

TEXAS AGRICULTURAL LIFETIME LEADERSHIP

July 11, 2016



Mr. Stanislaw Kacperczyk
President of the Polish Cereal Producers Association
Vice President of the Polish Federation of Agricultural Producers Unions and Associations
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Poland

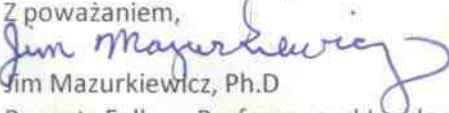
Mr. Kacperczyk:

On behalf of my family, Texas Polonia, Texas A&M University and me personally, I would like to express my sincere gratitude to you for the medal "Order of Merit of the Republic of Poland". This honor was most humbling and very emotional for me as I am most proud of my Polish heritage. It is with sincere love and respect for my ancestral home that motivates me to build bridges between our two countries. Poland is an ally and friend of the United States of America and I am passionate about continuing to build relationships between Texas and Poland. Thank you for your personal leadership and friendship in building programs together that resulted in this honor from President Andrzej Duda. You have been a key contact for 14 years and you are to be commended for your hard work and sacrifices in making this honor possible. The young farmer exchange was your idea and I thank you for your vision and your continued support.

As of today, there have been 36 bi-lateral visits with over 500 people exchanged between Texas and Poland including elected officials, professors, rectors, students, farmers, business people and musicians. Thank you for this honor and for recognizing the value and importance of this international cooperation. Education, communication and understanding are key to fostering relationships for a better world. It has been a pleasure to work with the Polish people because of their willingness to learn and try new ideas. This open minded attitude of the Polish people is contagious and inspiring. There is no doubt that the foundation that has been built between Texas and Poland will continue for generations to come through the lives we have touched. The seeds of opportunity have been planted and now we must nurture and cultivate what we have sown. The opportunities are only limited by our imagination and there is no limit to what we can do together. As Saint John Paul II once said, "Be not afraid".

On behalf of my family and me, we would like to extend a formal invitation to you and your family to visit Texas as our guests. We would be honored to show you our beautiful state and accommodate your request within this great state we call "Texas"! My family and I are waiting for you and your family and please know the door to our home is always open to you.

Once again, thank you for this honor, your personal involvement and your friendship. I am truly humbled by this recognition and I wish to express my sincere gratitude to you and the Polish people. Without question, I know that my great grandparents and grandparents are smiling down from heaven with pride and warm hearts. Dziękuję i wszystkiego najlepszego!

Z poważaniem,

Jim Mazurkiewicz, Ph.D
Regents Fellow, Professor and Leadership Program Director
Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service
Department of Agricultural Leadership,
Education & Communications

The TALL logo consists of a blue star with a white outline to the left of the word "TALL" in a bold, red, sans-serif font. Below "TALL" is the text "Texas Agricultural Lifetime Leadership" in a smaller, black, sans-serif font.
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