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KEYNOTE SPEAKER



Professor Stefan Jan KOWALSKI obtained his M.A. degree in applied mechanics from the Poznań University of Technology (Poland) in 1970, and his PhD in 1975. Since 1975 he joined the Polish Academy of Sciences in Warsaw as a lecturer where he carried out investigations in various aspects of mechanics and thermomechanics of fluid saturated porous media, and where in 1980 he completed his PhD.Sc. (habilitation) and was selected as a Senior Lecturer. In 1992 was awarded by the President of Poland with the title Professor of Science, and at the same time was appointed the vice Rector at the Technical University of Zielona Góra. In 1997 he returned to Poznań University of Technology where he founded and became the Chair of the Department of Process Engineering, and where he works up to now as full Professor.

Professor Stefan J. Kowalski is actively involved with thermo-hydro-mechanics of fluid-saturated porous media, and especially in complex studies on drying processes (modelling, numerical simulations, experimental validation) aimed at optimisation of drying processes from economic and product quality point of view. He is experienced also in technology of sedimentation and consolidation (dewatering) of flocculated and unflocculated suspensions.

Professor Stefan J. Kowalski was awarded with the Alexander von Humboldt and the British Science and Engineering Research Council Fellowships, and visited several other Universities in Europe. His scientific output is: 13 books or chapters in books, 188 scientific articles (mostly in international journals); 115 paper presentations at conferences (mostly international); 22 invited lectures in domestic and abroad Institutes, and 12 plenary lectures at national and international conferences. He is a member of several national and international societies, among others, the member of the Committee of Chemical and Process Engineering – Polish Academy of Sciences and the member of the Working Party on Drying of the European Federation of Chemical Engineering. He is supervisor of PhD (14), M.Sc. (88), and reviewer of PhD (15), honoris causa (2), habilitation (8), professors (7). As it concerns editorial activity he is the member of *International Advisory Board* "Drying Technology and International Journal", the member of Editorial Committee "Chemical and Process Engineering", the member of *Advisory Board* "The Open Mechanical Engineering Journal" Bentham Science Publisher, and editor of several special issues in these journals.