

Acknowledgements

The centenary of English Studies at the University of Warsaw is an occasion filled with gratitude. In autumn 2022, when I was asked by the Head of the Institute of English Studies, Professor Agnieszka Piskorska, to edit the present volume, I expected to encounter some interesting stories and minor obstacles. However, the scale both of both the achievements of my predecessors at the Institute and of the difficulties in gathering information about them surprised me. During the last few months, I embarked on a fascinating journey into the history of the University of Warsaw, as well as the personal lives and professional accomplishments of the founders and luminaries of our Institute. I hope this commemoration preserves the stories of remarkable people who established it and sought its preservation during the trying times of World War II and the political turmoil of the 20th century.

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Unless the exact version of the name is essential, to avoid unnecessary confusion the term “the Institute” will be used even when referring to the Institute of English Studies in its former incarnations.

Dr hab. Dorota Babilas, editor of this volume