

May 2014

Greetings from Wroclaw, Poland

I trust this letter finds you well, spiritually and physically. We are thinking of you and praying for you. As an interdenominational, accredited academic institution, EST has transformed from a traditional theological school into an Educational Center that more broadly serves churches, fellowships, Christian organizations and individuals regardless of their theological background. The mission of EST continues to be the same: "to equip Christians for effective ministry to strengthen the evangelical movement in Poland". The EST Educational Center has been developed over the last few years to teach and train Christian leaders and the Christian community in Poland through new forms of education. Such new forms, contextualized for the 21st century are needed in Poland and throughout Europe.

In light of these changes, I'd like to share a few words about a recent event at Evangelical School of Theology. It was the 'rebranding' ceremony of EST on April 12. It was an important moment for our school, when for the first time we could openly state that we are no longer just a school of higher education, offering mainly B.A. (Licentiate) program in theology, but a 'family' of various projects, an organism consisting of various parts, an Educational Center. The core programs are the



B.A./Licentiate Program, Open Academy of Theology (with churches), Academy of the Third Age (for seniors) with many other supporting workshops, lectures, concerts, conferences, debates and the like.



I can honestly say this celebration was one of the best events that I can remember in the 24-year history of BST/EST/EWST. The chapel was absolutely full with our faculty members, our students representing various EST programs and many guests, including leaders of churches, universities and city officials. Even the former vice-minister of Education in Poland (our dear friend) came to celebrate with us.

The atmosphere of the event was great. Dr. Wojciech Kowalewski opened the ceremony and greeted our guests and then we watched photos showing the story of BST/EST/EWST. Next, I gave a speech introducing the history of the school, the idea of the Center within the broad, Polish context of our

operation and in reference to the mission of EST. Dr. Piotr Lorek, Academic Dean, presented an excellent explanation of our new logo and the structure and operation of the Educational Center.

The event finished with a showing of our new promotional video. You can see it in English at: <u>https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=EVpaSTC4fRI&feature=youtu.be</u>



It seems that everybody was deeply moved by the ceremony and really impressed with the direction of development that EST has adopted. Most of the people stayed for a few hours afterwards for a buffet meal that was organized for a special time of fellowship. We continue to receive official congratulations, positive comments and good wishes from friends of EST, pastors, students, and the like.

With God's blessing we are prepared to go forward as a team under the umbrella of the EST Educational Center. I am so grateful that with you we are one team fighting for the same cause.

Ad maiorem Dei gloriam.

Yours in Christ,

Dr. Wojciech Szczerba, Rector w.szczerba@ewst.pl ul. sw. Jadwigi 12 50-266 Wroclaw POLAND

Evangelical School of Theology Educational Center. Funds are needed either in one-time gifts or in monthly support.		
In the US gifts should be sent to: BTS Poland Eddie Ferguson 2495 Barker Road Oxford, NC 27565 USA	Outside of the US gifts can be sent to: Unia Ewangelikalna w RP, ul. sw. Jadwigi 12, 50-266 Wroclaw POLAND PL 21 1020 5242 0000 2102 0174 8656 Bank PKO BP S.A. PKO BP S.A III Oddzial Wroclaw ul. Powstancow SI. 60 53-333 Wroclaw, POLAND SWIFT/BIC: BPKOPLPW	In Canada make checks payable to: reSource Leadership Intl. #200 - 5726 Minoru Boulevard Richmond, BC V6X 2A9 CANADA Indicate that funds are for Evangelical School of Theology in Poland