*Stanisław Wrycza, Katedra Informatyki Ekonomicznej UG*

*Gdańsk, 27.04.2017*

LAUDATION FOR PROFESSOR ROLF GRANOW

Magnificencjo, Panie Rektorze,

Wysoki Senacie Uniwersytetu Gdańskiego

Dear Professor Granow,

Dear Mrs. Granow,

Let me say several sentences of the **achievements** of Professor Granow first, and then of his **contribution** to University of Gdańsk academic activities.

Professor Rolf Granow is the **director of the Institute for E-Learning-Services** at the Lübeck University of Applied Sciences. Since 1997 he is managing **large-scale E-Learning**- and LifeLongLearning-projects with a total volume of over 75 M€.

His idea from the beginning was to use E-Learning to attract new **target-groups** of students, to support **life-long-learning** and to use technology for **innovative national and international cooperation** of universities, business and administrative organizations. Altogether, more then **100.000 people are learning online** in the Lübeck online educational systems. In December 2016 he received **the innovation-award** of the Leibniz Institute for Adult Education for establishing integration.oncampus, the biggest German online-plattform **for refugees.**

In 2015 the Lübeck University of Applied Science has been awarded for its **outstanding strategy**. It maybe important for our University that the future development for the Lübeck University **digital strategy** is focused on Digital Internationalisation, Digital Cooperation and Digital Cohesion.

As a result, Lübeck University has updated its strategy including digitalisation as **an integrated dimension**. The Lübeck strategy is **shaping the transition from digital learning towards learning in a digital world**, regarding both the transition - on the curricula and on the learning-methodology. Prof. Granow is responsible for the pMOOC-project, (MOOC stands for Massive Online Open Courses) **the biggest German research-project concerning open online courses**.

And now let’s move to the **contributions and merit** of Professor Granow for University of Gdansk e-learning, just to mention **the main points**. So Prof.Granow:

* made the **significant contribution to the development and implementation of e-learning technologies** through a series of seminars, workshops and trainings for University of Gdansk scholars, conducted at the University of Lübeck in years 2003-2009; they concerned **professional skills** such as: creating e-learning courses platforms and designing professional, multimedia and interactive e-learning courses and completely novel – **instructional designing**, as well as for inspiration of the establishment of our **advanced educational e-learning platform Mestwin.**
* he is a Chairman of the Steering Committee of the e-learning consortium - **Baltic Sea Virtual Campus**; stimulating the development of e-learning practices and technologies through conferences and meetings of representatives of over 20 Baltic **academic partners, including the University of Gdańsk**;
* Professor Granow and his team members have presented the **research papers**, regarding current world challenges of e-learning at the **annual EuroSymposium**, organized by the Department of Business Informatics of our University, with Proceedings published by Springer;
* and last but not least – Professor Granow has enabled the students of our Faculty of **Management to provide the free access to the "Management and Leadership" online course** within the BSVC - Online-Master-Program, Industrial Engineering; the course is run annually by the Department of Business Informatics at Faculty of Management.

Dear Professor Granow,

Thank you for stimulating our creativity in e-learning. As Albert Einstein used to say - the **highest level of educational ability**, is the art of awakening in the second man - **the creativity**.

On behalf of academic community of University of Gdansk, from the bottom of my heart, I would like to express our words of **thanks and gratitude** for your substantial, inspiring contribution to the development of e-learning at University of Gdansk.

Dziękuję, Panie Profesorze Granow,

Thank you Professor Granow.