

Prof. Wiesław Banyś was born on 30 August 1951 in Olkusz. He graduated in romance philology from the Jagiellonian University in 1974. He defended his doctoral dissertation entitled “Ambiguïté référentielle des descriptions indéfinies en Francis” at the Faculty of Philology, University of Silesia, in 1981, and his habilitation dissertation “Théorie sémantique et „si...alors”. Aspects sémantico-logiques de la proposition conditionnelle” at the Faculty of Modern Languages, University of Warsaw, in 1990. He was awarded the title of professor in 2001.

Professor Banyś specialises in: general linguistics and romance linguistics, and in particular in: semantic grammar, cognitive linguistics, cognitive computational lexicography, logical foundations of linguistics, logical fundamentals of linguistics, as well as in applied linguistics, especially in computational linguistics, machine translation and computer-aided translation, electronic databases of specialist lexicons and automatic text indexing and summarization.

Professor Banyś has supervised 13 doctoral theses, has been a reviewer for 5 doctoral theses, 7 habilitation dissertations and 2 professorial nomination forms. He is the author of 5 monographs (3 of which have already been published and 2 are being prepared for print), a French grammar textbook, co-editor of 4 collective volumes, editor of 11 years' issues of journal of linguistics “Neofilologica”, co-editor of 5 years' issues of “Etudes Cognitives/Studia Kognitywne” and author of several dozen papers published in Poland and abroad. He has attended and delivered lectures at domestic and international academic conferences and

congresses. In the years 1977-2004 he concluded 13 research visits at French universities (6 at the Sorbonne), and in 2004 he was a visiting professor at Université Paris-XIII. He is a member of 5 international linguistic societies and associations in Poland, France and the USA. In the years 1992-2007 he took part in 9 international research grants and 2 international research groups.

Furthermore, professor Banyś has held numerous administrative positions, including: 1989-2002 deputy director at the Romance Studies Institute; 1991 - head of the Department of Romance Linguistics at the Romance Studies Institute; 1992-1994 head of Doctoral Studies at the Faculty of Philology at the University of Silesia; 1994-1996 vice dean for Research and International Cooperation at the Faculty of Philology, University of Silesia; 1994-1996 president of the Commission of the Senate of the University of Silesia for Research and International and Domestic Cooperation; 1996-1999 member of the Commission of the Senate of the University of Silesia for Research; 1996-1999-2002 member of the Commission of the Senate of the University of Silesia for Budget and Finance; 1996-1999-2002 dean of the Faculty of Philology at the University of Silesia; 2002-2004 member of the Council of Association France - Pologne pour l'Europe (France - Poland Association for Europe); 2002-2005 director of the Romance Studies Institute at the University of Silesia; 2005 - director of the Institute of Romance Languages and Translation at the University of Silesia (former Romance Studies Institute); 2005 - head of the Department of Romance Linguistics and translation at the Institute of Romance Languages and Translation (former Romance Studies Institute);

2003 - president of the Council of Users of the Silesian Academic Computer Network; 2005 - the University of Silesia's academic supervisor of the French Language Teacher Training College in Cieszyn; 2002-2005 vice rector of the University of Silesia for Research, Cooperation and Promotion; 2005-2008 vice rector of the University of Silesia for Research and Informatization; 2008 - rector of the University of Silesia and president of the Conference of Rectors of Polish Universities for years 2008-2012; 2012- Rector of the University of Silesia in Katowice; 2012- President of the Regional Conference of Rectors of Academic Schools; 2012 - President of the Conference of Rectors of Academic Schools in Poland

For his work for the University of Silesia and his extensive academic and didactic record prof. Wiesław Banyś has received the following awards and decorations: Silver Cross of Merit (1991, 1993), Gold Cross of Merit (1998), Gold Distinction "for services for the University of Silesia" (2005), Palmes Académiques (2006) as well as 1st and 2nd degree awards of HM Rector for research, administrative and didactic work.