



The Faculty of Food Science and Fisheries has its roots in the Faculty of Fisheries, founded in 1951 as part of the Agricultural College in Olsztyn (presently the University of Warmia and Mazury). In 1966 several members of the academic faculty moved to Szczecin where they established a new Faculty of Fisheries at the local Agricultural College. The faculty that remained in Olsztyn specialized in inland fisheries while its Szczecin counterpart focused on marine fisheries. At that time the latter was a unique teaching unit of such profile in Europe. The 1960s and 1970s are remembered as the golden era of Polish deep-sea fisheries. At that time Polish fishermen operated all over the globe and they were based on huge trawlers outfitted as modern fish processing factories. The state economy at that time demanded well qualified specialists capable of acquiring, processing, and delivering to the market the live resources of the sea. Moreover, the graduates were expected to have good management skills, an international attitude, as well as a good command of foreign languages. The Szczecin fisheries faculty met this demand. Its name evolved to reflect the complexity of issues covered by its teaching and research scope and the Fisheries Faculty became the Faculty of Marine Fisheries and Food Processing. In 1970 an international English-language scientific journal—*Acta Ichthyologica et Piscatoria*—was established under the auspices of the faculty. The implementation of the Exclusive Economic zones by the end of the 1970s, marked a gradual demise of Polish deep-sea fisheries. It also affected the research scope of the faculty which became more focused on human nutrition. It eventually assumed its present name—the Faculty of Food Science and Fisheries.

The faculty has “full academic rights” which mean that it may confer not only doctoral degrees but also “habilitation” which is the highest degree conferred by Polish universities.



The faculty is now comprised of 18 structural units: the Center of Bioimmobilisation and Innovative Packaging Materials, the Division of Hydrobiology, Ichthyology, and Biotechnology of Reproduction, the Division of Applied Microbiology and Biotechnology, the Division of Meat Science, the Division of Food Science and Technology, the Division of Toxicology, the Division of Aquaculture, the Division of Marine Ecology and Environmental Protection, the Division of Human Nutrition Physiology, the Division of Fisheries Management, the Division of Hydrochemistry and Aquatic Biological Resources, the Division of Process Engineering, the Division of Human Nutrition, the Division of Environmental Protection, the Division of Dairy Technology and Food Storage, the Division of Food Quality, the Division of Fisheries Vessels and Ports, as well as the Fishing-Gear Model Test Station at Ińsko.

In addition to the structural units based in Szczecin, the faculty operates a fish-culture experimental station at Nowe Czarnowo. Moreover, the Ińsko research station owns a unique research vessel—the catamaran R/V *Neptun*—designed and outfitted for testing fishing gear in the form of scaled models. Another research vessel—the trawler R/V *SNB-ARI* operates in the Pomeranian Bay, Baltic Sea.

Graduates of the Faculty include several dozen of international students, at least 40 of them have earned PhD titles. Students taking courses taught at the Faculty of Food Science and Fisheries receive transferable credits recognized through the ECTS (European Credit Transfer System). Foreign students have been encouraged to study at this faculty either full time or as a semester abroad (e.g., in the frames of the Erasmus Programme). The faculty welcomes international candidates for PhD studies and is open for international scientific cooperation.

by Beata Więcaszek and Wojciech Piasecki



65th Anniversary of the Faculty of Food Science and Fisheries