

Nestors of Science for the University

Summary

What can do the university nestors of science who have already formally completed their academic activity contribute to the development of science or its dissemination? Can they still participate in scientific discoveries while outside the university? These questions seem particularly justified in the situation of dynamic development of science, work in laboratories, the library or in the other field of science, which seem to be beyond the reach of the nest of science. Michał Heller sees “being a scholar” as a “way of life” but also as a “passion”. It also fits into the area of professors’ duties as well as the seniors of science. Nestors of science, thanks to experience, wisdom, and the esteem that is assigned to them, can realize the main idea of the university, which is practicing science, its dissemination and proclaiming the truth. The ethical dimension and ethical duty are also part of the science. Nestors of science may in a special way fit in with the somewhat forgotten master-student relationship, as well as promoting the attitude of creative criticism to their own scientific achievements seen from the perspective of new research discoveries.

In this way, the nestor of science, as a “master” in spite of his age, manifests (or should display) and presents creative critical sensitivity expressed in shifting the horizons of scientific cognition.