THE JUBILEE
OF PROFESSOR TADEUSZ GODLEWSKI PH.D.
AND HANDING THE JUBILEE VOLUME
(TORUŃ, 13TH NOVEMBER 2012)

by Paweł Jaroniak

On 13th November a jubilee celebrating the 70th birthday of Professor Tadeusz Godlewski – an excellent political scientist; an expert in the Polish political system, political parties and systems in France and Poland; and, most of all, a teacher and an educator for many generations of political specialists – was held in Gallery 44 in Toruń. The event was kept secret from its main participant.

A large number of guests were welcomed by the editor Paweł Jaroniak. Next, Professor Danuta Karnowska and Professor Jarosław Nocoń, the alumni of the Emitent Jubilarian, together with the Chairman of the Publishing House PhD Adam Marszałek handed the Professor and his wife bunches of flowers and, most of all, a leather copy of the Paper The Citizen – Institutions – Authority in XX and XXI Century, a publication that was a tribute and a token of gratitude for this brilliant scholar. A scientific editing of the book was undertaken by the above mentioned Professor Karnowska and Professor Nocoń.

The host – Chairman Adam Marszałek – officially welcomed many distinguished guests that arrived from research centres from various parts of Poland, representatives of the army and local authorities were represented by Andrzej Jasiński, the Vice-President of the City Council of
Torun. He handed Professor Godlewski a Letter of Congratulation from the Mayor Michał Zaleski. A speech was also given by Zbigniew Derkowski, the Director of the Department of Culture in the City Hall of Torun. The following also spoke: Professor Roman Bäcker, the Dean of WPiSM UMK, who welcomed the fact that since 1st October Professor Godlewski had been teaching at the University of Toruń. An Occasional speech was also made and a present to the Jubilarian was given by Professor Janusz Golinowski – Deputy Dean for Didactics at the Faculty of Humanities of UKW – with whom Professor Godlewski cooperated during many years of his professional career.

After the official speeches, an interview conducted by Professor Nocoń with the Master was conducted. The first question was also a request to reveal the secret of educating so many eminent alumni. Professor Godlewski humbly responded that it is all about good time management and sacrificing this time to others. A second question concerned the Professor’s passions i.e. angling and his methods to catch fine fish. The Jubilarian tried to avoid the answer here by only mentioning „ the catch- ing of no fish for a record of 12 hours in the same place”.

After those really examining questions the main participant of the evening took to the floor. Professor Godlewski pointed to the fact that he did not assume a research career his life plans. His intention was to teach in provincial schools, ideally next to a lake where he could go fishing. But his wife’s great contribution to motivate him to undertake doctoral studies resulted in his being faithful to his political science until now.

The final part of the event was handing the diplomas and letters of congratulation and further occasional speeches of guests. Dr. Joanna Marszałek-Kawa announced and handed the Diploma of the Honorary Publisher Diploma. Next, the Director of the Publisher, Iwona Nadolska-Bartosiak, handed the Jubilarian a letter of congratulation from Professor Tadeusz Wallas, the Dean of the Faculty of Political Science and Journalism at the Adam Mickiewicz University. On behalf of Professor Jackek Sroka, the Director of the Institute of Political Science at the University of Wrocław a letter of congratulation was handed by Professor Andrzej Antoszewski. The Director of the Institute of Political Science at the University of Warmia and Mazury, Professor Arkadiusz Żukowski had a dual
role: at first, he handed Professor Godlewski a letter of congratulation on behalf of himself and his employees; next, representing the Rector of the Pedagogical University of Cracow Professor Michał Śliwa PhD and other employees of the university, he announced and handed two occasional letters to the Professor.

Speeches were also made by Professors: Andrzej Chodubsiki of the Institute of Political Science at the University of Gdańsk, who, in beautiful words, expressed his respect to the Jubilarian and emphasised his virtues as a scientist and a wonderful man; and Michał Karwat of the Institute of Political Science at the University of Warsaw. As he stressed in his speech, by being one of the most senior alumnus of Professor Godlewski, he has very warm memories of all the years he spent with the Master and of his educational methods.

After the official part came to an end, Professor Danuta Karnowska invited everyone for a glass of wine and refreshments. Among those who made a toast were Professor Jerzy Sielski of the Academy of Jan Długosz in Częstochowa and the Chairman Adam Marszałek, who gave a eulogy in praise of the Jubilarian’s wife Barbara Godlewska. A loud Happy birthday was not missing either… All the participants attempted to have at least a small conversation with the Emitent Jubilarian and authors of articles and guests who bought the book Citizen – Institutions – Authority… could receive a dedication from Professor Godlewski. They willingly used this rare occasion to get the autograph of the best political scientist among anglers and the best angler among political scientists at the same time.