Dear Reader,

*It gives us pleasure to introduce you to the new **Scientific Board** of „Fibres & Textiles in Eastern Europe". After giving only a list of the Board members in the previous issue, we present herewith brief biographic notes together with the photos of the chairman and the members (in alphabetical order). We are proud to have the opportunity to co-operate with such distinguished, outstanding scientists and researchers who, we hope, will help us not only to maintain the present scientific and editorial level of our journal but also to raise it and broaden the scientific spectrum of the articles presented.*

Editor-in-chief
Bogdan Mac

Chairman

Professor Andrzej Ziabicki, Ph.D., D.Sc.

Prof. Andrzej Ziabicki was born in 1933 in Gdynia, Poland. He graduated from the Technical University of Wrocław with a B.Sc. in Polymer Technology, and obtained his M.Sc. degree in 1956. In 1960 he obtained a Ph.D. in the Physical Chemistry of Polymers from the Technical University of Łódź, and in 1965 a D.Sc. degree in Chemical Engineering from the Warsaw University of Technology. Since 1967 he has been a professor of Polymer Physics and Head of the Polymer Physics Group at the Institute of Fundamental Technological Research (IFTR), Polish Academy of Sciences, Warsaw. Prof. Ziabicki's professional career started in 1956 in the textile and polymer industry. He has been a Research Fellow and Head of the Research Laboratory at the Industrial Research Institute of Synthetic Fibres in Jelenia Góra and Gorzów Wielkopolski. In 1958-1959 he worked as Senior Engineer in the Melt Spinning Department of the 'Stilon' Enterprise, Gorzów Wielkopolski, dealing with the supervision of production quality, and in 1959-1967 he was a Senior Research Fellow at the Industrial Chemistry Institute, Warsaw, involved in polymer research oriented towards industrial applications. From 1967 Prof. Ziabicki worked in basic research at the IFTR, Warsaw, and taught as a part-time professor at Warsaw University (1966-1970). He was a Visiting Professor in the Department of Polymer Chemistry, Kyoto University, Japan (1977-78, 1981-82). Since 1970, Prof. Ziabicki has been involved in freelance scientific & technological consulting in the textile and polymer industry world-wide (DuPont, Monsanto, Dow, 3M, AlliedSignal, Celanese, Shell Chemical Co., Goodyear, Toyobo, Toray, Mitsubishi Rayon, Asahi Chemical Co., Sam Yang, Rhone Poulenc, AKZO, Bayer, Hoechst, Zimmer AG, and many others). He has also been a World Bank expert at China Textile University, Shanghai (1991). Prof. Ziabicki is the author and co-author of several books on fibre science and technology (two in Polish, four in English, translated into Russian and Chinese). He has contributed to 10 collective volumes and published over 300 research papers on fibre formation, fibre and polymer structure, rubber elasticity, crystallisation and molecular orientation, published in J. Chem. Physics, Colloid & Polymer Sci., Macromolecules, Rheologica Acta, J.Polymer Sci., J. Appl. Polymer Sci., J. Non-Newtonian Fluid Mech., Comput. Theor. Polymer Sci., Archive of Mechanics, and others. Prof. Ziabicki has received, among other awards, the S.G. Smith Memorial Medal from the Textile Institute, Manchester (1987). He is a member of the Society of Rheology, European Physical Society and many learned societies.

Members

Professor Valery Bashmetau, Ph.D., D.Sc.

Prof. Valery Bashmetau was born in 1947 in Belarus. In 1971 he graduated from the Vitebsk Technological Institute of Light Industry and in 1977 completed a postgraduate course at the Moscow Textile Institute. In 1979 he obtained a Ph.D. degree in Technical Sciences, and in 1983 he was awarded the academic title of Associate Professor. In 1994 he was given the academic title of D.Sc. in Technical Sciences and in 1994 he was awarded the academic title of Professor. From 1983 Prof. Bashmetau worked as a Head of a Weaving Department. In 1986 he was appointed the Head of the Economic-Technological Faculty. Since 1993 Prof. Bashmetau has been working as the Rector of Vitebsk State Technological University. He is one of the leading scientists in the field of textile production. The results of his research have been published in more than 160 scientific articles. He has made more than 30 inventions authorised by patents. The main directions of Prof. Bashmetau's scientific work are developing new kinds of textile materials and methods of their production, especially investigating and improving the technological processes of weaving production.

Professor Andrzej Błędzki, Ph.D., D.Sc., Dr. h.c. Riga T.U.

Prof. Andrzej Błędzki first studied at the Technical University of Lodz, Poland, at the Textile Faculty and next at the Technical University of Merseburg, Germany, at the Department of Material Sciences. Subsequently he worked as a Research Associate in the research group for high polymer substances at the Technical University of Merseburg, where he obtained his Ph.D. From 1971 till 1987 he was an Assistant and next Chief Engineer at the Institute of Chemical Technology of the Technical University in Szczecin, Poland. One year later, he took on the professorship of Polymer Processing at the department of Mechanical Engineering at the University of Kassel. In 1993, he was appointed the academic title Professor of Technical Sciences in Poland. From 1994 on, Prof. Błędzki was the head of the professorship Polymer and Recycling Technology, which was sponsored by industry and belonged to the Institute of Materials Engineering of the University of Kassel. He retired on October 1, 2010. However, he continues to work at the University of Kassel in the position of Senior Professor. Prof. Błędzki has been honoured numerous times. Apart from the respectable title of Doctorate Honoris Causa, which he received from Riga Technical University, he has been awarded – among others – the following prizes: 1980: Prize of the Polish Technical Association for the development and industrial implementation of new technologies, 1984: Award of the Polish Ministry of Science for excellent scientific research and industrial application in the field of new composite materials, 1998: Polish Order of Merit in gold for excellent merits regarding international university-based collaboration. Andrzej Błędzki was, inter alia, a scholarship holder of the German Humboldt-Foundation (1984/85), Chairman of the research group of Material Sciences of the Polish Academy of Science (1996-98) and Dean of the Department of Materials Engineering of the University of Kassel (2002/05). He is a member of various work communities and research groups. Besides having more than 330 scientific publications in assorted scientific journals and over 200 conference volumes (amount of times cited: 4596, h-index: 31), he has also been the co-organiser of two international conferences for over ten years: "Odour and Emissions of Plastic Materials", "Global WPC and Natural Fibre Composites Congress" and the "Central European Conferences - Recycling of Polymer Materials Science - Industry" in Poland. Prof. Błędzki still works at the West Pomeranian University of Technology in Szczecin (previously the Technical University of Szczecin) at the Institute of Materials Science and Engineering, especially in the field of composites/biocomposites. Apart from this, Prof. Błędzki is active in various scientific advisory boards of central institutions in Poland (including the Polish Academy of Sciences), and coordinates at the Institute of Biopolymers and Chemical Fibres in Lodz, collaborating with several Polish institutes from different sectors and industrial companies.

Professor Chokri Cherif, Ph.D., D.Sc.

Prof. Chokri Cherif graduated in Mechanical Engineering from Rheinisch-Westfälische Technische Hochschule (RWTH University Aachen), specialising in Textile Engineering. He obtained his Ph.D. in 1998, followed by the D.Sc. in 2001, both from RWTH Aachen. During his ensuing employment in industry at Rieter Ingolstadt Spinnereimaschinenbau AG, he held several high-responsibility positions, e.g. Head of Development and Construction, and a member of the Company Management Board, including the Business Unit "Draw Frame". Since October 2005, Professor Cherif has been Director of the Institute of Textile Machinery and High-Performance Material Technology (ITM) at TU Dresden, as well as holding the professorship for Textile Technology at ITM. Currently Professor Cherif is involved in several large-scale projects (e.g. SFB 639, Initiatives of Excellence of the Free State of Saxony "ECEMP", EU projects, Federal Initiatives of Excellence, "Zwanzig20", Initiatives of the Federal Ministry of Research and Technology). From 2010 to 2012 Professor Cherif was the President of the Association of Universities for Textiles (AUTEX). Professor Cherif has been the author of more than 650 scientific publications and more than 100 patents.

Professor Hans-Peter Fink, Ph.D., D.Sc.

Prof. Hans-Peter Fink is the Director of the Fraunhofer Institute for Applied Polymer Research (IAP) at Potsdam, Germany. He studied Physics at the University of Rostock in East Germany and graduated from this University in 1973, obtaining a PhD in 1977. From 1975 to 1992 he was employed at the Institute for Polymer Chemistry in Teltow-Seehof, dealing with structural investigations of cellulose, including cellulose fibers (he obtained a D.Sc. degree in 1991) and PAN-based carbon fibers. Prof. Fink worked as a Visiting Scientist for three months at the University of Helsinki (1985) and at Hokkaido University, Sapporo (1990). From 1992 he was employed at Fraunhofer IAP, and from 2006 he was the Director of that Institute. He holds adjunct professorships for biopolymer science at the Universities of Potsdam and Kassel. His research activities are centred on biopolymers and biocomposites, man-made cellulose fibres, films, nonwovens, and on different types of carbon fibers. In particular he has investigated cellulose fiber formation from solution e.g. the viscose process , carbamate and lyocell technologies, as well as PAN wet spinning and conversion to carbon fibers. Hans-Peter Fink is the author or coauthor of more than 140 scientific papers and 30 patents, is a member of the Advisory Board of several cellulose related scientific journals and was awarded (among others) the Jisuke Hayashi Award of the Japanese Cellulose Society in 2002, and recently the Anselme Payen Award 2012 of the Cellulose and Renewable Materials Division of the American Chemical Society.

Professor Tadeusz Jackowski, Ph.D., D.Sc.

Prof. Tadeusz Jackowski was born in 1934 in Łódź. He graduated from the Technical University of Łódź (TUL) with a M.Sc. degree in 1957. He attained a Ph.D. degree in the Mechanical Technology of Textiles in 1962, and later the degree of D.Sc. in Textile Science and Technology in 1972, both also from the TUL. From 1969, he was Associate Professor and in 1987 became a Professor at the Institute of Mechanical Technology of Fibres, now the Department of Material and Commodity Sciences and Textile Technologies, TUL. Moreover from 1993 to 1998 he was also employed as a part-time Professor at the Textile Research Institute in Łódź. Prof. Jackowski's professional career started in 1957 at the Textile Faculty of TUL. Since his appointment there, he was Head of the Spinning Technology Department until 1998; he was also Deputy Director of the Institute of Mechanical Technology of Fibres (1970-1995), Director of the Institute (1995-1997), Vice-Dean of the Textile Faculty (1973-1977), and Pro-Rector of the TUL (1987-1990). The main areas of Prof. Jackowski's specialisations include the theory of carding, the theory of ring and open-end yarns, the theory of forming rotor yarns, the mass irregularity of fibre streams, the hairiness of yarns, and the technology of cotton and chemical fibre spinning. Prof. Jackowski is the author of about 120 published papers and reviews, as well as the inventor of numerous patents. He is the author and co-author of several books on spinning technology. In addition, Prof. Jackowski is a member of the Łódź Scientific Society, the Polish Textile Association and the Board of the Gdynia Cotton Association.

Professor Vladan Koncar Ph.D., Dr. h.c. Univ. of Iasi.

Prof. Vladan Koncar was born in 1962 and is a Professor at ENSAIT Textile Engineering Institute in Roubaix, France. He obtained his Ph.D. in 1991 at the University of Lille 1 in Villeneuve d'Ascq, France, in the field of the Multirate Control of Complex Systems. Since November 2009 he has been Head of Research at ENSAIT and Director of the GEMTEX research laboratory. Professor Koncar was AUTEX (Association of Universities for Textiles) President from June 2007 to June 2010. Professor Koncar was promoted to Doctor Honoris Causa of the University of Iasi, Romania, in January 2010. He teaches in the fields of communicative & intelligent textiles, automation - continuous and discrete systems, virtual reality and computer networks. His research fields of interest concern multifunctional and intelligent textiles, flexible sensors & actuators, smart textile structures, dynamical modelling of textiles structures and processes as well as hybrid systems. Prof. Koncar has had such international commitments as Scientific Coordinator of MAPICC 3D, Large Scale Integrated Project FP7 (2010 - 2014), Expert of the "Canada Foundation for Innovation – Government of Canada", and EU Commission Expert for FP7 n° EX2006C148160. Prof. Koncar is a member of the Editorial Boards of several International Journals. He was President of the International Scientific Conferences: ITMC 2007, Intelligent Textiles & Mass Customisation (2007 – 2011), International Scientific Conferences ITMC Lille Métropole 2013, Intelligent Textiles & Mass Customisation - Protective textiles (2013), International Scientific Conferences «Futurotextiles», Lille, France (2006) and Courtrai, Belgium (2008). Professor Koncar is the author of more than 200 outstanding scientific articles, book chapters, conference proceedings and patents.

Professor Ryszard Kozłowski, Ph.D., Dr. h.c. Univ. Ibarra

Prof. Ryszard Kozłowski was born in 1938 in Uniejów, Poland. Prof. Kozłowski graduated from A. Mickiewicz University, Poznan, Poland with an M.Sc. in the field of Applied Chemistry and obtained his Ph.D. in Chemical Technology in 1970. In 1990 he was awarded the title of Professor of Technical Sciences. In 1961 he began work at the Institute of Natural Fibres. Between 1976 and 1987 he held the position of Deputy Director for Scientific Affairs at the Institute of Natural Fibres (INF), Poland and General Director from 1987 to 2008, Doctor Honoris Causa of Pontifical Catholic University Ibarra, Ecuador, the Textile Institute, Manchester, UK: Honorary Fellowship from 2008, member of the Council from 1988, and President of Poland TI Section from 1995, from 1989 up to now coordinator of UN-FAO ESCORENA European Cooperative Research Network on Flax and other Bast Plants – in the area of natural fibrous materials, from 2008 coordinator of the ESCORENA Focal Point (European System of Cooperative Research Networks in Agriculture) under the auspices of FAO, the observer (for more than 10 years) of meetings of the Intergovernmental Group on Jute, Kenaf and Allied Fibres held at FAO, and a consultant for UNIDO. From October 2009 he became a scientific advisor of the Institute for Engineering of Polymer Materials and Dyes in Torun, Poland. He has been the author of more than 26 books edited by such Publishing houses as: Woodhead Publishing LTD, Elsevier, Nova Science Publishing, Taylor & Francis, and others. He was the editor of the Handbook of Natural Fibres, 2 volumes, 2012, Woodhead Publishing, UK. In addition, he has been the author of more than 25 patents (including international patents), and 24 implemented technologies. He is also the author and co-author of more than 250 papers connected with the area of natural fibrous materials, their technical application and modification, as well as the flammability and flame retardancy of natural and man-made fibres and derived products. Professor Kozlowski is a member of the American Chemical Society (ACS), the American Association for the Advancement of Science (AAAS), ICOMOS, The Fiber Society, Raleigh, USA, and others. He is the Editor–in–Chief of the Journal of Natural Fibers ed. by Taylor& Francis (USA), the Scientific Bulletin of ESCORENA under FAO auspices, the EUROFLAX Newsletter, and the monthly journal Paints and Varnishes. He is also a member of Scientific/Editorial Committee of the Polymer Research Journal (USA), Colourage (India), the International Journal of Nanochemistry and Nanotechnology, the International Journal of Nanochemistry and Nanobiology, Elastomers, the Indian Journal of Fibre and Textile Research, The Open Industrial & Manufacturing Engineering Journal, and Fibres & Textiles in Eastern Europe. As a Visiting Professor he has delivered many lectures at universities and research centers all over the world e.g. Australia, Brazil, Canada, China, Columbia, Ecuador, Finland, France, India, Malta, New Zealand, Russia, South Africa, the United Kingdom, and the USA, as well as being the evaluator of numerous Ph.D. and Post-doc theses.

Professor Izabella Krucińska, Ph.D., D.Sc.

Prof. Izabella Krucińska completed her studies at the Technical University of Łódź in 1978, and obtained the degree of M.Sc. from the Textile Faculty in Textile Mechanical Engineering. She commenced the Ph.D. studies in 1978 and began her scientific work as Senior Assistant at the Institute of Metrology, Nonwovens, and Clothing Industry (IMNCI) in 1981, both at the same Faculty. Based on her thesis, 'Comparative analysis of fibre blending irregularities in two-component yarns', she was granted a Ph.D. degree, after which she worked as Senior Researcher at the same Institute. In 1992 she obtained the degree of D.Sc. and since 1996 she has been working as Associate Professor. In 1992, Prof. Krucińska was nominated to Deputy Director of the IMNCI. After the dissolution of the Institute, Prof. Krucińska began working as Head of the Department of Textile Metrology, at the same time fulfilling the duty of Dean of the Faculty of Engineering and Marketing of Textiles. Since 2010, when Department of Textile Metrology has changed its name, Prof. Krucińska became the Head of Department of Material and Commodity Sciences and Textile Metrology. In the year 2012 she was nominated to Vice Dean for Science of Faculty of Material Technologies and Textile Design and she is fulfilling the duties till now. Prof. Krucińska has attended scientific training workshops in Toronto, Canada; Denkendorf, Germany; Barcelona, Spain; and Maribor, Slovenia; and has been Visiting Professor at Laval University, Quebec (Canada). She has also participated in many projects financed from European Funds in the 4th, 5th, 6th and 7th Framework Programmes, Structural Funds and also projects finances from national funds. She has ran some of these projects as a leader, and all of them have become successful achievements. The main spheres of Prof. Krucińska's scientific interest include textile metrology and nonwoven technology. Especially her interest is related to biomaterials, filtering materials and materials for wearable electronics. Prof. Krucińska is the author or co-author of 3 dissertations, 2 monographs, 4 academic books and 200 research publications, including 121 in international journals. She has participated in more than 70 conferences. For her scientific activity she was awarded the Medal of the World Intellectual Property Organisation from Genève, Officer's Cross of the Order of Polonia Restituta. Prof. Krucińska is a representative of Polish universities at AUTEX, an Honorary Fellow of The Textile Institute, Manchester, the Institute of Textile Science, Canada, the Polish Textile Association, and the Scientific Association of Łódź.

Professor Anton Marcinčin, Ph.D.

Prof. Anton Marcinčin was born in 1940. He obtained the degrees of M.Sc. in 1962, Ph.D. in 1967, Associate Professor in 1987, Professor. (inauguration) in 2001, all at the Faculty of Chemical and Food Technology, Slovak University of Technology in Bratislava (FCHFT, STU). Since 1962 he worked at the FCHFT, STU as Assistant Professor, Senior Scientific Worker, Associate Professor and Full Professor. Within the 1990-2006 he was Head of Department of Fibres and Textile Chemistry. In the framework of Technology of Polymer Materials he held the following lectures: Surface Phenomena in Polymers, General Technology, Technology of Materials, Fibre Science and Technology, and Technology of Polymer Films. He supervised numerous graduation theses. He was guarantee of the Ph.D. studies of Macromolecular chemistry at the FCHFT, STU. He specialised in surface phenomena in polymers, rheology and processing of complex polymers, development of new and modified fibres as well as in spinning, structure and properties of fibres. He participated as consortium member in two EC projects, as a leader in Slovakia Grant Agency projects (8) and industrial research projects (25), particularly in those concerned the development of pigmented fibres, blend fibres, bioactive and antibacterial chemical fibres, nanocomposite fibres and cellulose products prepared by sulphur-free processes. Professor Marcinčin is author or co-author of 140 research papers, 46 oral presentations and 140 poster contributions at international conferences and 34 patents (10 applied in industry). He is author or co-author of three university scripts and several parts in monograph Polypropylene: An A-Z Reference.

Professor Józef Masajtis, Ph.D., D.Sc.

Prof. Józef Masajtis was born in Vilnius in 1945. He completed his studies at the Technical University of Łódź (TUL) and obtained an M.Sc. degree from the Textile Faculty in 1969. He then worked for nearly 3 years in the textile (cotton) industry, with the majority of that time being a shift manager. After post-graduate studies at TUL (1971-1976) he was granted the degree of Ph.D. and in 1986 that of D.Sc. Since 2001 he has been Full Professor at the Faculty of Engineering and Marketing of Textiles, TUL. Prof. Masajtis' research and educational career began in 1974 at the Weaving Department of the Institute for Mechanical Technology of Fibres, TUL. Between 1992 and 1997 he organised at the TUL a new specialisation - 'textile architecture', working as Chairman of the section; he oversaw and created its transformation into the Department of Textile Architecture, where he has been working as Head of the Department. Prof. Masajtis was also Vice-Dean of the Faculty between 1996 and 1999, and again from 2002. Prof. Masajtis has attended specialised research practice in England, Scotland, Germany, and as a Visiting Professor in Egypt. His main scientific fields of interest are the technology of woven fabrics, optimisation methods in textile applications, the modelling of structures and assortments of textiles, the digital processing of textile images, methodology of solving engineering problems and especially the architecture of textiles. Prof. Masajtis is the owner of many patents, including ones related to warp tension control and warp feeding implemented in modern foreign looms, and is the author & co-author of over 80 publications. Prof. Masajtis is an international expert on the Scientific Board of the Technical University of Riga, Latvia, a representative of Polish universities on the Board of AUTEX and he was an Editor-in-Chief of the Autex Research Journal (2001-2007), Professor Masajtis is a member of the Scientific Association of Łódź. Since 2012 he has fulfilled the duty of Dean of the Faculty of Material Technologies and Textile Design. Under the leadership of Professor Masajtis the Faculty achieved the highest category 'A' after the evaluation performed by the Ministry of Science. Professor Masajtis has been awarded several times by municipal and state authorities, in 2013 he was awarded the Chevalier's Cross of the Order of Polonia Restituta.

Professor Vytautas Mykolas Milašius, Ph.D., D.Sc. Dr. h.c. Riga T.U.

Prof. Vytautas Milašius was born on 20 June 1934 in Kaunas, Lithuania. After completing the 6th High School in Kaunas during 1944-1952, Prof. Milašius graduated from the Faculty of Mechanical Engineering of the Kaunas Polytechnical Institute with a Dipl. Eng. degree in 1957. After his post-graduate studies at the Kaunas Polytechnical Institute, he obtained a Ph.D. degree in 1962, and later the degree of D.Sc. in Technological Sciences in 1975. Since 1976 he has been a Full Professor. Prof. V. Milašius' professional career started in 1957 at the Kaunas Silk and Plush Plant, where he worked as a Senior Designer until 1959. His research and educational work at Kaunas University of Technology (formerly Kaunas Polytechnical Institute) began in 1962. He was in turn Assistant Professor (1962-1963), Senior Reader (1963-1964), Associate Professor (1964-1966), and from 1976 - 2010 Professor at the Department of Textile Technology, and from 1988 - 1993 he was also Chairman of this Department. In 2010 he retired. Prof. Milašius attended profiled advancement courses in Czechoslovakia in 1965, and visited the University of Leeds, the United Kingdom, in 1996. Prof. Milašius is the co-author of such university textbooks as 'Weaving', 'Structure of Woven Fabrics', 'Weave Coding', and 'Design of fabrics, their weaves and ornaments', among others, written in Lithuanian and Russian. He has also been the author of over 150 publications in journals (including those published in Lithuania, the former USSR, the Czech Republic, Poland, and Great Britain) and in the proceedings of domestic and international conferences. From 1993 to 1994 he was chairman of the Commission for Confirmation of Scientific Degrees and Titles of the Lithuanian Scientific Council. Prof. V. Milašius was awarded the Lithuanian State prize in 1965 and 2001, and the Order of Gediminas, Magnus Dux of Lithuania in 1999. In 2012 the Senate of Riga Technical University (RTU) bestowed him the title of Doctor Honoris Causa.

Professor Eng. Jiří Militký, Ph.D., EUR ING

Prof. Jiří Militký was born on 16 June 1949 in Mladé Buky. He graduated with honours from the Technical University of Liberec in 1973. He obtained a Ph.D. degree in Textile Material Engineering in 1982 from TU Liberec, a full professorship in 1993, and the professional title of EUR ING in 1996. Professor Militký is the University Professor of Textile Science and Head of the Department of Material Engineering, Textile Faculty, TU Liberec.. His scientific activities are mainly in the areas of textile physics, textile material engineering, nanocomposites and statistical data treatment. He started work in the field of modelling kinetic processes in the solid phase. In this field he has published about 30 scientific papers. He was engaged in the State Textile Research Institute at the Department of Mathematical Modelling of Textile Structures from 1973 to 1976. There he realized research in the field of statistical data analysis and quality control. On these themes he published 4 books and about 100 scientific papers. From 1976 to 1989 he was engaged at the Research Institute of Textile Finishing in Dvůr Králové in many positions, from Head of the Research Department to Scientific Secretary, working in the field of textile dyeing, the physics of fibers, mathematical modelling in the textile branch and control of dyeing and drying processes. In collaboration with Pardubice University he worked in the field of chemometrics in analytical laboratories, where his two volumes of monographs, published in England, were finished in 1994 and 1996. Since 1989 he has been active at the Technical University of Liberec (TUL). He taught at the Department of Textile Materials (textile fibers, textile testing. quality control, mathematical modelling) from 1989. In 1995 he was appointed Academician of the Ukraine Academy of Engineering Sciences. From 1991 to 1993 he was Vice Chancellor for foreign relations and from 1994 till 2000 he was Dean of the Textile Faculty. From 2001 till 2003 Prof. Militký was Vice Chancellor for Science and Foreign Relations. From 2004 till 2008 he was again Dean of the Textile Faculty. Currently he is the Head of Department of Material Engineering. He is the author or co-author of 19 books, about 160 scientific papers published in journals, and more than 400 scientific contributions at international conferences. His total number of citations according to the Web of Science is 272 and the H-index is 9. He is also the organiser of the Textile Science and Strutex conferences.

Professor Heinrich M. F. Planck, Ph.D., D.Sc.

Prof. Heinrich M. F. Planck was born on 4 November 1947 in Rottenburg/Neckar, Germany. After completing his studies in Mechanical Engineering, Textile Machinery & Textile Technology and Microtechnics at the Technical University of Stuttgart, Germany, and obtaining a Dipl. Eng. degree, he graduated with a Ph.D. degree in Biomedical Application of Textiles from the University of Stuttgart. Since 1998 he has been Professor of Textile Technology & Textile Machinery at the University of Stuttgart, teaching in Textile Technology and Textile Machinery, and in Biomedical Engineering & Biomedical Processing. Independent of his scientific activities at the University of Stuttgart, Prof. Planck was a scientist at the ITV Institute of Textile Technology and Process Engineering, Denkendorf, Germany, from 1974. From 1979 he was Director of the Departments of Biomedical Engineering and Braiding Technology & Fibre-Reinforced Materials of ITV Denkendorf. In October 1998 he was appointed Director of the ITV Institute of Textile Technology and Process Engineering, Denkendorf, where he worked to 2013. Prof. Planck was President of the German Society of Biomaterials from 1998 to 2001, and he was also a member of EU Cost-Action 628: Environmental Aspects in Textile Industry, a Council Member of the European Society for Biomaterials, a member of the Board of Textranet (the European Network of Innovative Textile Institutes). At present Prof. Planck is Vice President of Alliance of Fiber Based Materials Baden Wüerttemberg, member of the Board of Leichtbauzentrum Baden Wüerttemberg and CEO of Polymedics Innovations GbmH Denkendorf (Germany), as well as a member of several boards of international publishers. Evidence of his scientific and technological activity can be seen in the 50 patents he owns.

Professor Zoran Stjepanovič, D.Sc.

Prof. Zoran Stjepanovič was born in 1958. He graduated from the Faculty of Technical Sciences at the University of Maribor, Slovenia, in 1982, and obtained an M.Sc. degree in Technical Sciences after completing his studies in 1990. Based on his thesis "Determination of Cotton Fibre Blends by Means of Artificial Intelligence Methods", he was awarded a Ph.D. degree in 2000 from the same University. Presently he has been elected Associate Professor for two areas of specialisation: Textile Technology, and Computer-Based Systems for Textile Applications. After his graduation in 1982, Zoran Stjepanovič held the position of spinning plant engineer at a textile factory in Maribor until 1985. From 1985 he worked at the Department of Textile Materials and Design at the Faculty of Mechanical Engineering in Maribor as Head of the Laboratory for Textile Technologies and Computer Science for Textile Applications as well as Deputy Head of the Institute of Engineering Materials and Design. His primary research interests include modern mechanical textile technologies, advanced methods for the prediction of spun yarn properties, computer-aided information systems for textile applications, machine learning, and simulation/visualisation of textile forms. Prof. Stjepanovič publishes the results of his research work on a regular basis in leading international journals and presents them at scientific meetings. His personal bibliography contains over 400 bibliographic items. Prof. Stjepanovič is the author or co-author of more than 200 scientific and technical articles and papers published in international and national journals and conference proceedings. He is also the co-author of a book on quality aspects in weaving and of five chapters in scientific monographs. From 2002 to 2009 he was President of the Slovenian Association of Textile Engineers and Technicians, lately renamed the Slovenian Textile Association. For ten years Prof. Stjepanovič was President of the Publishing Council of Tekstilec, the Slovenian journal for textile and clothing technology, and continues working with this journal as a long-standing member of the International Editorial Board. He is also a member of the Editorial Board of the Serbian journal Tekstilna Industrija. From 1985 onwards he was a coordinator or member of research teams of numerous international and national research projects. He has been a Visiting Professor at many foreign universities, among others, at Ghent University, Cologne University of Applied Sciences, Istanbul Technical University and Carinthia University of Applied Sciences, Villach.

Professor Janusz Szosland, Ph.D., D.Sc., Dr h.c. MGAT, Dr. h.c. of TUL

Prof. Janusz Szosland was born on 16 January 1925. In 1952 he received an M.Sc. degree from the Textile Faculty of the Technical University of Lodz (TF TUL). In 1962 he obtained a Ph.D. degree, and in 1966 a D.Sc. degree, also from TF TUL. In 1973 he was appointed Professor, and Full Professor in 1986. Between 1950 and 2000 he worked at the TF TUL as Head of the Weaving Department (1967-70), and Director of the Institute of Textile Mechanical Engineering (1970-95), while also fulfilling the duties of Dean of the TF (1969-1975), and working for over 45 years as Head of Weaving Specialisation (with 1080 M.Sc. and Eng. theses promoted). Under his scientific supervision 21 Ph.D. dissertations were written and two scientists were granted the title of Doctor Honoris Causa of the TUL. Among the Ph.Ds promoted, six of them obtained the degree of D.Sc. and then the title of Professor. The main fields of his scientific activity are mechanics and the technical metrology of textile processes, as well as the structure of woven fabrics. He was personally responsible for creating a new specialisation in the field of textile science, that of textile architecture. His important scientific and technical achievements have come in the fields of the mechanics of threads, optimisation of the kinetic of weaving, the dynamic qualitology of textiles, virtual modelling of textiles, multiphase rotation weaving, and pneumatic clothing. Prof. Szosland is the author and co-author of scientific and teaching books, including 'The Basis of Structure and Technology of Woven Fabrics' (5 editions), and of 6 scientific monographs. He is the author or co-author of 120 original scientific papers published in outstanding textile journals and has given more than 120 conference lectures. He directed the CPBR, MEN, KBN, COPERNICUS, and INCOCOPERNICUS research programmes. Prof. Szosland was the initiator and is still a member of the Polish Engineering Academy, creator of the Scientific Textile Centre and the Polish Textile Industry Chamber, member of the Central Commission for Degrees and Titles (1987-1999), the Consulting Board of the People's State Council (1986-1989), a member and Section-President of the Polish State Committee for Scientific Research (1993-1996), and the initiator and President of 8 Scientific Boards of R&D institutes. He was the initiator and is still the co-organiser of the IMTEX and Cotton Chamber conferences as well as of the Polish Textile Association (PTA), and 'Polonia' congresses. Prof. Szosland was President of the PTA for 25 years and has been its Honorary President since 1999. Prof. Szosland has been awarded the Polonia Restituta Crosses of Cavalry, Officer, Commander, and Commander with Star, the Medal of the Polish National Education Commission, The Gold Star with Diamond of the Interprom, the Honourable Order of the City of Łódź, and the Gold Order of the PTA. He has won the Gold Medal prize (Brussels, 1996), 8 awards from the Polish Minister of High Education, and the Scientific Award of the City of Łódź. He has also been granted the title of Doctor Honoris Causa by the Moscow State Textile Academy and the TUL.

Professor Lieva Van Langenhove, Ph. D., D.Sc. Dr h.c. Aurel Vlaicu Univ.

Prof. Lieva Van Langenhove was born in 1961 in Dendermonde, Belgium. After graduating from Ghent University in 1984 in Textile Engineering, she joined a Belgian integrated textile company as Assistant Research Manager. She conducted internal research projects as well as projects supported by national and European funding in a broad range of topics such as spinning, weaving, dyeing, process monitoring and quality control. After 5 years she returned to the Textile Department at Ghent University, where she obtained her PhD in 1994 on the mechanical modelling of yarns. In 1997 she became Professor in the field of textile process technology. In 2000 she started a new research area, namely smart textiles, in which she was one of the pioneers. In 2012 she became Senior Full Professor at Ghent University. She attended a wide range of scientific, technical and managerial courses and training. Prof. Van Langenhove is the (co)author of more than 200 papers in peer reviewed journals and contributions to international conferences, of 1 book, 13 chapters in books and the editor of 1 book. She has received several prizes for presentations, posters and theses. In 2003 she was awarded the degree of Doctor Honoris Causa at Aurel Vlaicu University in Arad, Romania. She has undertaken approximately 70 research and educational projects at national and European level. Her fields of activity are conceptual design, modelling and testing of textile structures and process technology as well as conductivity based smart textiles. The target fields of application are health care, protection and comfort. In the area of smart textiles Prof. Van Langenhove was the Co-chair of the Thematic Expert Group of the European Technology Platform for Textiles and Clothing, Coordinator of the coordination action SYSTEX, and she contributes to policy making through active participation in several international networks and activities. She is a regular reviewer for many international journals and funding agencies. Educational activities include lectures at Ghent University (textile process technologies, smart textiles and applied statistics) and E-TEAM (smart textiles). She is regularly invited as a guest to lectures worldwide. She is member of several UGhent committees related to the management of academic, technical and administrative staff, gender mainstreaming, operational management etc.. She has been a member of the University Council and the Board of Directors of an Association of Schools. Currently she is a member of the Board of Directors of the Flemish Institute for the Stimulation of Innovation in Industry. She also chairs the Educational Board of the UGhent master programme in material science.

Institute of Biopolymers and Chemical Fibres
Instytut Biopolimerów i Włókien Chemicznych IBWCh

Director of the Institute: *Danuta Ciechańska Ph.D., D.Sc., Eng.*

The research subject *of IBWCH is conducting scientific and development research, as well as implementing their results into praxis in the following fields:*

- *processing, modifying, and application of biopolymers,*
- *techniques and technologies of manufacturing, processing, and application of chemical fibres and other polymer materials and related products,*
- *techniques and technologies connected with manufacturing, processing and application of products of the pulp and paper industry and related branches*

R&D activity *includes the following positions, among others:*

- *biopolymers – modifying and processing,*
- *functional, thermoplastic polymers,*
- *biodegradable polymers and products from recovered wastes,*
- *industrial biotechnology, e.g. bioprocesses for modifying and processing polymers and fibres, and biosyntheses of nano-biomaterial polymers,*
- *biomaterials for medicine, agriculture, and technique,*
- *nano-technologies, e.g. nano-fibres, polymer nano-coatings, nano-additives for fibres.*
- *processing of polymer materials into fibres, films, micro-, and nano- fibrous forms, and nonwovens,*
- *paper techniques, new raw material sources for manufacturing paper pulps,*
- *environmental protection,*

The Institute is active *in inplementig its works in the textile industry, medicine, agriculture, plastic processing, filter and packing materials manufacturing, as well as in the cellulose and paper industries.*

The Institute is equipped *with unique technological apparatuses and equipment. An outstanding example is the technological line for fibre spinning by the wet method which enables cellulose, chitosan, alginate, starch, and composite fibres to be spun.*

The Institute is member *of domestic and international scientific organisations, the following, among others: EPNOE - European Network of Excellence, Polish Technological Platform of the Textile Industry, European Technological Platform of the Textile & Clothing Industries, 'Pro Humano Tex' Consortium, Centre of Advanced Textile Technologies Friendly for Human Beings, ENVITECH-Net - 'Technologies of Environmental Protection' Int. Scientific Network, 'Biodegradable Polymers from Renewable Resources' - Int. Scientific Network. Polish Scientific Network for 'Nano-technologies in Textile Science and Praxis.*

The Institute organises *educational courses and workshops in fields related to its activity.*

The Institute's offer of specific services *is wide and differentiated, and includes:*

- *physical, chemical and biochemical investigations of biopolymers and synthetic polymers,*
- *physical, including mechanical investigation of fibres, threads, textiles, and medical products,*
- *tests of antibacterial and antifungal activity of fibres and textiles,*
- *investigation in biodegradation,*
- *investigation of morphological structures by SEM and ESEM*
- *investigation and quality estimation of fibrous pulps, card boards, and paper products, including paper dedicated to contact with food, UE 94/62/EC tests, among others.*
- *Certification of paper products.*

The Institute is active *in international cooperation with a number of corporation, associations, universities, research & development institutes and centres, and companies.*

The Institute is publisher *of the scientific journal* ***'Fibres and Textiles in Eastern Europe'****; the journal is since 1999 on the 'Philadelphia List' of the Institute for Scientific Information.*

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