

Professor Śliwiński was born on 15-th of November 1928 in Jarocin (near Poznań, Poland). In 1942 (during the Second World War) he completed a grammar school in Gliniak (near Mińsk Mazowiecki, Poland). In 1947, after graduating (matura = final examination) at the High School in Bydgoszcz, he started his studies in the Faculty of Mathematics and Natural Science, Physics Division, at Poznan University and graduated with master of philosophy in physics in 1952. Earlier (1950) he undertook the post at Poznań University, first under Professor Szczepan Szczeniowski, and next under Professor Marek Kwiek supervision. Promoted by Professor Kwiek he prepared his Ph.D. Thesis in 1960 on the phenomenon of light diffraction on ultrasonic waves propagating in the media being near critical point. Next his continuous interest of light and ultrasonics interaction in such media in which fluctuations of state parameters occurred allowed him to complete the D.Sc. Thesis in 1964 and to take the position of associate professor at Poznań University. In 1970 he joined the newly founded Gdańsk University where he had been working until retired in 1999. At the University of Gdańsk he has got the extraordinary professor nomination in 1973 and the ordinary professor nomination in 1979.

Beside his scientific, research and teaching activities he appeared to be an excellent manager that is why he has been acting as the Head of the Acoustic Group in the Experimental Physics Institute, Deputy Director of the Institute of Physics, University of Gdańsk, 1970-1978, Head of Department of Applied Physics, University of Gdańsk, 1978-1981, Director of the Institute of Physics, University of Gdańsk, 1978-1986, the Dean of the Mathematics-Physics-Chemistry Faculty, 1981-84, Deputy-Rector of Scientific Affairs of Gdańsk University, 1984-86. He has been the initiator of the research work and a leader of the big group of scientists from the very beginning of his activity at Gdańsk University. In 1973 he helped to initiate founding for the Environmental Laboratory of the Acoustics and Spectroscopy, the unit that had been devoted to the environment protection of Gdańsk region, with the special attention to acoustics problems among them noise pollution. In parallel (since 1971-2001), he was part-time employed first in the Laboratory of Oceanology, next the Department of Oceanology and since 1983 the Institute of Oceanology, Polish Academy of Sciences, Sopot where he has been initiated underwater acoustics research and founded the group of scientists who graduated under his supervision and they successfully continue research in the field as a strong unit in the Institute.

During his scientific career he was granted with the scholarships of British Council (10 months, 1961/62, University of Durham, Kings College, Newcastle on Tyne), Polish Government (4 months, 1964/65, University of Moscow, Pedagogical Institute, Moscow), Italian Government (3 months, 1973/74, La Sapienza University of Rome), European Community Commission (3 months, 1993, University of Leuven, Campus Kortrijk). Professor Śliwiński's scientific outputs have been mainly concerning with the wide aspects of acoustics:

- Acousto-optics: investigations of light diffraction by ultrasonic waves, non-linear effects occurring during diffraction of the strong laser light by ultrasonic wave, application of interferometric techniques to the examination of ultrasonic fields and transducers.
- Molecular investigations and ultrasonic spectroscopy: examinations of the organic substances including polymers and liquid crystals, viscoelastic media.
- Room acoustics: acoustic properties of halls and enclosures, examinations of noise and vibrations.
- Underwater-acoustics: examination of the Baltic Sea, surface water pollution, structure borne sound.
- Photo-acoustics spectroscopy.

Professor Śliwiński promoted 28 Ph.D. thesis (the last one in 2016), five people among his co-workers become associated professors and three of them full professors. A number of Ph.D. thesis and dissertations for associate professor degree were reviewed by him as well in Poland as abroad, either as referee or reviewer he gave his access to the nomination procedure for full professors. Professor Śliwiński wrote as an author or co-author more than 200 papers known to the international audience and few books. He is a member of Physics, Acoustics and Marine Investigation Committees of the Polish Academy of Sciences and several research councils. Awarded a fellowship he became a member in the international societies such as European Physics Society, Audio-Engineering Society, Polish ones: Polish Acoustical Society (being a President for the two tenures), Polish Physical Society, Gdansk Scientific Society and Gdańsk Academic Society.

Moreover he took part in the editorial boards of the following journals: Ultrasonics (1965-2003), Acoustic Letters (1980-2002), Archives of Acoustics (1985-...), Oceanologia (1980-...), Acustica (1986-1996), Akusticheskij Zhurnal (1990-2001), Optoelectronics Review (1995-1999). During 1981-1987 as well as in 1996-1999 Professor Śliwiński represented Poland in the International Commission on Acoustics (of International Union of Pure and Applied Physics), and elected for the cadences: 1981-1984, 1985-1987, 1996-1999 and again for 2001-2004, 2004-2007. He was the Member of Steering Committee of WCU (World Congress on Ultrasonics), later ICU (International Congress on Ultrasonics) since 1992- 2005. At the ICU'2009 in Santiago de Chile the ICU Steering Committee decided to award him with the ICU Golden Wistle Award which was handed to him during the ICU'2011 in Gdańsk, Poland.

He was honored and awarded a number of times. The international audience had many opportunities to listen to his lectures during the conferences, meetings or seminars. He was invited for lecturing at several universities: in Belgium, China, France, Russia, India, UK, USA.

On the other hand Professor Śliwiński is known as an organizer of many scientific meetings: ten of them on acousto-optics, i.e. "Spring School on Acousto-optics and its Applications" 1980-2008, "Prospects in Modern Acoustics, Education and Development, 1987 and several Open Seminars on Acoustics. He closely collaborated with foreign academic centres such as University in Leuven, Halle, Bremen, Moscow, Trieste and PTB Braunschweig.

*"Scientific Activity of Professor Antoni Śliwiński" by courtesy of Bogumił B.J. Linde*