



RESOLUTION

naming

THE STANISLAUS A. BLEJWAS
ENDOWED CHAIR IN POLISH AND POLISH-AMERICAN STUDIES
at
CENTRAL CONNECTICUT STATE UNIVERSITY

November 8, 2001

WHEREAS, Stanislaus A. Blejwas was a widely respected teacher and scholar of Polish and Polish-American studies who served Central Connecticut State University with distinction from 1974 until his death on September 23, 2001, and

WHEREAS, Professor Blejwas, who was named the first CSU Professor in 1989, developed a national and international reputation as a scholar devoted to studying the history of Poland, the history and experience of the Polish-American community, and to studying Polish-Jewish relations, and

WHEREAS, Professor Blejwas's service to CCSU embodied the highest standards of teaching, scholarship, collegiality, and community service, and

WHEREAS, Professor Blejwas worked tirelessly to raise the funds needed to establish an Endowed Chair in Polish and Polish-American Studies, and

RESOLVED, That the Board of Trustees for the Connecticut State University System in recognition of Professor Blejwas' distinguished service to Central Connecticut State University hereby designates the Endowed Chair in Polish and Polish - American Studies at Central Connecticut State University to be known now and hereafter as the Stanislaus A. Blejwas Endowed Chair in Polish and Polish - American Studies.

A Certified True Copy:

Lawrence D. McHugh, Chairman

William J. Cibes, Jr., Chancellor

ITEM

Naming the Endowed Chair in Polish and Polish-American Studies

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The Endowed Chair in Polish and Polish-American Studies was established by Board of Trustees in 1997. Until his untimely death in September 2001, Professor Stanislaus A. Blejwas was the incumbent.

Professor Blejwas is remembered as a noted scholar, teacher and colleague. He worked tirelessly to build the Polish studies collection and the Polish -American Archives in the university's Library. Some of Professor Blejwas' many honors and accomplishments include numerous visiting professorships and fellowships; almost 40 published articles in both English and Polish; the Joseph Swastek Prize for the best article in Polish-American Studies (1981,1985 and 1993); appointment to the US Holocaust Memorial Council (1995) by President Clinton; and the decoration with Officer Swords of the Order of Merit of the Republic of Poland by President Aleksander Kwasniewski (1996).

CCSU's Distinguished Service Committee has voted to support the recommendation of the Department of History to name the Chair in Professor Blejwas' honor. This recommendation has the wholehearted support of the University's President.

CHANCELLOR'S RECOMMENDATION

Approve the recommendation of the President of Central Connecticut State University to name the Endowed Chair in Polish and Polish-American Studies at Central Connecticut State University in honor of Stanislaus A. Blejwas.

Academic Affairs



CENTRAL
CONNECTICUT STATE UNIVERSITY

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Richard L. Judd, President

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MEMORANDUM

TO: Dr. William J. Cibes, Jr.
Chancellor, Connecticut State University System

FROM: Richard L. Judd
President

DATE: October 11, 2001

SUBJECT: Naming the Endowed Chair in Polish and Polish American Studies
in Honor of Stanislaus A. Blejwas

I respectfully recommend naming the Endowed Chair in Polish and Polish American Studies at Central Connecticut State University in honor of Stanislaus A. Blejwas.

The University's Distinguished Service Award Committee, chaired by Vice President Bartelt, has voted to support the recommendation from the Department of History. I wholeheartedly approve their recommendation.

The recommendation is prompted by their extraordinary respect and admiration for Professor Blejwas as a scholar, teacher, and colleague. Indeed, Stan was a teacher, scholar and colleague of the highest integrity. In my quote to the newspaper on the occasion of his death, I referred to him as the ojciec (father) of the Polish studies program. He worked tirelessly to build the Polish studies collection and the Polish-American Archives in the Library. From a simple beginning, he built a program of Polish studies which is unparalleled. The Endowed Chair in Polish and Polish American Studies at CCSU is one of only two such chairs in the country – the other being at Harvard University.

My enthusiasm for this recognition is based upon the unique stature and humility of this teacher and gentlemen who is held in high esteem nationally and internationally.

Attached you will find a C.V. for Professor Blejwas and a draft Board of Trustees Resolution. I wonder if this matter can be taken up by the Board of Trustees Development Committee on October 18 so that the full Board can consider the resolution during its meeting at CCSU on November 8.

Thank you for your attention and assistance in this matter.

Enc.

Stanislaus A. Blejwas, PhD
71 Indian Hill Road
Canton, CT 06022-1616
[860] 693-1615

Education:

1963-1973 Columbia University, New York City.
M.A. in History and Certificate from the Institute
on East Central Europe, May, 1966
Ph.D. in Modern East European and Polish History
May, 1973

Dissertation: Warsaw Positivism 1864-1890: Organic
Work as an Expression of National Survival in
Nineteenth Century Poland.

1967-1968, 1969-1970 University of Warsaw, Warsaw, Poland
Dissertation Research

1959-1963 Providence College, Providence, Rhode Island
A.B. in History, Summa cum laude. June, 1963.

Academic
Positions:

Assistant [1974-1979], Associate [1979-1984], and
Professor [1984 to 1989] of History, and
Coordinator of Polish Studies [1974 to present],
Central Connecticut State University, New Britain, CT
06050 [203] 827-7469. Current rank - CSU University
Professor and Professor of History [1989 -].

Visiting Teaching: Columbia University, Fall, 1990 and
1994 "Poland from Partition to Solidarity"; Fall, 1984
and Fall, 1985. "History of Modern Poland." Wesleyan
University, Fall, 1982, "Totalitarianism in Crisis:
The Strikes in Poland and the Origins of Solidarity."
Hartford College for Women, June, 1982. "Poland Before
the Headlines: The Roots of Solidarity." Wesleyan
University, Spring and Summer, 1980, "History and
Culture of Polish Americans." Slavic and East European
Center, The University of Connecticut. Spring, 1977,
1978, 1979 - Courses on Modern Eastern Europe and a
History of Poland. Alliance College, Spring and Fall,
1973. History of Poland; Columbia University,
1973-1974, "Social and Political History of East
Central Europe in the 19th and 20th Centuries."

Academic Honors, Fellowships, and Awards:

Summa cum laude, Providence College, 1963.
Fellowship. Institute on East Central Europe, Columbia University, 1963-64.
Honors Fellow. Institute on East Central Europe, 1964-65.
NDFL Fellowships in Polish 1965-67, 1968-69.
Honorary Fellow, Columbia. 1965-66.
Fulbright-Hays Fellowship to Poland, 1967-68.
IREX to Poland, 1969-70.
Kosciuszko Foundation Doctoral Dissertation Award, 1974.
Grant [\$16,000] from the Connecticut Humanities Council [1980] for an oral history project - Polish Survivors of the Holocaust. Radio broadcast on Ct. Public Radio, April, 1982.
Joseph Swastek Prize of the Polish American Historical Association for the best article in Polish American Studies [1981] - "Old and New Polonias: Tensions Within an Community," XXXVIII, no.2 [1981], 55-83.
Fellowship for NEH Seminar on Immigrant and Ethnic Literature at the U. of Massachusetts [Amherst], June-August, 1982.
Grant [\$59,000] from the National Publications and Records Commission of the National Archives for the organization of the Connecticut Polish American Archives and Manuscript Collection. 1986-1987.
Honorary Fellow at the U. of Minnesota's Immigration History Research Center. June, 1986.
Joseph Swastek Prize for the best article in Polish American Studies [1985] - "Puritans and Poles: The New England Literary Image of Polish Peasant Farmers," XLII, nr. 2 [Autumn, 1985], 46-88.
The Mieczyslaw Haiman Medal of the Polish American Historical Association for contributions to the field. 1990.

Travel grants from the National Endowment for the Humanities and from IREX for research Communist Poland and Polish Americans, Warsaw, June, 1994.
Joseph Swastek Prize for the best article in Polish American Studies [1993] - "Stanislaw Osada: Immigrant Nationalist," L, nr. 1 [Spring 1993], 23-50.
Grant from the Kosciuszko Foundation and the Polish Ministry of Education for research at the Polish State Archives and the Polish Foreign Ministry on Communist Poland and Polish Americans, May-June, 1995

Dr. Blejwas serves of the Board of Directors of the Polish

Institute of Arts and Sciences in America, the Jozef Pilsudski Institute, the Polish American Historical Association, and is a member of the National Polish American - Jewish American Council and of the National Council of the Kosciuszko Foundation. He is a member of the Council of the Polish American Historical Association, and served a term as President of the Association. He currently serves as on the Borad of Directores of the New Britain Public Library.

Dr. Blejwas has served as President of the Polish Cultural Club of Greater Hartford, the Connecticut District of the Polish American Congress, and of the 44 Club.

President William Clinton, in June, 1994, appointed Dr. Blejwas a member of the United States Holocuast Memorial Council. Dr. Blejwas serves on the Council's Research Committee.

In July, 1996, Dr. Blejwas was decorated by President Aleksander Kwasniewski of the Reupblic of Poland with Officer Swords of the Order of Merit of the Republic of Poland.

Publications in Polish History

Books:

Realism in Polish Politics: Warsaw Positivism and National Survival in Nineteenth Century Poland. New Haven: Yale and Slavic and East European Monographs, no. 5. 1984.

Articles:

"The Democratization of the Democratic Ideal: Polish Politics 1864 - 1890." Forthcoming in M. B. Biskupski and J. S. Pula, eds., Polish Democratic Thought, II.

"Alternatives to Romanticism: KOR and the Traditions of Polish Positivism," Canadian Slavonic Studies, XXXI, no. 2 (1989), 194 - 210.

"Polemic as History: Shmuel Krakowski, The War of the Doomed. Jewish Armed Resistance in Poland, 1942 - 1944," Polin, III (1988), 391 - 104.

"Polish Positivism and the Jews," Jewish Social Studies, XLVI, no. 1 (Winter 1984), 21 - 36.

"Patriotism Misunderstood - Warsaw Positivism, 1863 - 1890," The Polish Review, XXVII, nos.. 1-2 (1982), 47 - 54.

"The Historiography of Organic Work," Surabu Kenku (Slavic Studies, The Slavic Institute, Sapporo, Japan) (1974), 191 - 205.

"Recent Polish Historiography of the Period of the Partitions," Austrian History Yearbook, VIII (1973), 161 - 176.

"The Origins and Practice of 'Organic Work' in Poland: 1795 - 1863," The Polish Review, XV, no. 4 (1970), 23 - 54.

"Louis Napoleon and the Polish Question: 1830 - 1852," Dean's Papers, II (New York: Columbia University Press, 1966), 135 - 55.

Current research: "The Polish People's Republic and the Polish Diaspora in America: 1944-1989."

Publications on Polish American Themes

"The Evolving Polish Parish in the United States: St. Stanislaus Kostka, Bristol, Connecticut." Analecta Cracoviensia, XXVII (1995), 383-94. Krakow: Papienska Akademia Teologiczna, 1995.

"PRL i Polonia Amerykanska: 1944-1956," in Przeglad Polonijny, XXII, no. 1 (1996). Krakow: Jagiellonian University.

From Lithuanian to American: A Centennial History of St. Andrew's Parish, New Britain, Connecticut, 1895-1995. Forthcoming.

An American Ethnic Group: Rhode Island's Polish Americans. Providence, RI: the American Polish Exchange Commission of Rhode Island, 1996.

A Polish American Ethnic Parish: St. Stanislaus Kostka Parish, Bristol, Connecticut. 1919-1994. New Britain, CT: Art Press, 1994.

"Polish Americans," in the Supplement for the Dictionary of American History [Charles Scribner's Sons, forthcoming].

"The '44' Club: Second Generation Polonia." Polish American Studies, LI, no 1 (Spring 1994), 49-64.

Review article: "Danuta Mostwin, Odkrywanie Ameryki," The Polish Review, XXXIX, no. 1 (1994), 85-90.

"Stanislaw Osada - Immigrant Nationalist," Polish American Studies, L, no. 1 (Spring 1993), 23-50.

"Polonia and Politics," as part of a collection of essays - "Polish Americans and Their History" - scheduled for publication by the University of Pittsburgh Press, Fall, 1996. John J. Bukowczyk, editor.

"The 'Polish Tradition' in Connecticut Politics," Connecticut History, 33 (November, 1992), 61 - 98.

"The Inherited and the Disinherited: The New England Literary Image of the Polish Peasant Immigrant," The Connecticut Review, XIV, no. 2 (Fall, 1992), 49-60.

"Prologue," in Jacek Galazka & Albert Juszczak, Polish Heritage Travel Guide to U.S.A. and Canada (Cornwall Bridge, Connecticut: Polish Heritage Publications, 1992. Distributor Hippocrene Books, Inc.), vii - xii.

"American Polonia: The Next Generation," Polish America Studies, XLIX, no. 1 (Spring 1992), 81 - 86.

"The Inherited and the Disinherited: The Polish Peasant Farmer in New England Literature," Polish-Anglo Saxon Studies, 3-4 (1992), 81 - 93. [Poznan]

St. Stanislaus B. & M. Parish, Meriden, Connecticut. A Century of Connecticut Polonia: 1891 - 1991 (Meriden and New Britain, Connecticut: Polish Studies Program Monographs and St. Stanislaus Parish Council, 1991).

"The Adam Mickiewicz Chair of Polish Studies: Columbia University and the Cold War (1948 - 1954)," The Polish Review, XXXVI, nos. 3 and 4 (1991), 323 - 337 and 435 - 450.

"The Wallingford Schism: The origins of St. Casimir's Polish National Catholic Church, Wallingford, Connecticut," PNCC Studies, 12 (1991), 45 - 61.

"A Polish American Fellow Traveller," The Polish Review, XXXVI, no. 2 (1991), 169 - 177.

"Spadkobiercy i wydziedziczeni: Polski chlop w literaturze Nowej Anglii," [The Inherited and the Disinherited: The Polish Peasant in the Literature of New England], Res Publica, IV, no. 10 [36] (1990), 58 - 66. [Warsaw]

"Nowa i Stara Polonia: napięcia w społeczności etnicznej," in H. Kubiak, E. Kusielewicz, and T. Gromada, eds., Polonia amerykańska. Przeszłość i współczesność (Wrocław: Ossolineum, 1988), 705 - 726. See also "List w sprawie tłumaczenia tekstu w

Polonii Amerykanskiej," Przegląd Polonijny, XVI, no. 1 (1990), 129 - 132. [Krakow: Jagiellonian University]

"The 44 Club: 1939 - 1989," (New Britain, Connecticut: The Art Press, 1989), 1 - 8.

"'Equal with Equals': The Polish National Catholic Church and the Founding of the Polish American Congress," Polish American Studies, XXIV, no. 2 (Autumn 1987), 5 - 23.

"Puritans and Poles: The New England Literary Image of the Polish Peasant Immigrant," Polish American Studies, XLII, no. 2 (Autumn 1985), 46 - 88.

"The Local Ethnic Lobby. The Polish American Congress in Connecticut, 1944 - 1974," in Frank Renkiewicz, ed., The Polish Presence in Canada and America (Toronto: The Multicultural Society of Ontario, 1982), 305 - 325.

"Pastor of the Poles: The Second Generation," in S. A. Blejwas and M. B. Biskupski, eds., Pastor of the Poles: Polish American Essays (New Britain, Connecticut: Polish Studies Monographs, I, 1982), 1 - 19.

"Old and New Polonias: Tensions within an Ethnic Community," Polish American Studies, XXXVIII, no. 2 (Autumn 1981), 55 - 83.

"Researching Ethnic History in Connecticut: The Polish Question," Connecticut History, 22 (January, 1981), 31 - 45.

"A Polish Community in Transition: Holy Cross Parish, New Britain, Connecticut, 1927 - 1977," Polish American Studies, XXXIV, no. 1 (1977), 26 - 69, and XXV, nos. 1-2 (1978), 23-53. And as a separate reprint.

Current research: "Choral Nationalism: The Polish Singers Alliance of America. 1889-1996."