

THE 2006 -2007 POST- KOŚCIUSZKO CHAIR REPORT



The fourth year of post-Kościuszko Chair activities in Polish Studies at the Institute of World Politics: A Graduate School of National Security and International Affairs, in Washington, DC www.iwp.edu, was also the last. It pleases us to report that as of June 2008, the Kościuszko Chair in Polish Studies is formally entrenched at IWP.

Throughout the academic year 2007-2008 we proceeded of course with business as usual. Dr. Marek Jan Chodakiewicz, Professor of History and Academic Dean at IWP Read article focused on a variety of projects regarding Polish affairs.

As before, our work would be impossible without our institutional benefactors, including the American Institute of Polish Culture and the Tadeusz Ungar Foundation, and personal friends and relatives, including Lady Blanka Rosenstiel, Adam Bąk, Ava Polansky Bąk, Professor Iwo and Dr. Magdalena Pogonowski, John and Renata Niemczyk, Zdzisław and Zofia Zakrzewski, the Woś Family, and others.

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AT IWP

A fully accredited graduate school, IWP's hospitable institutional and intellectual ambiance gives wings to our teaching, researching, and writing on Polish issues. Dr. Chodakiewicz interweaved his classes, including Geography and Strategy, Russian Politics and Foreign Policy, and others, with Polish references. For example, Poland's experience during the Second World War and its after math is a permanent feature in the seminar on Genocide and Genocide Prevention.

Our Polish-American instructors Dr. John Lenczowski, Dr. David Klocek, Dr. Mark Lagon Przybyszewski, and General Walter Jajko routinely introduce Polish cultural and political issues in virtually all academic endeavors. And so do other IWP scholars, including Professors Juliana Pilon, Herbert Romerstein, Jack Tierney, Thomas Melady, and J. Michael Waller.

For a fourth straight year in a row bi-weekly e-newsletter "Eurasia, etc.," edited by Dr. Chodakiewicz, has featured prominently Polish-interest items. And so has his weekly feuilleton in the libertarian conservative *It is the Highest Time!*, posted at nczas.com; his Polish-language blog at www.chodakiewicz.salon.com; and the quarterly *Glaukopis: Pismo Spoleczno-historyczne* (a Warsaw periodical devoted to historical and social issues), where he sits on the Ad-

visory Board (2003-now).

MEDIA AND COMMUNITY COOPERATION

The Kościuszko Chair is always open to cooperation with the media and the Polonia. Thus, Dr. Chodakiewicz has provided historical, political, and cultural analysis on Poland, the United States, Central and Eastern Europe, and the world to various print, TV, and broadcasting outlets. The latter include Radio Vatican; Adam Ocytko's *Wietrzne Radio-Kurier*; Dariusz Budzik's show on Radio 1490AM, PAC/KPA(WPNA); Lucja Sliwa's "Open Microphone" on 1490AM WPNA; and Marek Rzepkowski's syndicated radio show "America Without Rose-Colored Glasses" in Chicago and New York.

Among print journalists the Kościuszko Chair has cooperated with Javier Méndez of *El Mercurio* newspaper (Santiago, Chile); Alex Strozynski of the *New York Sun*, and the *New York Post*, (in particular because of his forthcoming book on Kościuszko); Ewa Dybioch of *Plus Magazine: Journal of Polish American Affairs*; Andrzej Mikolajczyk of *expat.com* who works for Radio Czuma and freelances for the Polish Press Agency (PAP); and Joe Poprzeczny of *WA Business News* in Perth, Australia.

We have also established friendly relations with the following New Yorkers: Marek Tomaszewski, publisher of *Polski Dzień*, and Jacek Kunikowski of on-line services bazyrnka.com and polishclassifieds.com; as well as two TV journalists: Gabryela Komarnicka and Janusz JóŹwiak. *Gulag* (2007) and for Piotr Uzarowicz's *Goat Hill, LLC*, production company's movie on the Katyn Forest Massacre (2008). Moreover, Dr. Chodakiewicz cooperated with a number of Polish-American organizations, including Polish American Congress (New Jersey, DC Metropolitan, Downstate New York, Rhode Island, Northern Illinois, and Northern California divisions); Association of the Veterans of Polish Army (SWAP) in New York and Northern Illinois; and the Siberian Exiles Association in Chicago. He continued to serve as a lone Polish Christian voice at the US Holocaust Memorial Council.

ON THE LECTURE CIRCUIT

During the 2007-2008 academic year Dr. Chodakiewicz lectured at a number of ven-

ues and delivered several scholarly papers at conferences relating to Polish studies. Dr. Chodakiewicz traveled extensively to lecture about the affairs of IWP and the Kościuszko Chair. In October 2007, he spoke about

“Polish Studies, American Culture,” at the panel on “Poland and Contemporary Europe,” to commemorate the 35th Anniversary of the Polish-Slavic Center in New York, October 2007.

In January 2008, after one of his book was translated into the Polish, he toured Poland, at the invitation of the Institute of National Remembrance, lecturing on “After the Holocaust: Jewish-Polish Conflict in the Wake of World War II,” in Warsaw, Poland, IPN; Kielce, IPN; Wrocław, the University of Wrocław; Gdańsk, IPN; Carcow, IPN, Piwnica pod Jaszczurami; and other venues. He talked on the same topic in March 2008 at the Polish Army Veterans Association, in New York; at the Polonia Bookstore; Graduate College, Northern Illinois University; Polish American Congress, Northern Illinois Division and the Polish Army Veterans Association, Chicago; Holy Trinity Parish School, Chicago; and the Radio Maryja Center, Chicago, March 2008. Earlier, in January 2008, Dr. Chodakiewicz lectured on “National Security and National Security Education: The Case of The Institute of World Politics,” at the University of South Florida, Tampa, FL; and in February also on the same topic at Patrick Henry College, Purcellville, VA; and in March at the University Club of Chicago.

In February Dr. Chodakiewicz delivered a speech on “Genocide and Genocide Prevention,” at the Boren Forum, the Institute of International Education, Washington, DC. Afterward he talked about “Transformation: Continuity and Discontinuity in post-Soviet Europe between 1988 and 1993,” at the Department of International Relations, Florida International University, Miami, FL. In February he further lectured about “Poland in America’s Crooked Mirror—The Case of Fear,” at the East Central European Center, Institute for the Study of Europe, Columbia University, New York; and, in March, on the same topic at the College Libertarians Club, University of Illinois at Chicago; and for the Kościuszko Foundation, at Rice University, Houston, Texas.

Further, also in March, Dr. Chodakiewicz spoke about “The American System and Ethnic Organizations,” at the Council of Polish Engineers in North America, Polish American Congress, New Jersey, Downstate New York, and Long Island Divisions leadership working meeting in Manhasset, NY.

In June Dr. Chodakiewicz took IWP students and interns for a guided tour of the US Holocaust Memorial Museum. He included in his commentary the Christian experience during the Second World War and its aftermath. In July Dr. Chodakiewicz gave an in-house lecture on “The Mongol Empire and Its Conquests,” which, of course, included the Mongol foray into Poland in the 13th century. Last but not least, Dr. Chodakiewicz

guest lectured on “Empires and Nations in History” in Professor Jack Tierney’s class “Twentieth Century Politics and Diplomacy: Case Studies in War and Peace.”

OUR ESTEEMED GUESTS

Once again, IWP’s Kosciuszko Chair hosted a number of scholars, cultural figures, and leaders and leaders to be, many of them Polish or Polish-American. Some came to discuss Poland’s security issues or to seek assistance for her neighbors, Belorussia for example. Others were interested in IWP’s scholarship, expertise, or support in a variety of issues. Still others visited to support us in a number of ways, including through donations. We would like to acknowledge the pleasure of the company of Lady Blanka Rosenstiel, Ambassador Aldona Woś, Ambassador Victor Ashe, John Armstrong, Fr. Ian Boyd, Professor Henryk Głębocki, Professor Maria Michejda, Dr. Jan Żaryn, Dr. Tomasz Sommer, Kaziu Ujazdowski, Jr., Mr. and Mrs. George Cholewczynski, Mr. and Mrs. John Niemczyk, Mr. and Mrs. Paweł Chudzicki, Dr. Marian Bagiński, Professor Dariusz Tołczyk, Professor Marian Pospieszalski, and many others. Our guests, friends, families, students, interns, staff, and faculty have made the Kościuszko Chair a reality and a success here at IWP. Niech żyją!