

EDITORIAL

Of maggots and men – surprisingly positive conclusion of the first year of World Journal of Medical Images, Videos and Cases.

Piotr Kochan

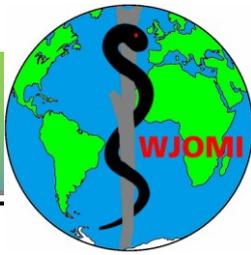
The end of the year is nigh, as I'm writing this editorial most persons are getting ready for New Year celebrations that are about to begin. You can already feel the end-of-the-year tension and fireworks going off, probably amputating fingers of some less than careful party goers and bringing a lot of work to my emergency department colleagues.

Somewhere around this period of time last year, the World Journal of Medical Images, Videos and Cases was born. This "child" seemed helpless at first, afraid of the world, but with time it learned to overcome obstacles and challenges. We, i.e. the Editorial Office and I, the Editor-in-Chief of WJOMI, came a long way, but thanks to our passion, the journal slowly but steadily grew. Part of the success in this case was also the fact that there was no pressure exerted on us. We did not compete with anyone, we had no pressure from the sponsors and no financial target nor obligations to fulfil. We are happy to say that since WJOMI was founded, we managed to publish 12 papers on a completely voluntary, free of charge basis, including some translational work, editing and html code preparation to make them worthy online publications. This is quite unique in today's commercialized world, since if a paper accepts manuscripts free of charge, you need to pay extra for translation or language editing. The html codes in our case

are self-written from the beginning to the end with no use of web design software – thanks to that we are indeed independent and don't need to pay for any web platforms or rely on expensive IT specialists. The domain and server space are also made available free of charge. Furthermore, we are a totally advertisement-free website and all the publications are also ad-free. Unbelievable? YES! Possible? YES!

Initially, we were worried since we only received manuscripts from Poland, but as the word grew (esp. since ECCMID 2016, where WJOMI was popularized on a poster; please see the previous Editorial), we received papers from abroad (Slovakia), and even from overseas (from a renowned malaria expert from the USA). Of note is the fact, that we had two publications dealing with maggots in the medical sense, hence the title of this editorial.

Second half of the year brought about some new opportunities for WJOMI. Not only were we able to acquire the initially unavailable internet address – wjomi.com, but there was a conference organized in September in the Masovian city of Płock, with the focus on scientific journals (Figure 1). Its title read "Conference on Scientific Society Journals". WJOMI is in fact a legacy, although hugely



expanded, of the Polish Society for Probiotics and Prebiotics (PSPP). Long before WJOMI, still when PSPP was in existence, the idea of starting a medical journal was widely discussed.



Figure 1. Headquarters of Płock Scientific Society [1] where the Conference on Scientific Society Journals took place in September 2016.

Having sat on the above society's Board of Directors, I received an official invitation from the Council of Scientific Societies of the Polish Academy of Sciences and decided to take active part in that event and popularize WJOMI among conference participants. To do that, I prepared a poster entitled: *The Legacy of a Scientific Society – WJOMI (pol. Szczała po towarzystwie naukowym – czasopismo WJOMI)* and a manuscript that was submitted for publication: *From vaginal health, stool transplant to a medical journal – i.e. how to create a novel platform for professional online publications (pol. Od zdrowia pochwy, przeszczepu kału do czasopisma medycznego –*

czyli jak stworzyć nowoczesną platformę do fachowych publikacji internetowych).

The conference lasted for two days and was very interesting and multidisciplinary, spanning from languages and humanities, through religion, ethics, numismatics, ethnology, astronomy to medical and even nuclear sciences. Luckily, I was not the only representative of the medical field. The entire first day was in fact dedicated to presentations, including talks by Prof. Andrzej Chodubski from Gdańsk University, Prof. Stanisław Kunikowski from Cuiavian University in Włocławek, Prof. Rev. Jan Krajczyński from the Polish Society of Faith Regulation, Prof. Rev. Stanisław Chrobak from the Francis de Sales Scientific Society, Dr Alicja Jagielska-Burduk from Kazimierz Wielki University in Bydgoszcz, dr Damian Kasprzyk from the Polish Ethnological Society, Eng. Magdalena Borek-Daruk from SIGMA-NOT Publishers, Dr Krystyna Data from the Polish Linguistic Society, Dr Tomasz Piekarski from the State Archive in Płock, Prof. Tomasz Mielczarek from Jan Kochanowski University in Kielce, Prof. Krzysztof Walczak from Wrocław University, Prof. Ewa Andrysiak from Łódź University, Prof. Dorota Rembiszewska from the Institute of Slavic Studies of the Polish Academy of Sciences, Dr Krzysztof Czart from the Polish Astronomical Society, Mr Wojciech Adam Łonak and Mr Jerzy Piniński from the Polish Numismatic Society, Dr Grzegorz Gołębiewski from Płock Scientific Society, Eng. Jan Łukaszewicz from the Polish Forest Society and Drs Stanisław Latek and Wojciech Głuszewski from the Institute of



Nuclear Chemistry and Technology. The second day was dedicated to posters, final discussions and concluding statements.

This successful conference integrating so many researchers and scientists was organized by Płock Scientific Society [1] and the Council of Scientific Societies of the Polish Academy of Sciences. Some of the disturbing issues raised were the generally insufficient funding of the scientific societies and/or journals. WJOMI since its establishment was beyond that, for the fact that we are working on voluntary, non-profit, passionate basis. Outlook at the conference venue is presented in the film featured in Figure 2.



Figure 2. Film showing the venue of the Conference on Scientific Society Journals organized by Płock Scientific Society and the Council of Scientific Societies of the Polish Academy of Sciences. Please see the full-screen film on WJOMI YouTube channel here: <https://youtu.be/nGxPcOrYJow>

Overall, the integration of the many different fields of science during one conference turned

out to be a great success. Icing on the cake proved to be a visit to the local museum and Płock Scientific Society library where some unique books were shown, among many a perfectly preserved 1st edition of *De revolutionibus orbium coelestium (On the Revolutions of the Heavenly Spheres)* by Nicolaus Copernicus, published in 1543 in Nuremberg by Johannes Petreius, which describes the earth rotating around the sun, at that time blasphemy, but Copernicus died in the year of publication. It was put on the forbidden book list in 1616. Recently a similar first edition book was sold on an auction for 2 million dollars. The book may be seen in Figure 3.

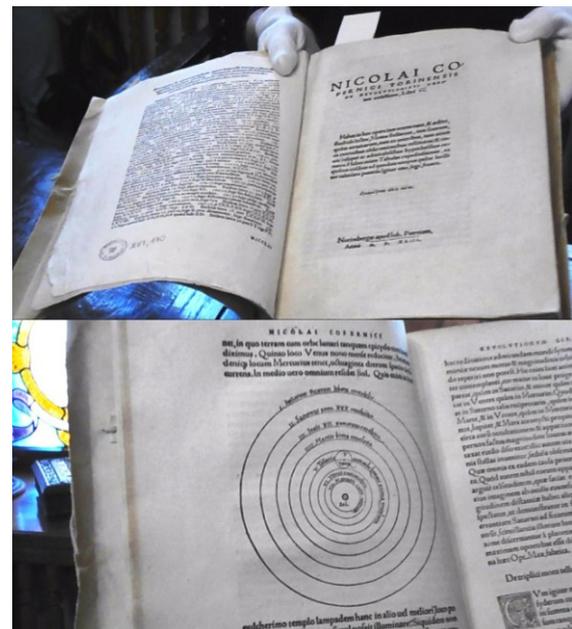


Figure 3. The original first edition from 1543 of *De revolutionibus orbium coelestium (On the Revolutions of the Heavenly Spheres)* by Nicolaus Copernicus in Płock Scientific Society Library.



To sum up this successful year:

- WJOMI has its own ISSN.
- New easy-to-remember internet address is now available at www.wjomi.com.
- The Editorial Board consists of 38 experts, recognized internationally.
- The manuscript submission procedure is rather straightforward, done either online or via e-mail to:
editors@journalofmedicalimages.com
- Review procedure is easy and decently quick. Two reviewers receive ready review forms and perform blind reviews without knowing the authors' names or affiliations to minimise biased decisions.
- WJOMI is unique in the global sense: the submission, publication, inclusion of colour figures, editing of text as well as translation from Polish to English are all free of charge – no other journal in the world offers such benefits for free.
- No profits are made from WJOMI – the dedicated medical editorial team do it all out of passion on voluntary, no income basis.

NOTICE! Dr Kochan made a declaration that all corresponding authors who publish in WJOMI in 2017 will receive a medical book as a personal gift & word of thanks from the Editor-in-Chief.

On behalf of all of us in WJOMI Editorial Office, we want to wish you some late but Best Holiday Wishes as well as a Happy New Year 2017!



References:

[1] Towarzystwo Naukowe Plockie. Rok założenia 1820. (Plock Scientific Society. Founded in the year 1820). Access valid on December 31, 2016: <http://www.tnp.org.pl/>

Acknowledgements: Andrzej Kansy from Plock Scientific Society for some photographs used in the film in Figure 2.

To cite this article: Kochan P. Of maggots and men – surprisingly positive conclusion of the first year of World Journal of Medical Images, Videos and Cases. World J Med Images Videos Cases 2016; 2:e61-64.

Published on: 31 December 2016

ISSN: 2450-5773

© World Journal of Medical Images, Videos and Cases