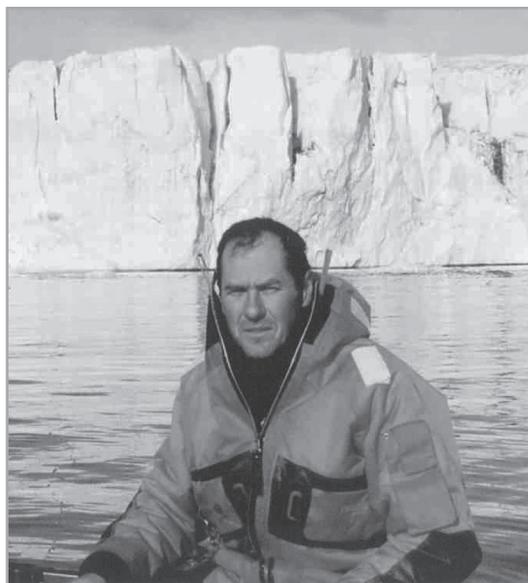




In Memoriam
Professor Krzysztof Paweł Krajewski
(1955–2017)
geologist, polar explorer, mountaineer and a good fellow



In November, we were shocked by a message that Professor Krzysztof P. Krajewski suddenly had passed away. His life and scientific activity were a one. As a young man, he was so engaged in mountaineering that a study on Cretaceous Urgonian limestones in precipitous walls of the northern Tatra Mountains was a natural choice for his PhD.

After graduating, invited to be a member of the Norwegian scientific expeditions, he devoted all his forces to study natural oil-bearing Triassic rocks of the Arctic Svalbard archipelago. Hastily, he had organized a team of geochemists and sedimentologists in order to help him in a thorough study of the problem of origin of crude oil. And, the scientific results were of the first order.

After completing this task, at the beginning of the present century, he joined the Polish group from the Institute of Geological Sciences of the Polish Academy

of Sciences, working with age and climatic history of the Cenozoic glaciation in West Antarctica. His scientific contribution, obtained in co-operation with a Hungarian K-Ar-dating team from Debrecen, soon became a meaningful one, Krzysztof becoming a leader of this global problem. In the last years, he was very active in development of the Polish-Argentinian research cooperation on Antarctica, crowned by establishment of the Letter of Intent between Dirección Nacional del Antártico, Instituto Antártico Argentino in Buenos Aires, and the Institute of Geological Sciences, PAS. Quite recently, he was invited to the Trias North program, coordinated by the University of Oslo. The project embraced mainly sedimentological and geochemical topics; however, Krzysztof kindly included additional paleomagnetic studies to date hydrocarbon migration from the source to reservoir rocks. It seemed to be the first, but regrettably, also the last our common scientific work. And now, the tragic event of his passing away leaves us with a trauma of losing an excellent scientific leader, his field and laboratory studies not yet finished.

We will remember Krzysztof as an excellent scientist, widely esteemed among scientific community. He was also an excellent polar field works organizer, and a very helpful, though demanding, leader during the Arctic and the Antarctic expeditions. Always attracted people by his outstanding personality, being warm and friendly to other researchers, whom he met on the polar paths.

Rest in peace our Friend!

Krzysztof Birkenmajer
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