impeccable honesty would unequivocally dispel any doubts that the investigation was genuine. After a few months, Fr. Górecki was replaced by Dr Andrzej Szymański, an Associate Professor from the

¹¹ Translator's comment: The Pontifical Academy of Theology (PAT) in Cracow was established by Pope John Paul II in 1981. In 2009, by virtue of the decision of Pope Benedict XVI, the PAT became the Pontifical University of John Paul II.

Faculty of Law and Administration of the Opole University¹². The Special Panel kept postponing the release of the final report. At last, it was issued on 16 April 2014.

What's yours is mine (as long as you are properly dead)

The final report indicates that the Special Panel found a large number of borrowings in the works of Fr. Tymosz. However, the Panel did not prepare a systematic concordance, which usually accompanies such reviews. Instead, the gathered materials in form of disorderly collection of findings were subsequently sent to Dr Grzegorz Tylec. He was a former PhD student from CUL, who defended his doctoral thesis at the Faculty of Canon Law, Law and Administration in September 2005 and, at the time, was an Assistant Professor at the CUL's Department of Theoretical and Applied Linguistics at the Institute of Journalism and Communication. On 19 February 2014, Dr Tylec was instructed by the Vice-Chancellor to perform the role of an expert on infringements of intellectual property rights. Out of the total of 14 publications by Fr. Tymosz, the Panel sent to Dr Tylec eight works that contained unreferenced borrowings, including Fr. Tymosz's post-doctoral thesis. After analysing the texts, Dr Tylec prepared his report on 30 March 2014. His opinion had a significant impact on the final conclusion of the Special Panel, which was issued on 16 April 2014.

In Dr Tylec's opinion, Fr. Tymosz's borrowings had not violated intellectual property rights. He explained his reasoning, using as an example, the priest's work 'Collection of synodal laws by Bishop Stanisław Karnkowski of 1579', printed in the *Annals of Legal Studies* in 2003. It contains numerous, extensive excerpts copied from the publication 'Bishop Stanisław Karnkowski's collection of synodal laws: a contribution to the history of ecclesiastical law of in Poland'. This work was written by Dr. Aleksander Kakowski, the then Vice-Chancellor of the Roman Catholic Academy in St. Petersburg and published in Włocławek in 1912. However, even though Fr. Tymosz had lifted large portions from Dr. Kakowski's publication, he did not violate the other author's intellectual property rights because the copyright period has long since expired. Because what the priest did was permissible under the law, in legal terms it did not constitute plagiarism. A similar reasoning Dr Tylec applied to the borrowings

¹² Translator's comment: Opole University is a public university founded in 1994 in the city of Opole in South Western Poland. The student body numbers 17,500 and the staff 1,380. The university comprises eight Faculties: Philology, History and Pedagogy, Theology, Mathematics, Physics and Information Technology, Natural and Technical Sciences, Economics, Law and Administration, Chemistry. It offers graduate and doctoral degrees.

in the priest's publication titled 'Process of establishment of the right for patronage of the Cathedral of Lviv during the years 1761–1765', printed in the *Annals of Legal Studies* in 2002. Fr. Tymosz's work mostly consists of text excerpts copied from the treatise 'A few words about the picture of the Holy Mary the Gracious in the Cathedral of Lviv in the 250th anniversary of vows of Jan Kazimierz' written by S. Szydłerski and printed in Lviv in 1906. Again, Dr. Tylec decided that because the latter work was no longer protected by copyright, the authorship law has not been violated. In the expert's opinion, it was thus meaningless to continue to look in Fr. Tymosz's publications for text lifted from other authors. His recommendation was to discontinue the effort of searching for the copied fragments and comparing them to the text in the original sources.

Moreover, in a large part of his report, Dr Tylec tried to argue that Fr. Tymosz's post-doctoral treatise was a result of his own research, despite extensive evidence against. The facts are, that the priest's work ('The response to the reforms resulting from the Canons and Decrees of the Council of Trent in the canonico-pastoral activities of Archbishop Wacław Hieronim Sierakowski in the years from 1740 to 1780') consisted mainly of archive sources and the interpretations lifted from a book by Fr. Julian Ataman from Przemyśl (d. 1989), titled 'W. H. Sierakowski and his administration of the Przemyśl Diocese', published in 1935. However, Dr Tylec argued that, despite lifting most of another author's book, Fr. Tymosz again did not violate copyright laws. It did not occur to Dr Tylec that a thesis that was mostly a result of reproducing someone else's book cannot be a basis of a post-doctoral degree. It must be added, that Dr Tylec himself did not have a post-doctoral degree, which heavily influenced his status as an expert in post-doctoral research. Hence, regretfully, he did not show sufficient knowledge about what it means to conduct quality research, required for a post-doctoral degree.

At the end of his report, Dr Tylec stated that he had not investigated numerous self-plagiarisms committed by the priest, because they did not constitute a breach of the copyright law, as he nonchalantly summarised: 'For these reasons, it has been decided to discontinue the examination of the content of the works by Fr. Tymosz in relation to their similarities and borrowings from his other publications'.

Special Panel's final decision (or how to manipulate evidence)

The Special Panel checked 14 publications written by Fr. Tymosz, which formed the basis of his post-doctoral degree necessary to be appointed as associate professor. As a result, the Commission concluded that several of these works contain large fragments lifted from the treatises authored by other scholars, which constitutes an undeniable proof that to compose his publications, the priest used the material that he simply copied from other researchers. This way of using someone else's research results is in brazen contradiction with academic integrity as well as with the Polish law. Some excerpts had been literally copied word-for-word, while other texts show such similarities to those authored by other scholars that this excludes a possibility that the congruence was accidental. The scope and number of borrowings, that were particularly evident in shorter texts of supplementary nature, show beyond reasonable doubts that the plagiarisms were not accidental. What is more, they clearly manifest that Fr. Tymosz consciously and with direct intent committed acts that are forbidden and punishable by law.

As discussed earlier, Dr Tylec in his report did not manage to address and resolve unequivocally whether or not Fr. Tymosz's post-doctoral treatise was a result of his own research, despite glaring evidence that the priest simply copied most of another author's book. As Dr Tylec's report failed to address the misgivings of the Special Panel, the Panel came to a conclusion that it was impossible to assert that the priest infringed on intellectual property rights in this thesis – again despite blatant evidence to the contrary. The Special Panel found that about half, but not all (!), of Fr. Tymosz's post-doctoral publications evidently violated the principles of copyright law. And, amazingly, this was a sufficient reason for the Panel's decision not to revoke Fr. Tymosz's Post-doctoral Degree!

So here it is, the 'art' of evidence manipulation at its worst.

Central Commission calls on another expert in evidence manipulation

In mid-May 2014, the assessment prepared by the Special Panel of the Catholic University of Lublin as well as Dr Tylec's report were sent to the Central Commission for Academic Degrees and Titles (Central Commission) in Warsaw. However, no source materials or a concordance of any type had been attached to these documents. In fact, no preparation of concordance has ever been attempted, which is a serious mistake as it prevents subsequent

appraisers from forming an independent opinion without recourse to the original works and performing the comparison themselves.

I am not familiar with the mechanism of the selection of referees by the Central Commission, thus I am not aware on what grounds the Central Commission's Section of Humanities selected Rev. Prof. Grzegorz Leszczyński to prepare a review of the documents received from the Catholic University of Lublin. This young (b. 1966) member of the Central Commission was awarded professorship in 2009. He was a Head of the Department of Canon Administrative Law and Canon Law Governing Temporal Properties of the Church of the Cardinal Stefan Wyszyński University in Warsaw and a Head of the Department of Canon Law at the Faculty of Law and Administration of the University of Łódź. He was also judicial vicar (*officialis*) of the Metropolitan Ecclesiastical Court in Łódź, which corresponds in ecclesiastical system of justice to the position of President of a civil District Court.

To prepare his nine-page report, dated 28 August 2014, Fr. Leszczyński used only the modest set of materials that the Central Commission received from Catholic University of Lublin and the documents gathered in the file related to awarding Fr. Tymosz his Post-Doctoral Degree in the year 2003. According to Fr. Leszczyński's opinion, the post-doctoral thesis was 'innovative and based on wide variety of source materials'. On the other hand, he concluded that 'the author very rarely formulated his own opinions and rarely developed any conclusions'. Ironically, Fr. Leszczyński himself did not present any findings of his own, either. Neither did he compare Fr. Tymosz's post-doctoral thesis with the book by Fr. Julian Ataman published in 1935, which was the source of all the bibliography, facts and reasoning included in Fr. Tymosz's dissertation. Fr. Leszczyński also neglected to consider the other seven publications by Fr. Tymosz containing a large number of plagiarisms, which had been simply copied word-for-word from the works of other authors!

This is not what one would expect of a report produced by the member of the Central Commission for Academic Degrees and Titles, an organisation whose decisions are of utmost importance to Polish academia.

Furthermore, in regards to Fr. Tymosz's two failed attempts at professorship, Fr. Leszczyński only remarked that the candidate asked the Council of the Faculty of Law, Canon Law and Administration of the Catholic University of Lublin to withdraw his applications, and each

time the Council complied with his wishes. However, nothing was mentioned about a large number of plagiarisms in Fr. Tymosz's works published after his Post-doctoral Degree. Finally, Fr. Leszczyński concluded his report with the following 'gem': 'I recommend to uphold the Post-doctoral Degree of Rev. Dr. S. Tymosz on the following grounds: the post-doctoral procedure was carried out in compliance with all legal norms and requirements, the expert from the Catholic University of Lublin did not challenge his post-doctoral dissertation in the field of canon law, the reviewers from the same university assessed the thesis as authoritative and relevant for the Polish canon law, while the intellectual dishonesty, even though abhorrent, affects only to a small portion of the scholarly achievements of Rev. Dr. Tymosz'.

So here we are, the Central Commission's expert had spoken. Thus, it looked like the plagiarist was going to keep the spoils of his dishonesty. Perhaps, behind the bizarre events were 'the [deeds] that dared not speak their name'.

The day of reckoning (or never underestimate power of the press)

However, because the issue of large number of plagiarisms committed by Fr. Tymosz had already been described in the national press, members of the Central Commission's Section of Humanities decided that the priest's Post-doctoral Degree needed to be reassessed. The Board of the Central Commission upheld that decision on 15 December 2014.

After a delay of nearly half a year, the Central Commission's decision to reassess Fr. Tymosz's Post-doctoral Degree was sent to the Dean of the Department of Ecclesiastical Law of the Catholic University of Lublin, Rev. Prof. Piotr Stanisław. He will now be responsible for the reassessment. I asked Prof. Wacław Uruszczak for his opinion about this case. He replied: 'Detection of even a single case of plagiarism, even if it's a minor one, that is part of an application for an academic title, should be a sufficient reason to deny or deprive the plagiarist of this title. There should be no exception!'

It is high time that Prof. Uruszczak's call became more than just 'a voice crying in the wilderness' ...

Pirated from Cambridge into Cracow by Prof. Sanetra

A few months ago, I wrote an article ‘Pirated from Cambridge into Cracow’, (FA 2/2015, <http://www.bmartin.cc/dissent/documents/Wronski/Wronski1502.pdf>) about a disturbing case of plagiarism uncovered in a so-called professorial book – presumably an outstanding monograph that a candidate must publish in order to be considered for the academic title of professor¹³. The professorial book in question was titled ‘Photovoltaic effect in organic solar cells - selected issues’ and was supposedly written by Dr Jerzy Sanetra, an associate professor at the Cracow University of Technology¹⁴. In fact, about ninety percent of the monograph, which was printed in October 2006 by the Publishing House of the Cracow University of Technology, was a direct translation of the doctoral dissertation by an Austrian physicist Klaus Petritsch, published in the year 2000. Dr Petritsch’s thesis was a result of three years of research at the famous Cavendish Laboratory¹⁵ at the University of Cambridge in the United Kingdom. His PhD supervisor was an eminent Cavendish Professor of Physics, Sir Richard Friend¹⁶.

¹³ Translator’s comment: In accordance with the Polish Act on Academic Degrees and the Title as well as the Degrees and the Title in the arts of 14 March 2003 (http://www.nauka.gov.pl/g2/oryginal/2013_05/b26ba540a5785d48bee41aec63403b2c.pdf), in Poland there are two academic degrees: doctoral (PhD) and post-doctoral and one academic title of Professor. When awarded the title of Professor, he or she is simultaneously promoted to the position of Professor, which is the highest of research and didactic positions. The full list of research and didactic positions in Poland is as follows: 1) teaching assistant (does not require a PhD), 2) assistant professor (requires a PhD), 3) associate professor (requires a post-doctoral degree), 4) professor. One of the requirements for the title of Full Professor is to publish a so-called ‘professorial book’, a monograph which is an outstanding and unique contribution to the development of a given discipline.

¹⁴ Translator’s comment: Cracow University of Technology is a public university located in Cracow. It was established in 1946. The student body numbers 17,000 and staff 1200. It has seven Faculties: Architecture; Electrical and Computer Engineering; Civil Engineering; Environmental Engineering; Chemical Engineering and Technology; Mechanical Engineering; Physics, Mathematics and Computer Science. It is one of the best technical universities in Poland.

¹⁵ Translator’s comment: The Cavendish Laboratory is the Department of Physics at the University of Cambridge, and is part of the School of Physical Sciences. The Department is named to commemorate British chemist and physicist Henry Cavendish for contributions to science and his relative William Cavendish, 7th Duke of Devonshire, who served as Chancellor of the University and donated money for the construction of the laboratory. Professor James Clerk Maxwell, the developer of electromagnetic theory, was a founder of the lab and became the first Cavendish Professor of Physics. As of 2011, 29 Cavendish researchers have won Nobel Prizes. As of 2015 the laboratory was headed by Andy Parker and Sir Richard Friend.

¹⁶ Translator’s comment: Sir Richard Friend conducts research in the physics and engineering of carbon-based semiconductors. His results have been applied to development of polymer field effect transistors, light-emitting diodes, photovoltaic diodes, optically pumped lasing and directly printed polymer transistors. He pioneered the study of organic polymers and the electronic properties of

It is a glaring irony that the professorial book by Dr Sanetra was, as incredible as it may seem, plagiarised from a PhD thesis written by a young researcher. So, in the nutshell, Prof. Sanetra attained the highest academic title in Poland, that of full professor, after plagiarising in his ‘professorial book’ the work of a student! Yes, a student – who, regardless how bright, was still only ‘an apprentice in the profession of research’¹⁷. This sordid affair is so outrageous that it appears that Prof. Sanetra should not be the only one to be subjected to Disciplinary Investigation.

Following are the circumstances that surround this despicable scandal that took place at the Cracow University of Technology.

The mystery of the missing money

Prof. Sanetra won a large research funding in the 23rd round of the competitive grant scheme operated by the Polish Ministry of Science and Higher Education for the project ‘Determination of the photovoltaic properties of selected polymers (derivatives of polythiophene and polyvinylcarbazole) in terms of their application in the construction of polymer photovoltaic cells (solar batteries)’. His grant No. 4T09B00623 of the amount PLN 274,000 (about A\$100,000) was to cover the research in the period from 2002 to 2006. Considering the inflation, the funding was substantial for that time. However, it would be justifiable to suspect that the money was not used by Prof. Sanetra to conduct the proposed project, as his final publication consisted almost entirely of the material copied from Klaus Petritsch’s PhD thesis. Apart from two chapters, Prof. Sanetra lifted all of the text from the Dr. Petritsch’s treatise, together with the entire bibliography. He also copied dozens of drawings and charts. So, it looks like Prof. Sanetra actually did use some of the grant money, but only to pay for publishing of his plagiarised treatise. Therefore, this sordid affair begs the obvious question - what happened with the remaining grant money?

I asked the Vice-Chancellor of the Cracow Technical University for the access to the accounting documents related to grant No. 4T09B00623. He explained that the period of

molecular semiconductors. He has over 600 publications. Since 1995, Friend has been the ninth Cavendish Professor of Physics (since James Clerk Maxwell in 1871, of electromagnetic theory fame.)

¹⁷ Translator’s comment: Ballard, B. (1996) Contexts of judgment: an analysis of some assumptions identified in examiners’ reports on 62 successful PhD theses, paper to the Conference on Quality in Postgraduate Research, Adelaide.

retention for such detailed documents was five years and because it has long since expired, the records have been destroyed. Hence, the Archives of the Cracow Technical University do not contain any more the documentation that could resolve the ‘grand’ mystery of the missing money.

In this situation, the only avenue left for me is to publicly appeal to Prof. Daria Nałęcz, the Under-secretary of State in the Polish Ministry for Science and Higher Education¹⁸, to start a search in the Ministry Archives for documents related to Project No. 4T09B00623. The progress and final reports, as well as accounting records, will surely provide the answer to the riddle, what exactly happened with A\$100,000 that Prof. Sanetra had received from the Ministry for Science and Higher Education. I am sure that Prof. Nałęcz is keen to get the mystery of the Ministry’s missing money resolved as soon as possible.

Despite the fact that Prof. Sanetra had committed a serious offence, the Vice-Chancellor of the Cracow University of Technology, Prof. Kazimierz Furtak, has not even suspended him from teaching duties. The Disciplinary Officer, Prof. Marek Kowicki from the Faculty of Architecture, concluded in his Disciplinary Report of 14 February 2015 that a reprimand and a ban from holding management positions are adequate sanctions for the academic, who shamelessly applied for professorship on the grounds of a publication, which he almost entirely plagiarised word-for-word from the PhD thesis by a young, inexperienced student. Meanwhile, nobody seems to know (and care) what the cheat did with the A\$100,000 that he had received from the government to produce the material for his professorial book.¹⁹

¹⁸ Translator’s comment: Under-secretary of State in the Polish Ministry for Science and Higher Education is a civil service position. Since 2012, Prof. Daria Nałęcz has held this position. She has a post-doctoral degree in history.

¹⁹ Translator’s comment: The answer probably is more complicated than just ‘creative’ accounting on the part of Prof. Sanetra. Typically, projects at Polish universities are seriously under-financed, which is regarded in Polish research culture as prudence and so-called ‘good financial management’, despite the fact that funding is available from various competitive research grant schemes managed by the European Union. Another barrier to obtaining reliable research results is that Polish universities do not allocate time for research – it is supposed to be conducted ‘after hours’, whatever that means. Such bizarre approach to research appears to foster various forms of academic misconduct, including plagiarism and/or fabrication of research results. Furthermore, A\$100,000 seems to be markedly insufficient to produce experimental results that would be of high enough standard for a professorial book. The Cavendish Laboratory, due to its series of successes since the late 19th Century and a large number of Nobel Prizes, had appropriate facilities for Klaus Pertrisch to conduct his experimental work – and his research was only at the level required of a PhD candidate, which is a world of difference from what is expected from a professorial candidate! The Cracow University of Technology authorities, including Vice-Chancellor Prof. Kazimierz Furtak, should have

The Disciplinary Hearing to resolve the matter of Prof. Sanetra's outrageous misdeeds took place on 6 July 2015 in the Senate Hall of Cracow University of Technology (located in the building of the Department of Civil Engineering at 24 Warszawska Street). The Hearing was chaired by Prof. Czesław Nizankowski from the Department of Machine and Tool Technology of the Institute for Machine Technology and Manufacturing Automation. Although entry to the hearing was free for employees of the University, there were only a few people in the audience.

During the questioning, Prof. Sanetra did not admit that he had committed plagiarism. The 'compassionate' Disciplinary Commission issued him with a mere reprimand and banned him from performing management functions. The verdict is not final.

I will continue to discuss this intriguing case when, after the summer holidays, I will have received all the documentation from the Cracow University of Technology.²⁰

Central Commission strikes back

At the end of April 2015 the Board of the Central Commission for Academic Degrees and Titles (Central Commission) instigated ex-officio a re-assessment of a two-year review process, lasting from 2007 to 2008, which culminated in awarding Dr Sanetra the title of Professor of Physical Sciences in 2009. This pathetic procedure was conducted at the Department of Physics and Information Technology of the AGH University of Science and Technology²¹ in Cracow. After a series of assessments conducted over 7 years ago by

been aware of the problems at their University, especially with funds spent for the particular research, whether this research was conducted at professorial level and, above all, whether this research was carried out at all?! In view of the above, Prof. Sanetra should not be considered the only one that is guilty of this outrageous offences of plagiarism and misappropriation of public funds.

²⁰ Translator's comment: The summer holidays at Polish universities finish on 30 September 2015.

²¹ Translator's comment: AGH University of Science and Technology is one of the best technical research universities institutes and the largest technical university in Poland. It was established in 1919 in Cracow. It has 16 Faculties: Mining and Geoengineering; Metals Engineering and Industrial Computer Science; Electrical Engineering, Automatics, Computer Science and Engineering in Biomedicine; Mechanical Engineering and Robotics; Geology, Geophysics and Environmental Protection; Mining Surveying and Environmental Engineering; Materials Science and Ceramics; Foundry Engineering; Non-Ferrous Metals; Drilling, Oil and Gas; Management; Fuels and Energy; Physics and Applied Computer Science; Applied Mathematics; Humanities; Computer

numerous naive or incompetent referees, including those from the Central Commission, the final recommendation was positive. As a result, the Central Commission made the ominous decision to grant Poland's highest academic title to the brazen plagiarist. Thus, the shameless cheat received the esteemed title of professor from the hands of the country's President in an official ceremony conducted in 2009.

Now, six years after that magnificent celebration, that took place in 2009 at the Presidential Palace in Warsaw and which honoured the 'achievements' of the dishonest academic, the Central Commission has realised that they had made a huge mistake. After some deliberations, the Commission declared that the facts revealed to them in 2015, led to their conclusion that Dr Sanetra's professorship was based on 'accomplishments' that violated academic integrity and the copyright law. To obtain a reliable opinion and objectively assess those disturbing findings, Section No. 5 of the Central Commission, responsible for Mathematical, Physical, Chemical and Earth Sciences, appointed Prof. Jacek Kossut to prepare an appraisal of the allegations. This distinguished physicist and a former long-time Director of the Institute of Physics of the Polish Academy of Sciences in Warsaw confirmed that most of the professorial book 'authored' by Dr Sanetra was a literal translation of PhD thesis written by Klaus Petritsch, including the layout of the work, subheadings, drawings and formulas.

Furthermore, Prof. Kossut noted that even the tables of the abbreviations and synonyms, which appeared at the beginning of the monograph, are direct translations, as well as the end part, which Prof. Sanetra called 'Appendix'. Prof. Kossut added, that Prof. Sanetra's professorial book did not include any statement that would indicate that the material in the monograph was copied almost entirely from Dr Petritsch's doctoral thesis. Prof. Sanetra referred only once to Dr Petritsch's work, but not to his PhD dissertation. This reference was made in Chapter 5 on p. 113 of the professorial book, where Prof. Sanetra described reports written by other authors. Prof. Kossut concluded that Prof. Sanetra's plagiarism was unequivocal and indisputable.

Prof. Kossut also mentioned a report written by Prof. Wojciech Łużny from the Department of Physics and Applied Information Technology of the AGH University of Science and

Science, Electronics and Telecommunications. The student body numbers 36,000 and academic staff 1,000.

Technology in Cracow, who reviewed the monograph in 2006 for the publisher. In his statement of 10 March 2015, Prof. Łużny said that, having read the article by M. Wroński titled ‘Pirated from Cambridge into Cracow’, he located on the internet the doctoral dissertation by Dr Petritsch and compared it with the professorial book of Prof. Sanetra. He said that ‘the comparison of the two texts made it obvious to me that the monograph by Jerzy Sanetra is an almost exact translation from the English into Polish of Klaus Petritsch’s doctoral thesis. I therefore conclude that Jerzy Sanetra is not the author of the monograph, which he published under his own name. [...] In the light of the above, I revoke my positive review of Jerzy Sanetra’s work’.

In 2007, Prof. Danuta Bauman (deceased) and Prof. Stefan Jurga from Adam Mickiewicz University in Poznań²² prepared blind reviews of Prof. Sanetra’s achievements to enable the Central Commission make an appropriate decision related to the award of professorship. They both expressed the view that the monograph is ‘a definite and important contribution to the body of scientific achievements of the candidate’. In 2015, this conclusion led Prof. Kossut to make the following pronouncement: ‘the problem that the candidate included on the list of his publications a book that he had not authored, as well as the fact that both of the ‘blind’ reviewers, unaware (?) of this violation of research integrity, considered this monograph a definite and important contribution to the body of scientific achievements of the candidate, significantly reduce the weight of their assessments’. As a result of Prof. Kossut’s report, both Section No. 5 of the Central Commission, as well as its Board, unanimously decided that, despite many other works by Prof. Sanetra, there were sufficient reasons to conduct the process of reassessment of the achievements of the plagiarist with an aim of stripping him of the title of professor.

²² Translator’s comment: Adam Mickiewicz University in Poznań, opened in 1919, is one of the major Polish universities, located in the city of Poznań in western Poland. The most famous graduates were the mathematicians who broke the German coding machine ‘Enigma’: Marian Rejewski, Henryk Zygalski, and Jerzy Różycki. The achievement of those Polish mathematicians is considered as a major contribution to the Allies effort to defeat Nazi Germany in WW2. Presently the student body numbers 50,000, and academic staff 3,000. The university has the following Faculties: English; Biology; Chemistry; Educational Studies; Geographical and Geological Science; History; Law and Administration; Mathematics and Computer Science; Modern Languages and Literature; Physics; Polish and Classical Philology; Political Science and Journalism; Social Sciences and Philosophy; Theology; Pedagogy and Fine Arts.

The Faculty of Physics and Information Technology of the AGH University of Science and Technology in Cracow, where Prof. Sanetra had been awarded professorship in 2009, is currently headed by Dean Prof. Janusz Wolny. By law, the reassessment must be conducted at the same department which processed the initial application. The procedure requires that the scientific achievements listed in the application must be evaluated again by new reviewers, who will be aware of the fact that Prof. Sanetra's 'valuable and important monograph' is an outrageous and shameless plagiarism. I hope that the group of eminent research scientists from the Faculty of Physics and Information Technology will honestly and fairly evaluate this academic scandal, so terribly damaging to the image of Polish physics. Furthermore, it is alarming that everybody appears to be utterly unconcerned at the Faculty of Physics, Mathematics and Information Technology of Cracow University of Technology about the scandal that has tainted their reputation. Judging from the attitude of the University authorities and the conversations I had with the administrators 'the matter does not concern them' because it is being investigated by their Disciplinary Officer, Prof. Marek Kowicki.

Meanwhile, the very same Disciplinary Officer (Prof. Marek Kowicki), has recently commenced a disciplinary investigation against Dr Agnieszka Chrzanowska, who had the courage to 'blow the whistle' on the plagiarisms committed by Prof. Sanetra. Supposedly, this disciplinary investigation concerns the allegations of 'Dr Janusz Jaglarz being bullied by Dr Chrzanowska'. Incidentally, Dr Jaglarz was awarded his post-doctoral degree by the AGH University of Science and Technology in Cracow. And for many years, Dr Jaglarz was an Assistant Professor at this institution's Department of Materials Physics, which was headed by none else than Prof. Sanetra himself. What an intriguing coincidence! Or is it a coincidence at all ...? Let us examine the facts.

Only two years ago, Dr Chrzanowska repeatedly alerted authorities of the Cracow University of Technology to Dr Jaglarz allegedly falsifying research results. But all her efforts have been to no avail. She has been writing numerous letters about the matter to her own superiors, demanding an explanation as to why Dr Jaglarz's alleged falsifications have never been subject of any genuine investigation. In fact, on 14 May 2015, the same Disciplinary Officer, Prof. Kowicki, discontinued the disciplinary investigation against Dr Jaglarz. He stated that 'a lack of suitable experts' (!) who would be able to assess the falsification allegations was the reason to discontinue the inquiry. Amazingly, still the same Disciplinary Officer, Prof. Kowicki, did not encounter such constraints when it came to the disciplinary investigation

against Dr Agnieszka Chrzanowska for allegedly ... bullying Dr Jaglarz. Yes, the same Dr Jaglarz, on whose alleged falsification of research results Dr Chrzanowska had first 'blown the whistle' two years ago. As mentioned above, all of Dr Chrzanowska's whistleblowing efforts in regards to Dr. Jaglarz's allegedly fraudulent research have been 'stonewalled' by the University's authorities. And, of course, it was the same Dr Chrzanowska who had the courage to 'blow the whistle' on the plagiarisms committed by Prof. Sanetra. Yes, the same Prof. Sanetra, who for many years had also been a superior of Dr Jaglarz ...

I will be closely watching for any shameful deeds of the wrongdoers propagating this immoral affair and will write all the details up in my next articles²³.

Marekwro@gmail.com

²³ Translator's comment: In the final part of this article, which relates to the whistleblowing efforts of Dr Chrzanowska, the translator expanded the original article by Marek Wronski in order to elucidate for international readers the specifics of whistleblowing, characteristic to the Polish academic community.