



## Obituary



GUSTAW SOBKOWICZ  
(1924–1990)

Gustaw Sobkowicz, a member of the Editorial Board of *Food Chemistry* since the journal began in 1977, died on 19 December 1990 at the age of 66.

He was born on 26 June 1924, in Sonina, Poland, and therefore saw the troubled times of Poland's occupation as a teenager. His education at the High School in Lancut led him to enter the University of Wrocław in 1946 where he obtained the MD degree in 1951 and the PhD in 1960. He obtained the DSc (Doctor habil.) in 1969 and achieved his Professorship in 1981.

Professor Sobkowicz had wide experience in the field of food technology, especially technology of the sugar beet in relation to quality and the properties of molasses and its utilization by yeast in the fermentation industry. He was interested in biotechnology and particularly alcoholic fermentation under conditions of low pressure. He was the author of more than 100 scientific publications, reports and books for students. He lectured over a range of technological subjects to undergraduates and, at postgraduate level, he supervised 5 students to doctorate level and more than 60 students to a master's degree.

Professor Sobkowicz's main professional appointments were as Professor of Food Technology and Biotechnology in the Department of Food Technology and Storage at the Agricultural University of Wrocław. From

1972–1981 he was Vice Dean and Dean of the Food Technology Faculty, Agricultural University of Wrocław and a member of the Food Technology Committee of the Polish Academy of Science. His honours included the Gold Cross of Merit, Bachelor's Cross of the Order of Poland's Renaissance, the Medal of Education and many other regional medals.

I was privileged to visit Gustaw Sobkowicz at Wrocław on a number of occasions and was struck by the high regard and respect in which he was held at the Agricultural University. His colleagues always attested to his academic leadership and kindness. Gustaw was a dear friend and a family man who leaves a widow, son, daughter and grandchild. He will be greatly missed.

**Gordon Birch**