

Bogdan Lisiak

Wyższa Szkoła Filozoficzno-Pedagogiczna Ignatianum
[Jesuit University Ignatianum in Kraków]

Współpraca Adama Adamandego Kochańskiego z Janem Heweliuszem

Collaboration of Adam Adamandy Kochański with Jan Heweliusz

SUMMARY

Adam Adamandy Kochański (1631-1700) was known as a mathematician, astronomer, philosopher, philologist, and constructor of clocks and other machines. He graduated in philosophy from Molsheim (1655-1657) and began to lecture at the university in Mainz (1657-1664); later on he became a lecturer in mathematics in Bamberg (1665-1666) and in Florence (1666-1670). From 1670 he taught mathematics in the Jesuit province of Bohemia, first at Prague University (1670-1672), then in Olomouc (1672-1675), and later at the college in Wrocław (1675-1679). As requested by King Jan III Sobieski, towards the end of 1679 he arrived in Warsaw, where he continued to lecture on mathematics and educated Sobieski's son, Jakub. From 1683 to 1690 he was employed in Gdańsk as a royal librarian, where he collaborated also with the astronomer Jan Heweliusz (1611-1687). On his return to Warsaw in 1690, he took over the supervision of the royal library. He died in May 1700 in Teplice (Bohemia). Thirty four letters from the years 1677-1687 exchanged between Kochański and Heweliusz have been preserved. Kochański was chiefly interested in physical and astronomical topics: rectilinear motion, geomagnetism and magnetic declination, the impact of the forces that operate during the Earth's revolution around its axis, and attempts to calculate the distance between the Earth and the Sun. He also tried to confirm the validity of the Copernican system.

Analecta – Studia i Materiały z Dziejów Nauki

[Analecta – Studies and Materials on the History of Science]

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