

Professor Witold Abramowicz Man of the Year Big Data

Witold Abramowicz is a professor in economics, a PhD with habilitation (Dr hab.) in mathematics and an engineer. He is the chair of the Department of Information Systems at the Poznań University of Economics (PUE). For several years he has worked at the leading Swiss and German universities.

In 2014 he was a co-founder, and then became the chief of SmartBRAIN - Smart and Big Data Science Research and Innovation Center, a joint venture of PUE and SAP Poland, whose goal is to conduct research and innovation activities in economy and public administration in the field of Big Data. In 2014 he received the prestigious title of the Visionary Member of SAP UA for his education activities in the area of Big Data.

In 2014, the European Defence Agency entrusted him with the role of coordinator and manager of the project System for Intelligent Maritime Monitoring (SIMMO), which utilizes Big Data technologies.

Last year ended the 4th edition and started the 5th edition of the research project utilizing SAP HANA that is coordinated by Professor in cooperation with Hasso-Plattner-Institute Future Service Oriented Computing Lab in Potsdam. In the same year under Professor's guidance commercial projects, utilizing Big Data in the energy, telecommunication and insurance domain were conducted. In 2014 Professor was also a General Co-Chair of the *17th International Conference on Business Information Systems, Big Data: problems solved and remaining challenges* in Cyprus. This year there will be another edition of this conference, chaired only by Professor, under the theme: Making Big Data Smarter. Moreover, in 2014 he was a member of program committees of conferences on Big Data in China, France, Estonia, Spain, Luxembourg, Germany, Poland, Switzerland, Vietnam and Italy (18 conferences in total).

Last year Professor was a mentor of initiatives in Big Data, such as BIHAPI and Orange Fab. He took part, as a speaker and a participant of discussion panels in technical conferences, disseminating Big Data in Poland, i.e. BIG DATA: Think Big CEE Congress, SAP Forum 2014.

His main research interests are related among others to Big Data and semantic Internet (retrieval and filtering systems, web services). Professor is an author, co-author or editor of 41 books and over 300 book chapters, articles in various journals and conference proceedings. He led and participated in several EU research projects as well as projects financed by industry or Polish organizations supporting research and innovations. He has also experience in working in international consulting firms as well as in Polish and foreign industry.

On Professor's Abramowicz initiative the Smart and Big Data Science Research & Innovation Center (SmartBRAIN) was established.

In the laudation, Professor's abilities in building international consortia, realization of international research projects as well as implementation of the results in Polish economy were indicated.