A Tribute to Prof. Piotr Decowski

Prof. Decowski was a member of the Physics Department at Smith College for more than two decades. He joined Smith in 1990. His commitment to the physics department, to his students, and to the larger Smith College community over his years of service will be cherished forever. He retired as Professor Emeritus in 2012. He passed away on May 14, 2014 in Warsaw, Poland. Piotr was a brilliant physicist, a wonderful teacher, a stalwart friend and a valued colleague. He played a seminal role in shaping our department, ably guiding it with his quiet wisdom over the years, and helping to make physics at Smith the first-rate program it is today. In the last week we have received an outpouring of messages from students expressing their dismay and sympathy, and noting what an amazing and influential teacher Piotr had been for them. Several have listed Piotr as the reason they chose to study physics. In memory of Prof. Piotr Decowski, a daylong event was held on Saturday, Nov 1, 2014. Invited speakers talked about Piotr's contributions to physics, followed by presentations from our alums traveling back to Smith to pay tribute to the memory of Piotr.

Piotr Decowski Memorial Symposium 2014

A memorial was held on Saturday, November 1, 2014, with about 80 attendees. Friends, family, faculty, staff, alumnae and students participated in the symposium honoring our beloved Professor Piotr Decowski. Students created a wordcloud and the department designed a medallion in his honor.