



## STANISŁAW MOSKAL

(1935-2019)

It is with deep sadness and regret that the community of the Hugo Kołłątaj University of Agriculture, and in particular its Faculty of Agriculture and Economics, learnt that the most deserved and popular among the university staff and students **Professor PhD Stanisław Moskalk** passed away. On 8 May 2019, the Republic of Poland lost a great expert in rural sociology. In the scientific community he was also known as Śledź Otrembus Podgrobelski, the author of *Wstęp do imagineskopii (Introduction to imaginescopy)* – the work referred by many scientists and artists in their output.

Stanisław Józef Moskalk was born on 4 March 1935 in Krakow, as a son of Stanisław (1903-1984), engineer and technical director of chemical plant producing soap and plant oils in Trzebinia. Mother of the late Professor Stanisław Moskalk, Jadwiga née Jordan (1908-1964), was a teacher and came from the historical family of former administrators of Wieliczka salt mines, members of which have distinguished themselves during the November and Hungarian Uprisings.

Professor Moskalk passed his matriculation exams in 1952 in one of the oldest (1586) Polish Schools – Bartłomiej Nowodworski High School no. 1 in Krakow, previously completed by his grandfather and uncle. He graduated from the Higher College of Agriculture at the Faculty of Zootechnics (1957), followed by Faculty of Sociology (1965) at the Jagiellonian University. Since 1960 he has worked in the Higher College of Agriculture

in Krakow as a scientific and technical assistant and as senior assistant in the Department of Economics and Organisation of Agriculture since 1965 (changed to Institute of Social and Political Sciences in 1970). In 1966, the then master of sciences was moved to the Department of Agricultural Policy. On 1 July 1970, on the basis of the doctoral dissertation entitled *Praca pozarolnicza jako czynnik zmian w gospodarstwie i rodzinie chłopskiej Podhala (Non-agricultural activity as the agent of change to the peasant farm and family of the Podhale region)* he obtained a doctoral degree in agricultural sciences and was employed as an assistant professor. He was working there also in 1972, when the Higher College of Agriculture was transformed into the Agricultural University. The late Stanisław Moskal obtained the title of PhD in agriculture in the field of agricultural economics on 8 June 1978 on the basis of evaluation of his scientific output and habilitation dissertation entitled *Ludność dwuzawodowa w procesie społeczno-gospodarczych przeobrażeń wsi (Double-professional population in the process of socio-economic transformation of rural areas)*, while the scientific title of professor in agriculture on 2 June 2000.

He has worked as the Head of the Institute and since 2020 of the Department of Rural Sociology and Development.

A member of several commissions: Commission for the Faculty of Marketing and Management at the Agricultural University and Departmental Competition Commission for the professor and PhD degrees and holder of membership title in such scientific associations as: Polish Economy Society and the Polish Association of Agricultural and Agribusiness Economists. Participated in the activities of the Programme Council and Editorial Team of the *Rocznik Krakowskie Studia Małopolskie (Yearbook of Krakow Lesser Poland Studies)* and contributed to the activities of the Programme Council of the "Wieś i Rolnictwo" (Rural Areas and Agriculture) quarterly issued by the Institute of Rural and Agricultural Development of the Polish Academy of Sciences.

During his work at the Agricultural University, Professor has given lectures and seminars on rural sociology and social problems included into the „social and pedagogical issues” course at the Faculty of Agriculture, Horticulture, Zootechnics and Geodesy, sharing his knowledge in clear, interesting and effective manner. He has participated in organisation and carrying-out of the student holiday scientific camps dedicated to socio-economics of rural areas under the auspices of the Voivodeship Board of the Rural Youth Association in Krakow.

Professor Moskal lectured rural sociology and basic demography at the post-graduate studies in the area of agricultural organisation and advisory at the High School of Agriculture. For many years, he has given lectures on rural sociology at the Evening University of Marxism-Leninism.

His activities included active participation in the dissemination actions taken by the Institute, among others by giving lectures and seminars organised for the agricultural workers, as well as at the Socio-Pedagogical School of the Horticultural Cooperative Headquarter in Krakow, Economic and Cooperative School of the Dairy Cooperative Movement as well as at the agricultural service training courses organised by the Voivodeship Agricultural Training Centre.

Professor has developed his scientific interests towards combination of social and economic issues in rural areas and agriculture, specialising in problems of agricultural bi-professional population.

His main features as a researcher encompassed accuracy and intellectual curiosity, followed by vital initiative in solving the research problems and ability to organise work. Professor demonstrated wide social and ideological interest. In June 1972 he took part, as a member of the expert team composed of seven persons and established by the Institute of Rural and Agricultural Development of the Polish Academy of Sciences, in preparation of the report on agricultural double-professional population in Poland. He has also acted as a member of sub-commissions for agricultural income and social policy dedicated to rural areas. In 1971 he joined research on the activities of political party in rural environment. He has also established scientific cooperation with the Institute of Rural and Agricultural Development of the Polish Academy of Sciences in Warsaw.

In October 1978, in addition to his work as the Institute of Social and Political Sciences, Professor acted also as a consultant of the Institute of Zootechnics in Krakow in the area of research on effectiveness of scientific studies and factors affecting stabilisation of teams in the Zootechnical Experimental Station. Cooperation with the Institute of Zootechnics enabled him extending his research capacity and adding up to already gained experience. The function of consultant corresponded with the specialisation of Stanisław Moskal and enabled improving his scientific methodology, being at the same time one of the forms of cooperation of the Institute of Social and Political Sciences of the Agricultural University in Krakow with the other scientific centres and practice.

Between 15 October 1976 and 7 September 1986, the late Professor Stanisław Moskal was delegated by the Ministry of Science and Higher Education to Polservice. After being granted with unpaid leave at his alma mater, he left to Algeria, where he commenced his duties as the professor in the Institut National Agronomique.

The results of research and studies, performed personally or under the guidance of Stanisław Moskal were published as communications at the scientific conferences or as internal publications of the Institut National Agronomique. There are several from among these works, which require particular attention, such as studies on the issue that have never been taken in Algeria before. One of these includes a fodder balance of Algeria (i.e. a summary of fodder production and needs) with consideration to regional and inter-sectoral differences. The study consisting in nearly 120 pages covered two separate parts – energy balance and nitrogen balance.

During the stay in Algeria, Professor prepared academic books for his courses for the 4<sup>th</sup> year students, of a volume of 150 and 50 pages and a template questionnaire for economic analysis of state holdings.

After his return from Algeria, on 10 September 1986 the late Professor Stanisław Moskal commenced work in the Department of Economics and Organisation of Agriculture. In November 1986 he took a position of the consultant in the Central Agricultural Education and Progress Centre, division in Krakow at 1 Meiselsa Street.

In 1997-1998 Professor was a member of the team for preparation of the Małopolska Agriculture and Rural Development Programme at the Małopolska Regional Council. Along with his friend, the late PhD Andrzej Kotala, Professor of the Agricultural University, they worked-out local rural development strategies for the following communes: Gręboszów, Bolesław, Mędrzechów and Olesno.

Apart from intensive cooperation and practice, Professor managed also to conduct educational activity. In 1999 he developed an educational programme for the Basic

sociology course at the Faculty of Biotechnology. He lectured the Issues of Rural Sociology and Development course for the Agricultural Economy specialisation at the extramural studies and the Sociology of Rural Areas and Agriculture course for the Faculty of Marketing and Management.

At the turn of May and June 1999, Professor acted as the coordinator of scientific internship of the French doctoral candidate, Magala Reinert from the Universite Paris, writing the doctoral dissertation entitled *La paysannerie des Carpates polonaises face a l'Europe*. On 1 August 2004, the late Professor PhD Stanisław Moskal was nominated the full professor by the Minister of National Education and Sports, Mirosław Sawicki. In 2005 the Professor retired. In the same year he received a personal award of the Rector of the Hugo Kołłątaj University of Agriculture in Krakow for exceptional achievements. He was also presented with a Gold Cross of Merit and two awards of the Minister of Science and Higher Education for achievements in scientific, research and educational work. The retirement did not spell the end of his activity. In 2012, he wrote an autobiography *Niegdysiejsze śniegi, niegdysiejsze mgły (Past snows, past mists)* dedicated to his grandchildren. The book was written in Wierzbanowa, the beloved wooden house, where you could meet the Professor working at construction of small retention reservoirs and other structures – with his outstanding hands that could handle both a pen and a spade. Professor was a remarkable and hard-working man who helped the young adepts of science in finding their own “imagnoscope” and writing doctoral dissertations. It was the support from the Professor that enabled many researchers to gain their titles, degrees and promotions.

Scientific output of the Professor covers more than 220 interdisciplinary publications focused on rural sociology and economics of agriculture. These included among others:

- transformation of agriculture in the economic development process,
- transformations of socio-economic structure of population,
- operation of peasant farms,
- labour resources in rural areas,
- cultural and civilisational aspects of rural development, including ecological awareness of rural inhabitants.

One of the greatest skills of the Professor was presenting the papers and lecturing. He spoke lightly and fluently. The audience could not tear away from his stories or get bored with them. Thus, he has been frequently asked to give lectures at various conferences or symposiums.

The funeral of Professor PhD Stanisław Moskal was held on 16 May 2019 at the Rakowicki Cemetery. He was bid goodbye by his family, many friends, colleagues and co-workers and the representatives of the Hugo Kołłątaj University of Agriculture in Krakow. At this University, in room 139 at the 21 Mickewicza Street, you can still sense smoke from the Professor’s beloved pipe. It is a great pity that this flavour has been slowly trailing away.

*Dr Jacek Puchala*  
*dr Agnieszka Piotrowska-Puchala*