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# **Memory of Professor Harald Nilsen**

Our meetings with Harald Nilsen had their beginnings during international conferences held at the Nicolaus Copernicus University devoted to the language of the media and their use in creative activities. Professor drew our attention with his extraordinary personality, brilliance of expression, accuracy of his applications and the ability to analyze difficult problems. We were encouraged by his openness during the conversations. The effect of the joint arrangements was, inter alia, the invitation of the Professor to the International Conference on the topic of Information Technology in a changing education series, which took place at Nicolaus Copernicus University, Torun, 4th–5th May, 2009. At that time, Prof. Nilsen presented a lecture entitled Power and Language: The language as a medium of Articulate and Affect the reality aroused great interest and initiated a long discussion both during the conference and during the backstage meetings. Undoubtedly, both the professionalism of the speaker and his erudition influenced this. After the conference, we had several scientific debates that contributed to finding common ground for cooperation. As a result, a number of scientific and educational projects were created. During their creation, the Professor showed great activity, which was given in to all of us. Professor Nilsen was able to build an atmosphere conducive to innovative activities, which resulted in interesting and mature ideas.

The joint ventures have brought us closer together, making scientific cooperation possible in a friendly atmosphere.

Professor Harald Nilsen was a sensitive man and an inquisitive scientist. He did not succumb to civilization mirages. He combined perfectly tradition with the present, which resulted in original ideas that were willingly implemented into educational practice. In scientific research he was guided by reliability. Conversations with the professor, both on the scientific and social ground, confirmed our conviction that we are dealing with a man of the highest standards both professionally and ethically.

In 2008–2016, together with Harald Nilsen, we have organized a series of international seminars that took place in Poland and Norway, including:

- Creative using media in education – comparatist perspective, experiences of Poland, Norway
- Teacher’s creative attitudes and abilities in the context of using ICT
- E-learning in educational practice
- The Role of Language in Human Life
- The possibilities and limitations of the usage IT in education.

The result of the above-mentioned seminars was the creation of a number of research projects, with the effects presented in monographs and numerous articles. One of the most important was the publication in Polish and Norwegian. We are referring to a monograph entitled “The language of new communication, (Sprak and medier)”, the Scientific Publisher of the Nicolaus Copernicus University, Toruń 2010.

Harald Nilsen was a member of many scientific councils, among others, *the Cognitive Science and Media in Education* and *Cognitive Science – New Media – Education*, to which he brought his enthusiasm, professional knowledge and remarkable creative contribution.

Another area of interest of Professor Harald Nilsen was his great fascination with classical literature and the desire to disseminate it. The analyzes made by the Professor were of great importance for pedagogical activities and for promoting valuable phenomena in the field of fiction. He showed not only an innovative approach to conducted studies of literature, he had also proposed a number of interesting research ideas. In every aspect of his activity, the soul of a sensitive humanist was revealed. He belonged to the group of excellent promoters of Norwegian literature.

In Poland, the editors of the magazine published a collection of stories, myths and poems entitled: *A boy on the roof*, poems by Oddvar Rakeng Paparazzi and a book entitled *Norwegian writers 1960–2011. Interpretation of stories*.

This is of particular importance because it fulfilled his great dream of bringing the richness of Norwegian literature to the Polish reader. The publication presents works by eight writers representing various styles and innovative ideas in the field of literature. The reader is surprised by the plot and the different narrative. The choice made by the professor was cross-sectional, indicating the most interesting literary phenomena, thus encouraging the recipient to think and deepen reflection.

In addition to promoting works of literature, poetry was also a subject of interest to Harald Nilsen. He liked to interact with it, sensing not only the message but also the melody of its sound, regardless of the language in which it was created.

Professor Harald Nilsen left after an unexpected and severe illness, with which he bravely fought, in the hope of returning to an active life. However, it happened differently.

