

The Morning Star

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Poland 2023

- Prof. Aniket Sule
- Cultural evening
- Henryk Arctowski

foto: Jarosław Juszkiewicz

Schedule of 16th International Olympiad on Astronomy and Astrophysics, Poland

Day 10 → 19th August 2023 Saturday

Students

08.00—09.15	Breakfast
09.15	Meeting point in the parking lot
09.30—10.30	Transfer to The International Congress Centre (ICC)
11.00—14.00	Closing Ceremony
14.00—15.15	Lunch at the ICC
15.30—16.30	Transfer to the hotel
16.30—19.00	Free time
19.00 -20.30	Dinner

Team Leaders

07.00—08.45	Breakfast
08.45	Meeting point in the parking lot
09.00—10.30	Transfer to The International Congress Centre (ICC)
11.00—14.00	Closing Ceremony
14.00—15.15	Lunch at the ICC
15.30—17.00	Transfer to the hotel
17.00—19.00	Free time
19.00—20.30	Dinner



The weather forecast

Saturday, Aug 19th 2023

Wind NW

3 km/h

Lowest temperature (morning)

18-20C / 64,4-68F

Highest temperature (afternoon)

28-29C / 82,4-84,2F

Sunrise **05:36**

Sunset **19:57**



Interview with Prof. Aniket Sule – President of International Olympiad on Astronomy and Astrophysics

How would you summarize 16th Olympiad on Astronomy and Astrophysics in Poland?

Organizing any IOAA in any country has a number of challenges. For example, finding correct sized examination halls or good accommodation for all participants. But more than that, there's also a problem of designing very good questions, questions which will be good for the students at this level, but at the same time they will be challenging. This year the questions are really nice. There is not much discussion happening in most questions because leaders are satisfied. That means the jury has done this job fantastically.

And what do you think about the organizational part of this Olympiad?

We are coming back to Poland after 12 years. Last time also, Poland had made very nice arrangements, but this time it is even better. So the hotel, the location are fantastic. The examination halls are very good. Everything is happening on time. There is no problem so far anywhere. So this is the best organized Olympiad in all these years.

And who will be the Winner?

I can't tell you this yet. But remember that medals are not the main purposes of Olympiad. The main goals of the Olympiad are the friendships you create and what you learn. So if you learn a lot many things, if you get a lot of friends, then you are the winner.



Please meet Paweł Mikołajczyk – our photographer and cameraman, who also interviewed the participants of the 16th International Olympiad on Astronomy and Astrophysics. Paweł, thank you very much for your job!

Cultural evening

It was an extraordinary and magical evening. The Team Leaders could finally meet their students after a few days of separation. There were moments of tears and strong emotions, and then some fun at a cultural evening, during which individual teams performed music, songs and dances characteristic of their country. Leaders and students had fun together. Now it's time to relax before the results of the Olympiad will be announced.



Henryk Arctowski (1871–1958)

Henryk Arctowski was a polar explorer who studied the mysteries of unexplored Antarctica. He was also a pioneer of climatology.

He was born in Warsaw in 1871. As a child, he was called Artzt because his ancestors had moved to Poland from Württemberg two centuries earlier. When he was ten years old, his parents enrolled him in the gymnasium in Inowrocław. After three years his parents transferred him to a school in Belgium.

Henryk Arctowski (although his surname was still Artzt) started to study astronomy, but his relatives urged him to change the field. They thought that astronomy was impractical. Henryk began to study chemistry with geochemistry, petrography, and mineralogy. He also studied geology. He explored all these subjects at the Sorbonne in Paris, the Natural History Museum, the College de France, and the School of Mines.

From France, he went to Liège and was hired at the university at the age of 22. In those days he began to use the name Arctowski because he wanted to sign his scientific papers "in Polish." Within two years, he published about 20 of them. Then he was persuaded to take part in the famous Belgian Antarctic Expedition, of which he also became the scientific director.

The ship they sailed on was called "Belgica." It was a small sailing ship and, due to limited funds, had already been used before. Arctowski became the ship's meteorologist, glaciologist, and oceanographer.

The journey was not an easy one - the ship was trapped in a field of ice for a long 13 months! Before the Belgica, no ship had ever wintered in the Antarctic ice. The expedition was groundbreaking. Most importantly, the crew made many observations and collected data that served as a prelude to further research.

After returning from the expedition, Arctowski got a position at the Royal Meteorological Observatory in Uccle. The Polish researcher devoted most of his time to studying the climate of the planet. He even became the head of the meteorological station. After moving to USA Arctowski worked in New York Public Library, where he served as the natural history department director. Later, he returned to Poland to work at the Jan Kazimierz University in Lviv. He thought that he had returned to free Poland permanently. However, in August 1939, he and his wife



left for a congress in the United States. While he was overseas, World War II broke out in Europe, which kept the Arctowskis in America for the rest of their lives.

Arctowski is best known for his discoveries of the Belgian Antarctic Expedition. Three out of ten volumes of the great work published after the expedition mainly presented our compatriot's discoveries.

Today, climate research is conducted in hundreds of scientific institutes and at almost every university in the world. When Henry Arctowski conducted it, the climate was studied by few. Yet his team analyzed climate change for nearly every area in the world.

Henryk Arctowski published over 400 scientific papers. Many of them gave rise to new fields of science. In recognition of his contributions, the Polish Antarctic Station, which is located on Admiralty Bay on King George Island in Antarctica, was named after him. The station was commissioned in 1977, is year-round, and consists of several buildings. In addition, many places in the polar regions that he tamed for world science hold Arctowski's name. In Antarctica, we can find Arctowski's peninsula, peak, or nunataks. On the other side of the globe, in Spitsbergen, we have the mountain and glacier dedicated to the Polish discoverer. It can be said that the names of all these places are the fulfillment of the dream of our polar explorer, who, by changing his name, hoped that Poland would be present in world science.

dr Tomasz Rożek

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