

In Memory
Professor Robert R. Gałązka
(1937–2021)



It was almost a year ago, in April 2021, after receiving the sad message that Professor Robert R. Gałązka had unexpectedly passed away, the Director of the Institute of Physics of the Polish Academy of Sciences, Roman Puźniak, called me and asked to coordinate the edition of a special issue of *Acta Physica Polonica A* in memory of the Professor. The idea put forward by the Director was to collect not so much “witnesses’ reminiscences about their encounters with Robert R. Gałązka”, but to publish true novel scientific papers authored by colleagues who had collaborated with Robert during his long scientific career. I gladly agreed to the suggestion. I am convinced that Robert deserved such a tribute and would like to be remembered in such a way. Robert was my first formal boss at the Institute of Physics and the person who introduced me to the then-emerging physics of semimagnetic semiconductors — a term which He coined in the process of development of the field.

Robert R. Gałązka was a notable personality, an important figure in the happenings at the Institute of Physics and in the international community in the field. Therefore, needless to say, when I wrote letters to some fifteen colleagues asking if they would be willing to contribute to such an issue of *Acta Physica Polonica A*, nearly all of them agreed. In December 2021, I was able to receive and submit to the editorial office of *Acta Physica Polonica A* five papers that follow this introductory note. There are all marked in their running titles as papers in memory of Professor Robert R. Gałązka.

I wish to express my gratitude to all the authors for supporting this initiative. I hope that their work will not go unnoticed and will become a scientific tribute to Robert.

Jacek Kossut
Guest editor