NEW HONORARY MEMBERS OF THE MINERALOGICAL SOCIETY OF POLAND

ALFRED MAJEROWICZ

Alfred Majerowicz was born on 31 July, 1925 in Poznań, where he finished a primary school and the first grade of a secondary school. He completed his



education, stopped by the war, in Walbrzych in the year 1947, obtaining the maturity diploma, and was next admitted at the Faculty of Natural Sciences, University of Wrocław. He studied geology and in 1952 graduated with the Master of Philosophy degree in the scope of geology and petrography. He obtained his Ph.D. in 1961 and presented thesis toward the title of Dozent in 1970. In 1972 he was nominated the Head of the Department of Mineralogy and Petrography. He obtained the title of Associate Professor (Dozent) in 1981, and in 1989 was nominated to Full Professorship.

The scientific activity of A. Majerowicz compri-

ses mainly petrology of crystalline rocks in Lower Silesia, and also some mineralogical problems. Initially, he conducted geological, mapping, petrological and mineralogical investigations in the Eastern Sudetes and the North-Sudetic depression. Later, his numerous papers were focused mainly on the foreground of the central part of the Sudetes, where he studied in detail the petrology of the Strzegom-Sobótka granite massif and of its cover. Having turned his attention to the Ślęża massif, as the first person he recognized and described it in 1979 as an ophiolitic assemblage the best developed in this part of Europe. His respective ideas were accepted in numerous scientific conferences.

Other fields of interest of A. Majerowicz are associated with industrial rock materials in Lower Silesia, and he is the author of many documentations, expertises and research projects. He co-operates also with archeologists and has conducted so far several hundred descriptions of various stone artifacts from different periods of human activity.

A. Majerowicz began teaching in March 1950 still as a student, first at the Chair and later at the Department of Mineralogy and Petrography, covering crystallography, mineralogy and petrography. He substituted Prof. K. Maślankiewicz as the Head of the Department after his retirement. He was the Vice-Director in 1971—1972 and then Director in 1972—1975 of the Institute of Geological Sciences of the Wrocław University. In the academic year 1980/81 he was the Vice-Dean for teaching matters. For many years he attended student scientific organizations. The levels of staff development, teaching and research as well as the scientific equipment laid a basis of the ministerial decision to introduce majoring in petrology at the Wrocław University under the guidance of Professor Majerowicz.

Every year he graduated at least two M.Sc. students and wrote opinions on most of diploma dissertations in petrography. He supervised 13 Ph.D. theses, including two of overseas post-graduates (from Egypt), and wrote reviews of numerous Ph.D. and Associate Professorship theses. In the years 1972—1995 six of his colleagues from the Department obtained the degree of Dozent. A. Majerowicz published close to 100 papers in Poland and abroad, including an academic textbook *Petrology of igneous rocks* (in Polish), and presented some 150 unpublished opinions and research findings for different scientific and industrial institutions.

Professor A. Majerowicz is a founder-member of the Mineralogical Society of Poland, and a member of the Editorial Board of *Mineralogia Polonica*. In the years 1979—1981 he was the Vice-Chairman of the Lower Silesian Branch of the Mineralogical Society of Poland, and since January 1981 he has been its Chairman. It was his initiative to create the Section of Petrology of the Society, and he headed it in the first years of activity (1992—1993). He chaired organization committees and conferences of the Mineralogical Society of Poland and scientific sessions of the Lower Silesian Branch. The Mineralogical Society of Poland awarded his long-time scientific and organizational activity in December 1996, conferring on him the title of an honorary member.

Andrzej GRODZICKI

MANFRED STÖRR

Professor Manfred Störr, born in 1934 in Germany, studied geology at Ernst-Moritz-Arndt University in Greifswald. From this University he received both MSc and PhD degrees, and since 1977 till his retirement in 1992 he was a professor at Geological Institute in the same university. Professor Störr was a head of the scientific group working on clays and clay minerals, especially on geochemistry and mineralogy of kaolin deposits occurring in the area of the former GDR. Essential part of their investigations were natural and technological properties of clay raw materials and their industrial use.

Professor Störr was one of the outstanding geologists in the GDR and played a great role in the recognition of properties and genesis of silicate raw materials of different geological formations. His scientific position was reflected in the functions he held: director of Geological Institute at the Greifswald University, President of the German (GDR) Geological Society or the Government Advisor on Geological Affairs.

The contribution of Professor Störr's investigations to the world science was manifested by the presence of his group on international conferences organised by AIPEA, ECGA or Working Group No 23 of International Geological Correlation Programme (IGCA). For many terms Professor Störr was a member of those organisations. He is an author of two monographs on kaolins of the GDR and co-author of two monographs concerning microscopic and dilathometric investigations of clay minerals. Among his published works (113 papers, 7 patents, 11 scientific reports) 5 papers were printed in Polish scientific magazines with Polish co-authors.

Professor Störr played an important role in the development of geological sciences in the GDR. He acted for overcoming of isolation of East German scientists and developed their international co-operation with many centres in the world. An important role in that co-operation played, among others, University of Mining and Metallurgy in Cracow, Warsaw University, Warsaw Geological Institute and others. Professor Störr's group participated in Polish Clays and Clay conferences, while many Polish scientists were invited to Greifswald and very often their stay there was sponsored by professor Störr. It is worth to emphasising is that Professor Störr, as a chairman of the 7th Euroclay Conference, Dresden 1991, enabled participation in that conference to many young scientists from Poland by waving the conference fee and providing them with cost-free accommodation.

His great friendliness to Poland, hospitality and sense of humour has always made each stay in Greifswald not only very useful but very nice as well.

ALEXEI NIKOLAEVICH PLATONOV

In December 1996 the Mineralogical Society of Poland conferred the title of an honorary member on Professor Doctor Alexei Nikolaevich Platonov.

Alexei N. Platonov was born in Chita, the Soviet Union, on 6 September, 1937. He finished a secondary school in Kiev in 1954 receiving a gold medal. In 1959



he graduated with honours from the Geological Faculty, the Kiev State University, and in the years 1965—1968 completed a post-graduate study at the Institute of Solid State Physics, the Academy of Sciences USSR in Moscow. On presenting his thesis on 'Structural and spectroscopic investigations of natural sphalerites' at the Academy of Sciences of the USSR (IGEM) in Moscow, he obtained in 1968 the title of a Candidate of Science. Between 1969 and 1975 he worked as a senior researcher at the Department of Mineralogy and Crystal Chemistry, the Ukrainian Academy of Sciences in Kiev. His next large paper, 'The nature

of colour in minerals', brought him in 1974 the title of Doctor of Science from IGEM in Moscow. Since 1975, at the Ukrainian Academy of Sciences in Kiev he has been the Head of the Department of Spectral Methods which he had organized initially as a small laboratory and expanded later into a separate department. In 1986 the Commission of Higher Certificates of the USSR conferred on him the scientific title of a Professor in Mineralogy.

The main subject of scientific activity of A.N. Platonov is optical absorption spectroscopy and the colour of minerals, and he has become an international expert in this field. The early results of his research were included into his first, well-known book 'The nature of colour in minerals' (in Russian, Naukova Dumka, 1976, 263 pp.). On the basis of large, original, experimental material, various types of idiochromatic colours of nearly 500 mineral species and their varieties were studied and discussed, taking into account the crystal field, molecular orbitals and band theories. In more recent times he concentrated on the studies of optical spectra and colours of major rock-forming minerals (garnets, pyroxenes, amphiboles, micas etc.) with the purpose of establishing the role of colour as a crystallochemical indicator and a typomorphic feature of minerals formed under various genetic conditions. In these studies, the colour of the rock-forming minerals was used to solve some geological problems, such as genetic correlation of rocks, prospecting for various types of mineral raw materials etc. In this period A.N. Platonov has published, with his former students and his colleagues, several books, e.g. 'Optical spectra and the colour of mantle minerals in kimberlites' (1985, 248 pp.) and 'Rock-forming pyroxenes: optical absorption spectra, colour and pleochroism' (1987, 216 pp.). The scientific achievements of A.N. Platonov were awarded several times, among others in 1983 with the State Prize of the Ukrainian SSR in the Field of Science and Technology, and in 1993 with the Alexander von Humboldt Research Prize of the Institut für Mineralogie und Kristallographie, Technische Universität, Berlin.

Prof. A.N. Platonov began his co-operation with Polish mineralogists more than ten years ago. He took part as a lecturer in all five workshops on physics of minerals, organized by the Wrocław University. He presented papers and rendered scientific consultations to his Polish colleagues from the Wrocław and Cracow mineralogical centres. He also lectured at the Wrocław University for undergraduate students specializing in mineralogy and petrography. With some Polish mineralogists he co-authored several papers, published in leading mineralogical journals, among others in European Journal of Mineralogy. Results of several joint research were presented during international conferences.

The title of the honorary member of the Mineralogical Society of Poland conferred to Professor Doctor Alexei Nikolaevich Platonov acknowledges his great contribution to modern mineralogy, as well as close ties to Polish mineralogists.

Witold ZABIŃSKI