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## REPORT

### The 22<sup>nd</sup> Didactic Conference on Teaching Quality Evaluation Methods, 10-11 June 2013, Łódź, Poland,

The 22<sup>nd</sup> edition of Polish nationwide **Didactic Conference** was titled *Teaching Quality Evaluation Methods (Metody oceny jakości nauczania)* and was held in **Łódź** from 10<sup>th</sup> to 11<sup>th</sup> June 2013. The Conference was organized by the **Institute of Statistics and Demography** of the University of Łódź, with the cooperation of the **Institute of Econometrics** of the University of Łódź, under the honorary auspices of the **President of the City of Łódź, Ms. Hanna Zdanowska**. The **City of Łódź Office** and **StatSoft Polska Sp. z o.o.** were official partners of the 2013 Didactic Conference. **Prof. Czesław Domański** held the function of the Chairman of the Scientific and Organizing Committees. **Aleksandra Kupis-Fijałkowska**, M.Sc. was the first secretary of both Committees and **Anna Majdzińska**, M.Sc. was the second secretary of the Organizing Committee.

The Didactic Conference Organizers aimed to provide an opportunity for academic teachers and tutors, especially in fields such as mathematics, statistics, econometrics, finance, economy and national accounts, demography and demometry, to present their teaching problems and reflections, as well as analyze and discuss recent scientific observations in this area. The 2013 edition of the Conference was focused on the Teaching Quality and methods of its evaluation.

The Conference was opened by the Chairman of the Scientific Committee **Prof. Domański**. On the Opening session the next speakers were respectively: **Prof. Zofia Wysokińska**, Pro-Rector in Charge of International Affairs, who was the representative of the Rector of the University of Łódź, **Prof. Włodzimierz Nykiel** and **Prof. Janusz Świerkocki**, Pro-Dean for International Cooperation and Course of Studies of International Economic Relations, Economics, who was representing the Dean of The Faculty of Economics and Sociology of the University of Łódź, **Prof. Paweł Starosta** and the Pro-Dean for Research, **Prof. Agnieszka Rossa**.

Briefly, the key statistics of the **2013 Didactic Conference** look as follows: 63 participants altogether, including the Senator of the Republic of Poland and the President of Polish Accreditation Committee, **Prof. Marek Rocki**, the representative of the Central Statistical Office of Poland, **Prof. Włodzimierz Okrasa**, academic teachers, scientists and Ph.D. students representing 12 Polish

universities and practitioners; 5 plenary sessions with 13 presented papers, 1 Jubilee session and 1 Discussion Panel.

The first session was organized to celebrate The International Year of Statistics and was led by **Prof. Okrasa** (Cardinal Stefan Wyszyński University in Warsaw, Central Statistical Office of Poland). It was started by **Prof. Rocki** (Senator of the Republic of Poland, Polish Accreditation Committee, Warsaw School of Economics), who spoke about *The Condition of Statisticians Education in Reports of the Polish Accreditation Committee*. The second speech *Statistics – Science About Information Ensuring the Quality of Teaching* was given by **Prof. Domański** (University of Łódź).

These two mentioned above presentations formed a solid introduction to the next part of the Conference, which was a *Discussion Panel Statistics as a Profession – Statistician as an Occupation*, prepared and moderated by **Prof. Okrasa**. The following experts were invited by the Organizers to take part in it (by alphabetical order): **Prof. Domański** (University of Łódź), **Prof. Józef Dziechciarz** (Wrocław University of Economics), **Prof. Mirosław Krzyśko** (Adam Mickiewicz University in Poznań), **Prof. M. Rocki** (Senator of the Republic of Poland, Polish Accreditation Committee, Warsaw School of Economics), **Prof. Janusz Wywiał** (University of Economics in Katowice). This event was open for everyone, therefore also other prominent statisticians, as well as less experienced ones and many representatives of other teaching fields, for example demography or econometrics, participated in the discussion. [The detailed information about this panel, as well as important conclusions and further recommendations can be found in this *Statistics in Transition - new series* issue by the panel organizer].

The second plenary session was led by **Prof. Rocki** (Senator of the Republic of Poland, Polish Accreditation Committee, Warsaw School of Economics) and the following papers were presented: *Quality measurement in the EU concept of the entrepreneurial university* by **Prof. Dziechciarz** (Wrocław University of Economics), *The Interplay Between Entrepreneurship Education and Students' Entrepreneurial Intentions* investigated by **Jacek Bialek** and **Agnieszka Kurczewska** (University of Łódź) and *Methods for Assessing the Quality of Teaching – Quantitative Methods for Economics and Business* by **Grzegorz Kończak** and **Jolanta Bernais** (University of Economics in Katowice).

The third session was chaired by **Prof. Krzyśko** (Adam Mickiewicz University in Poznań) and 3 papers were discussed here: *Analysis of the Results of the Compensatory Courses in Mathematics Realised in the Affiliate Branch of the Warsaw University of Technology in Plock* by **Izabela Józefczyk**, **Romuald Malecki** and **Roman Rumianowski** (Warsaw University of Technology, Affiliate Branch in Plock), *Evaluation of Quality of Teaching at the Example of the Faculty of Economics of the West Pomeranian University of Technology in Szczecin* by **Iwona Bąk** and **Katarzyna Wawrzyniak** (West Pomeranian University of Technology in Szczecin) and *Modernization of mathematics courses*

in departments of economics, by supplementary remarks about elements of complex analysis by **Janusz Kupeczun** (University of Łódź).

The next session of the Conference was a special Jubilee one and was led by **Prof. Rossa**. It was organized by the **Institute of Statistics and Demography of University of Łódź** with cooperation of the **Polish Statistical Association**. This session took place to celebrate the 45<sup>th</sup> anniversary of **Prof. Domański**'s scientific and academic work. **Prof. Domański** is the author or co-author of almost 200 research papers and 22 books in the field of mathematical statistics, financial statistics and risk theory. He also acted as supervisor of numerous PhD dissertations and is recognized as a great teacher of many generations of students. **Prof. Domański** was awarded several prestigious prizes. **Prof. Jerzy T. Kowaleski** and **Prof. Alina Jędrzejczak** (University of Łódź) prepared *Scientific Curriculum Vitae of Professor Czesław Domański*. The Authors thoroughly described the biographical profile, including scientific publications and academic achievements of the Jubilarian. Also, **Prof. Jędrzejczak** presented the Session's Participants with a video with the interview of **Prof. Domański** and **Prof. Walenty Ostasiewicz** about Statistics given to the Reporter of the Polish Television, **Monika Włodarczyk**.

On the second day of the 22<sup>nd</sup> Didactic Conference, 2 sessions had place. Respectively, the fourth plenary session and the first one on the 11<sup>th</sup> June was chaired by **Prof. Andrzej Sokółowski** (Cracow University of Economics). The following papers were presented: *Didactics and Changes in the Student Community – A Review* by **Lilianna Jarmakowska-Kostrzanowska** (University of Łódź), *Selected Statistical Analysis Methods in Assessment of the Learning Outcomes in the Example of the Descriptive Statistics Exam Results* by **Małgorzata Misztal** (University of Łódź) and *Implementation of Continuous Quality Improvement Method in Higher Education* prepared by **Elżbieta Zalewska** (University of Łódź).

The sixth plenary session, which was led by **Prof. Kowaleski** (University of Łódź) was devoted to the teaching of demography and its evaluation at the higher education level. During this session the following papers were discussed: *Methods of Evaluation in Teaching Demography and Related Subjects* – a presentation delivered by **Anna Majdzińska** on behalf of its Author, **Milena Lange** (University of Łódź), and *Essence of Teaching Demography in the Context of Trends and Country's Development Strategy* prepared and presented by **Anna Majdzińska** and **Anna Wierzbicka** (University of Łódź).

The 22<sup>nd</sup> edition of the **Didactic Conference Teaching Quality Evaluation Methods** was closed by the Vice-Chairman of the **Institute of Statistics and Demography** of the University of Łódź and the Chairman of the Łódź Branch of the Polish Statistical Association, **Prof. Jędrzejczak**. On behalf of the Scientific and Organizing Committees, **Prof. Jędrzejczak** summarized the Conference as very effective. The importance of the high quality education and the problem of its reliable assessment were emphasized. Also, in the context of the Discussion

Panel led by **Prof. Okrasa**, the role of Statistical Literacy in the modern societies and the need of popularizing profession of statistician were mentioned.

The publication entitled *Acta Universitatis Lodzensis, Folia Oeconomica. Metody oceny jakości nauczania (Methods of Assessment of the Quality of Teaching)* is the publishing output of the 2013 Didactic Conference. It was edited by **Alina Jędrzejczak** and **Aleksandra Kupis-Fijałkowska** (printed by the Łódź University Press).

The next round of the meeting series known as the Didactic Conference will be devoted to *Academic teacher and new educational challenges*. It is planned on **June 9<sup>th</sup>-10<sup>th</sup>, 2014** (also in Łódź) - **details will be given in a separate announcement.**

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