



**OBITUARY**  
**LILIANA KONARSKA**  
**(1944–2008)**

It is with profound regrets, and our deepest sympathies, that we bid our farewells to Professor Liliana Konarska, Editor-in-Chief of *Acta Biochimica Polonica*, 1999–2008.

Liliana Konarska was a graduate of the University of Warsaw, Faculty of Biology and Earth Sciences, where she obtained the M.Sc. degree in Biochemistry. She subsequently was awarded a Ph. D. in the natural sciences, in 1974, by the Faculty of Medicine of the Academy of Medicine in Warsaw, now known as the Medical University of Warsaw. The Faculty of Pharmaceutical Sciences of this University later conferred on her the title of D. Sc.

Following completion of her studies at the University of Warsaw in 1966, Liliana Konarska spent 6 months at the Nencki Institute of Experimental Biology, conducting research on the biochemistry of muscle. However, most of her scientific activity was devoted to the Academy of Medicine, Warsaw (now the Medical University of Warsaw), initially in the Department Clinical Analysis, Faculty of Pharmacy, which was later reorganized as the Department of Biochemistry and Clinical Chemistry. In this institution she was progressively promoted from the post of scientific assistant to full Professor. Her scientific interests embraced the biochemistry of intestinal wall membranes, clinical enzymology, with particular emphasis on inherited metabolic disorders, molecular mechanisms of cellular signaling and their dysfunctions in various pathological states, and the applications of molecular biology to diagnostics.

Professor Konarska spent several post-doctoral periods abroad, including, amongst others, the Department of Biochemistry, Medical School, Debrecen (Hungary), Department of Clinical Chemistry, Faculty of Medicine, University of Berne (Switzerland), and the Department of Veterinary Physiology, University of Zurich (Switzerland).

Liliana Konarska will long remain in our memory as an exceptionally active member of the Polish Biochemical Society. In the years 1992–1998 she was twice elected as President of the Society, and subsequently, until her passing away, as Vice-President. She was the originator, as well as organizer, of the 1st “Jakub Karol Parnas” Polish-Ukrainian Biochemical Conference in Lviv (1966). She was also co-organizer of later similar Conferences in Gdansk (1998), in Lviv (2000), in Wroclaw (2002), in Kiev (2005), and in Cracow (2007). She was also Vice-Chairman of the organizing committee of the FEBS Congress in Warsaw (2004). And she was continuously an active participant in the organizing committees of the annual Congresses of the Polish Biochemical Society, as well as in the preparation of the scientific sessions of these meetings.

Liliana Konarska was outstanding as Editor-in-Chief of *Acta Biochimica Polonica*, and devoted considerable energy to increasing the scientific level of the journal on the international scale. She initiated the publication of the journal on-line, “charge-free”. During her period as Editor-in-Chief, the impact factor of the journal increased from below 1.0 to 1.86.

Professor Konarska courageously continued her scientific and organizational activities, despite her affliction with an incurable disease, until the very moment of her passing away, August 17, 2008. She will long remain in our memory as a distinguished active member of the Polish Biochemical Society, an academic teacher and researcher, and, above all, as a widely loved personal colleague who was a source of inspiration for all of us.

Editors, Editorial Advisory Board,  
and Editorial Staff,  
*Acta Biochimica Polonica*