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Introduction

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Artykuł umieszczony jest w kolekcji cyfrowej Bazhum, gromadzącej zawartość polskich czasopism humanistycznych i społecznych tworzonej przez Muzeum Historii Polski w ramach prac podejmowanych na rzecz zapewnienia otwartego, powszechnego i trwałego dostępu do polskiego dorobku naukowego i kulturalnego.

Artykuł został zdigitalizowany i opracowany do udostępnienia w internecie ze środków specjalnych MNiSW dzięki Wydziałowi Historycznemu Uniwersytetu Warszawskiego.

Tekst jest udostępniony do wykorzystania w ramach dozwolonego użytku.



INTRODUCTION

The seven papers, referred to below, are extended versions of the papers presented at the Symposium *Nicholas Copernicus in focus* during the 2nd International Conference of the European Society for the History of Science (Cracow, 6–9 September 2006)¹. They deal with research on the life and activities of Nicholas Copernicus, Copernicanism and the Copernican Revolution, and show different current approaches in research of the subject-matter mentioned, including:

- the creation of extended bibliographical collections of the works of and on Copernicus (Henryk Baranowski),
- a description of the political, economical, social and medical activities of Copernicus (Marian Biskup),
- a description of the reception of Copernicus as reflected in biographies and portraits (Andreas Kühne, Gudula Metze),
- an analysis of the genesis, essence and reception of Copernicus's scientific works (André Goddu, Peter Barker, Michał Kokowski),
- a description of the reception of Copernicanism in the case of one of the remote parts of Europe – Iceland (Einar H. Guðmundsson, Eyjólfur Kolbeins and Thorsteinn Vilhjálmsón).

In their papers, several of these authors (H. Baranowski, M. Biskup, P. Barker, M. Kokowski) describe how they have developed their research over a period of time. Unfortunately, the papers of H. Baranowski and M. Biskup were conceived by their authors as their last views on the subjects. (However, I do hope that this is not the case.)

All of these papers are original contributions to contemporary Copernican studies and create a stimulus for further creative discussions in this sub-branch of knowledge.

Organiser and chairman of the Symposium
Michał Kokowski (Cracow, Poland)

¹ See <http://www.2iceshs.cyfronet.pl>, http://www.2iceshs.cyfronet.pl/r_4.html.