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Letter of President of the Polish Physical Society
Prof. dr hab. Katarzyna Chałasińska-Macukow

Dear Participants of the 8th Polish Symposium on Physics in Economy and Social Sciences

I remember well the First Polish Symposium on Physics in Economy and Social Sciences of Polish Physical Society’s Section FENS (Polish acronym), which I opened in 2004 in Warsaw. That time, it was organized by two Universities: the University of Warsaw and the Technical University of Warsaw, and had domestic character. Successive Symposia have been organized by different Polish Universities (in Cracow, Wrocław, Rzeszów, again Warsaw, Gdańsk, and Lublin). It inspired development of local econo- and sociophysical societies as well as Polish econo- and sociophysical society as a whole.

All of us are convinced that one should create and explore scientific, inter-, multi-, and cross-disciplinary links between methods used in physics — particularly in physics of complex systems, and economical, financial or social phenomena. In fact we notice that the interest of international scientific community in these research areas and their applications is constantly increasing and “econophysics” and “sociophysics” have become well recognized fields of contemporary science.

I am proud that the present Symposium has an international character taking together so many prominent scientists from different countries. I am happy that this Symposium is organized by the University of Rzeszów, where the Faculty of Mathematics and Natural Sciences has its new beautiful residence. I am sure that this residence will be enjoyable for all of you. I may say that this Symposium is a festival of the Polish econo- and sociophysical society and from this meeting it opens also its borders to international community of physicists, economists and sociologists who work on interdisciplinary applications of network science and physics of complex systems.

On behalf of the Polish Physical Society and myself, I wish all of you the inspiring and fruitful debates and nice staying in this quickly developing town of the south-east part of Poland.
Preface

The present issue offers a collection of selected papers that follow invited and contributed talks as well as posters presented at the 8th Polish Symposium on Physics in Economy and Social Sciences organized by the section: Physics in Economy and Social Sciences FENS (a Polish acronym) of the Polish Physical Society. The biannual symposium was hosted this time by the University of Rzeszów, Poland, November 4–6, 2015. All presented abstracts, posters and presentations are available at the web site http://science24.com/event/fens2015/. We are thankful to the Polish Ministry of Science and Higher Education, Polish Physical Society, and the University of Rzeszów for the substantial financial support.

The scientific meeting was a successful continuation and extension of previous FENS symposia that had taken place in Warsaw (2004, 2010), Cracow (2006), Wrocław (2007), Rzeszów (2009), Gdańsk (2012) and Lublin (2014) (see http://old.ptf.net.pl/fens/). Present symposium had, for the first time, an international character bringing together many prominent scientists from around the world. Following the long tradition this meeting gathered physicists, mathematicians, economists, sociologists, Ph.D. students and graduate students coming from various Universities and research Institutes, as well as business practitioners. All of us are convinced that one can and should create and explore scientific, inter-, multi-, and cross-disciplinary links between methods used in physics — particularly in physics of complex systems — and economical, financial or social phenomena. We do observe that the interest of scientific community in these research areas and their applications is constantly growing.

The forthcoming 9th FENS Symposium will be a joined event with the Econophysics Colloquium — at present the greatest international conference of the econophysics community. It is going to take place in Warsaw in summer 2017 and will be co-organized by University of Warsaw, Technical University of Warsaw and Warsaw University of Life Sciences.

Editors of the Proceedings