

EDITORIAL

31st January 2014 marked the beginning of the Wood Horse year in Chinese calendar. Horse, a fast and strong animal, was the symbol of victory and adventure in ancient China. Thus, according to the beliefs of Chinese people, after a period of stagnation which characterised past 12 months, it is finally a good time for new projects and initiatives. Things which have come to a standstill, will move on and brilliant ideas will be realised. We believe that the newly created journal, whose first issue we present to the Readers today, is such an idea.

“Sinologia” comes out as the 9th issue of „Roczniki Humanistyczne” (“Annals of Arts”), a journal published since 1949 by the Learned Society of John Paul II Catholic University of Lublin (CUL) and for several years by the John Paul II Catholic University of Lublin—Faculty of Humanities (WNH). What contributes to the high standard of the journal is the fact that the authors of the articles published here are not only the employees of WNH but also of other Polish and foreign universities, who willingly participate in such form of cooperation. All articles published in “Roczniki Humanistyczne” are reviewed and contain foreign language summaries. In the statement of the Ministry of Science and Higher Education from 17th December 2013 “Roczniki Humanistyczne” were credited with 10 points and placed in part C which includes scientific journals from *European Reference Index for the Humanities* (ERIH).

“Sinologia” is a periodical whose pages will be filled with articles concerning China: Chinese language, rich culture, history and tradition, philosophy and religion (e.g. Buddhism, Taoism, Confucianism), literature, as well as Chinese economy. The idea to create a new journal was born in 2012 with the opening of a new field of philological studies, Sinology studies (BA degree), at John Paul II Catholic University of Lublin. As a result, CUL

acquired the third Chair of Sinology in Poland, beside the University of Warsaw (UW) and Adam Mickiewicz University in Poznań (AMU) which offer such rare and exclusive studies. The studies' program focuses primarily on the practical knowledge of Chinese language, obtained with the help of the best Polish specialists and teachers from China. What is more, Sinology studies enable students to acquire thorough knowledge of Chinese history, language and literature, as well as necessary understanding of other areas of Chinese culture, such as ethnology. Therefore, the new journal, „Sinologia,” will be of great importance in this context. It will contain the results of academic research carried out by the employees of the Department of Sinology at CUL, other sinologists from Poland and from foreign universities and institutions, including Chinese scholars cooperating with our university. Due to the popularisation of knowledge of the Middle Kingdom in Poland and because of the availability of texts to foreign readers, the articles will be published both in Polish, accompanied by English summaries, and in English. “Sinologia” aspires to become a journal with a much wider range than national, which is also evidenced by its international Board of Trustees.

We count on a warm welcome of the new journal, believing that it will serve the development of Sinology studies at John Paul II Catholic University of Lublin. However, we are open to criticism and interesting suggestions, which will serve the improvement of the journal and increase the significance of its mission in the development of young generation of Polish sinologists.

Finally, I wish to thank the initiators of the new journal and all co-authors of Sinology studies at CUL, who, from the very beginning, have put a lot of work and heart in the development of these exclusive studies. Professor Roman Sławiński deserves special thanks and appreciation for his zeal and enthusiasm which resulted in such mature outcome.

Finis coronat opus—“the end crowns the work,” but it is merely the end of the first stage. What we need is cooperation and collaboration, a true synergy of authors and editors, for this work to continue in the years to come. The work needs to be strenuously preserved and let us hope that it will bring good results. Finally, it is necessary to have wise courage, the one embedded in the slightly modified version of Horace's maxim: *sapere aude(te)* – „have the courage to be wise.”

Krzysztof Narecki