Stefan Niewiarowski MD, PhD

1926–2001

On August 25, 2001, the Sol Sherry Thrombosis Research Center at Temple University School of Medicine in Philadelphia lost one of its founding investigators, when Stefan Niewiarowski, MD, PhD, died after a long battle with bladder cancer. A professor at the Thrombosis Center and the Department of Physiology, he was a highly original and motivating leader in hemostasis and thrombosis research. He received his degrees from the University of Warsaw in Poland, and published his first paper in 1951. That was followed by almost 300 additional publications during his outstanding career. Dr. Niewiarowski began his research career in Warsaw, then moved on to Paris, Stockholm, Boston, Hamilton (Ontario), and finally to Philadelphia in 1972. Here, at Temple University, he was a group leader focusing his work on peptides and proteins that are secreted from blood platelets or affected platelet functions. He was a recipient of many honors and awards given in recognition of his eminent research accomplishments, but he told me that his greatest satisfaction came from opening the field of disintegrins in 1987. Notably, he studied disintegrins to the end of his productive life. Dr. Niewiarowski recognized early that agents present in snake venoms and blood-sucking animals represent precious

tools for studies on the structure and function of proteins and cells involved in hemostasis. As a result, he collaborated with a number of investigators including myself. At the time of the Conference on Exogenous Factors affecting Thrombosis and Haemostasis he was very ill and unable to attend the conference in Paris, and a lecture ('New Insights on Disintegrin-Receptor Interactions') was presented for him by one of his former students. His absence as researcher, colleague and friend leaves many of us in deep sorrow and grief.

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