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In Remembrance of Professor Wieslaw Dobrzycki Wspomnienie o Profesorze Wieslawie Dobrzyckim

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I first met Professor Dobrzycki on the day of my final Defence exam for my Master's thesis. My dissertation focused on the Concept and Activities of Integration within the Caribbean Basin, which had apparently caught Professor Dobrzycki's attention and, because he was the Specialist on Western Hemisphere affairs he functioned as one of the academic reviewers of my work.

Immediately upon completion of my defense process, he approached me and inquired into why we had not met before. After all, he was acquainted with all the other students from Latin America, he said with a smile. I detected a deep sense of humor in his bold statement and demeanor, so I told him that I had worked on my Master's thesis with Professor Jozef Kukulka, since he was the best and most challenging academic mind in the department; we both laughed.

We shook hands and exchanged pleasantries; got acquainted and discussed current affairs of the Western Hemisphere. Before we went our separate ways, he reiterated his observations on my intellectual curiosity as perceived within the pages of my work. I shared my plans to depart Poland; he positioned the possibility of a Doctoral program. Although I had worked as an English Language teacher, during my years of studies, I was concerned about financial stability. He explained that there was scope for me, as the doctoral program provides for individual planning of seminars, etc., and it involved the freedom for intensive, individual research projects. In effect, he had sold the idea, and I immediately embarked upon doctoral studies under his guidance. This was in the summer of 1994.

During the next four years, l got to know Professor Wieslaw Dobrzycki personally and professionally. He is among the most knowledgeable of Americanists in the European University scene. He ranks among the most passionate and caring of the lecturers at the University of Warsaw. As a result of his acumen, my years of preparation for life, both personal and professional, was immensely enhanced. Rest in Peace, Professor Dobrzycki.

About the Author

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