

PROF. HENRYK SKARZYNSKI ADDED TO PANTHEON OF POLISH INVENTORS AND DISCOVERERS

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During celebrations to mark 25 years of deafness treatment in Poland, and 20 years of the Institute of Physiology and Pathology of Hearing, the Director of IPPH, Professor Henryk Skarzynski, was honoured to join the Pantheon of Polish Inventors and Discoverers. The ceremony took place in the Warsaw Philharmonic Concert Hall on 7 November 2016.

The Pantheon of Polish Inventors and Discoverers is an organization, founded in 2010, whose role is to showcase the achievements of Polish intellectual ingenuity. The Pantheon includes such people as Mikołaj Kopernik (Nicolaus Copernicus), Stanisław Staszic, Ignacy Łukasiewicz, and Maria Skłodowska-Curie.

Professor Skarzynski was honoured for his achievements in treating deaf and hearing impaired patients. He was the first to perform a cochlear implant operation in Poland, and has now performed the largest number of hearing improving operations in the world. He is the inventor of many patents for devices related to medical technology, and is the author or co-author of over a thousand scientific works. Prof. Skarzynski began the history of treating deafness in Poland. He built the Institute of Physiology and Pathology of Hearing, the World Hearing Center in Kajetany, and the National Network of Teleaudiology.

At the ceremony, Dr Bogusław Wegliński, Charter Secretary of the Pantheon of Polish Inventors and Discoverers, reminded the audience that the original charter to create the Pantheon was aimed at presenting the achievements of Polish science, technology, and industry to the world. It emphasises achievements that build wealth based on intellectual capital. Accordingly, members of the Charter decided it was entirely appropriate to honour Prof. Skarzynski in this way.

Prof. Jan Szmidt, Rector of the Warsaw University of Technology, and Chairman of the Conference of Rectors of



Prof. Michał Kleiber congratulates Prof. Henryk Skarzynski

Academic Schools in Poland, added how he agreed to fulfil this duty with joy and satisfaction, “although it is a tough duty because the scale of the output and merits of Prof. Henryk Skarzynski is so large.” He considered the whole ceremony as a great and extraordinary laudation in honour of Professor Skarzynski.

Prof. Michał Kleiber, Chairman of the Charter of the Pantheon of Polish Inventors and Discoverers and Vice-President of the European Academy of Sciences and Arts, read the official statement of the Charter: “In honour of the great scientific and clinical merits of prof. Henryk Skarzynski, the Charter of the Pantheon of Polish Inventors and Discoverers, which honours the most prominent Polish innovators, grants prof. Skarzynski the prestigious distinction of ranking him among those Poles who introduce new fundamental ideas and values which bring glory to our country and constitute an outstanding model to be followed in terms of human creativity and social mission.”