

SCIENTIFIC TOURISM. ONE TOUR CASE STUDY

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Abstract:

Problem: The aim of the paper is to analyze scientific journey in a multifaceted way on the base of one case study. The problem is treated from system and anthropological tourism concept perspective as well as sociology of tourism. **Methods:** This is a case study (both the descriptive, interpretive and evaluative one) of one study tour, with the participant observation as well as qualitative content analysis was used. And it was also used and photographic documentation - the visual sociology. **Results:** The study tour presented in the paper occurred to be a full success of both participants and organizers, what is reflected in their unanimous opinions. The program which was planned in advance, was fully realized. New knowledge and associating values place the journey and studies in a favorable light. **Conclusions:** "Non-entertaining tourism" concept describes all the forms of tourism in where a dominant goal and motive is to meet higher human needs. Scientific tourism has become an inherent part of it because it supports values connected with science. These are as follows: educational, cognitive, self-creation, and creation. Additionally, during such a trip, one can meet new people and "touch" a symbolism of unknown places.

INTRODUCTION

For better understanding, the introduction should have a strictly theoretical character. It concerns a new, proposed paradigm of science, or more generally, also paradigm of culture. It should be:

- humanistic, putting in the centre of attention a personal man;
- cultural - in a double meaning:
 - 1) taking into account the socio-cultural examined facts and processes,
 - 2) because it is impossible to separate the phenomenon of science from the field of culture.

The paradigm is to be finally systemic and holistic:

- the overall treatment of a man (as a psycho-physical being; ontology) and the world,
- the avoidance of reductionism in research (methodology).

We should not lose the aspect of time (temporal dimension), relationships (relational), the context of events (contextual) and especially ethics, values (axiology) and higher needs [Cynarski 2014].

Theoretical perspective for tourism phenomenon research demands both systemic and humanistic approach, as well as systemic and anthropological concept of tourism at the same time [Obodyński, Cynarski 2004; Obodyński, Cynarski 2006; Munsters 2008; Cynarski 2010a, 2015a]. The authors conduct a reflection on cultural tourism from a new-paradigmatic

perspective – systemic and interdisciplinary points of view as well as a central human being location as a character of tourist events.

On account of social and cultural contexts [Thomas, Znaniecki 1918-1920; Znaniecki 1934; Rojek, Urry 1997; Cuvelier 1999; Cohen 2004], meetings or events, application of culture dialogues theory, present in systemic and anthropological concept (mentioned above), will be useful here. “On the way meetings” term seems to be an engaging term in the theory, proposed by Cynarski [2000a]. New situations, especially meetings with interesting people, enrich in a new experience and knowledge, what is also the main aim of scientific trips. The scientific goal (cognitive, educational or self-creation/self-fulfillment) does not exclude the existence of other aims and motives of scientist-tourist [Cohen 2004; Cynarski 2012; Cynarski, Āuriček 2014; Cynarski 2015a; Slocum, Kline, Holden 2015].

It is not about tourism as a scientific discipline [*cf.* Butowski 2011]. It is on touristic trips of scientists. In this form of tourism social roles of tourists and researchers, scientists and travelers can be changeable [*cf.* Slocum, Kline, Holden 2015]. It is difficult to say, who you are in this moment. The roles are parallel and exist at the same time.

In the paper, the authors took up the scientific problem which is a multifaceted analysis of scientific trip on the base of one study tour. It means that this is a case study [Philimore, Goodson 2004; Richards, Munsters 2010], that illustrates more general rules. It was participatory observation of the authors of the paper simultaneously. Moreover, one used a qualitative content analysis [Krippendorff 2004; Mayring 2004] of the literature of the subject.

The method used here is a single case study research, both descriptive, interpretive and evaluative, with participant observation and photographic documentation. The method of visual sociology was additionally used - the material are photos made on site [Sztompka 2004; Wagner 2006; Cynarski 2015b; Skinner, Edwards, Corbett 2015: 116-133]. Also, the qualitative methods are preferable here [*cf.* Znaniecki 1934; Richards, Munsters 2010].

The elaboration of the problem represents a valuable contribution to the discussion on scientific tourism as well as introduction to deeper and broader research in scientific tourism area.

Because the topics of the study tour were connected with sport sciences and health sciences, the analysis of the case can be interesting for reflection about social sciences of sport, physical culture sciences, theory of tourism and recreation, and sociology of science (functioning of scientific institutions, and institutionalisation) [*cf.* Pańczyk 2012; Pawłucki 2012]. It is only a short contribution for this subject – in this area.

THE LITERATURE OF THE SUBJECT

Going in for science demands a proper functioning of “scientific communication”, which means debates, discussions, and polemics as well as thoughts and ideas’ exchange. Nowadays, articles in scientific journals with such debates and discussions on hypothesis and research reports make it possible to share the knowledge in a global scale. Moreover, emails and new technologies and Internet also make it easier to contact with each other. On the other hand, scientific communication also means face to face contacts and discussions which can’t be replaced by any technology. As Czachorowski points: “Scientific conferences are still popular – specialists meet in one place to listen to presentations/reports, see and read scientific posters as well as discuss during plenary sessions and unofficial meetings and chats. The results of the meetings (all-Poland or international) are not only mutual inspirations and fast and creative transfer of ideas. The effects are seen as articles or monographs as well as common grants and scientific initiatives. There are also negatives for the region. Scientists meet in various venues. Not only in big cities, the conferences are often organised in small towns, near to the nature, off the beaten tracks. It is good to think, discuss and reflect in such conditions. The events are often organized out of tourist season (because of vacancies and

lower prices). There are more and more scientists all over the world. They also have money for research and knowledge dissemination thanks to taking part in conferences, congresses or symposiums. This is a growing group of clients for tourist industry but very demanding at the same time. This is also a very influential and opinion-forming society.” [Czachorowski 2014]

Scientific tourism is not only seen as scientific conferences and participation in events like these, what could be defined as “congress tourism” and “meetings’ industry” from tourism economy perspective. The authors propose the following definition of scientific (science) tourism: “**Science tourism** is a travel topic grouping scientific attractions. It covers interests in visiting and exploring scientific landmarks, including museums, laboratories, observatories and universities.” [Wikivoyage 2014]

Status of research and scientific discussion in this area is not very rich. There is probably only one collective monograph in English [Slocum, Kline, Holden 2015], one book in Polish [Cynarski 2015b], and sparse series of articles on the subject [e.g. Sztompka 2004; Piskozub 2007; Kosiewicz 2011; Kosiewicz 2014; Molokáčová, Molokáč 2011; Cynarski, Ďuriček 2014; Cynarski, Rut 2014; Cynarski, Sieber, Mytskan 2015; Cynarski 2017; Cynarski, Kubala 2017; Cynarski, Swider 2017a]. The authors agree that the main reason for the departure at a scientific conference or study tour is to develop the scientific participant - gaining new knowledge, presentation of research results, organising of a research group, sometimes a publication of these results etc., which does not exclude other motives and goals yet.

PROGRAM OF THE STUDY TOUR

Thanks to acquaintance of the first author with the Head of Kinesiology Chair (*nota bene*, common video-conferences took place earlier) and his hospitality, it was possible to organize such a trip and arrival of a team from Poland to Urbana-Champaign, USA. Here, at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, Department of Kinesiology and Community Health, the Polish visit was officially listed in the Department activities program. The stay of Polish delegates was financed from “Modernity and Future of the Region” Program as well as from the European Social Fund.

A meeting with Prof. PhD Wojtek (Wojciech) Chodzko-Zajko, Department Head of Kinesiology and Community Health, was the first point. Next, the authors had lunch with PhD student of the Professor, Mr. Emerson Sebastiao from Brazil, and then tour of campus took place. Furthermore, dinner with the Head of the department was organized in the evening. In this place in Urbana-Champaign Prof. Florian Znaniecki, an outstanding Polish sociologist, worked and rested in the cemetery.

The next day, it was two hours seminar, held by Prof. PhD W. Chodzko-Zajko (photo 1). The following scientists participated in the seminar as well: Prof. PhD Monika Stodolska, Department Head of Recreation, Sport and Tourism, Kim Graber PhD, Amy Woods PhD, Hillary Klonoff-Cohen PhD, Steve Petruzzello PhD, and four delegates from Poland.

One planned meetings with heads of separate chairs, departments and laboratories (photo 2). The delegates visited the following places: Exercise Neuroscience Research Lab (meeting with Robert Motl, PhD), Neurocognitive Kinesiology Lab (meeting with Chuck Hillman, PhD), Renal and Cardiovascular Research Lab (meeting with Ken Wilund, PhD), Tour Pedagogy Lab (meeting with Mrs. Gabriella McLoughin, doctoral candidate). The official meeting with the Dean of the College of Applied Health Sciences took place as well. Prof. PhD Tanya M. Gallagher entertained Polish delegates in her office where a long and nice conversation about scientific problems, research institutions as well as possibilities of cooperation took place.



Photo 1. Polish delegates from University of Rzeszów, Poland with the assistance of Prof. W. Chodsko-Zajko PhD (in the middle)
(Source: the authors' archives)



Photo 2. Visiting laboratories of the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, Department of Kinesiology and Community Health (Source: the authors' archives)

University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign is a highly valued university in USA and in the world. It was established in 1867 and it can be proud of twenty two Nobel Prize winners. The university focuses rather on scientific research than didactic. It has a suitable infrastructure and facilities – good equipped labs, good conditions for the didactic process as well as great recreational and sport base. Students can also train in numerous clubs and sections of different martial arts, next to many strictly sport sections. Border of Urbana and Champaign runs through the middle of underground university library. What is characteristic, in the institutional order of the library, health sciences are put together with the social ones.

Chicago is the biggest city of Illinois State. The biggest attraction of the city is Museum of Science and Industry. Therefore, the scientists from Poland could not omit the place. The museum is a very modern venue with interactive exposition which needs a day long visit. There was globe a spinning in the air (geography), U-505 submarine (history), Tesla coil (physics), DNA show (biology), etc.

The University of Chicago was the second most important place in Chicago for the Polish delegates. That is one of 10 best American universities. The delegates visited the University campus, the library (photos 3-4) and few institutes. Moreover, one also visited Field Museum and the Shed Aquarium.



Photos 3. By Harper Memorial Library, the University of Chicago
(Source: the authors' archives)



Photos 4. By Harper Memorial Library, the University of Chicago
(Source: the authors' archives)

The Polish delegates also planned to visit the following places: New York and CUNY, the City University of New York. The acquaintance and cooperation with Prof. PhD Howard Z. Zeng made it possible to have a partner contact with Brooklyn College, Department of Physical Education and Exercise Science and Prof. PhD Benjamin Johnson, who is a Head of Physical Education and Exercise Science Department, at Brooklyn College of the CUNY. He represents kinesiology, too. The Poles took part in a factual seminar with H. Z. Zeng, PhD. The seminar was focused on scientific and research cooperation, both former and future. Next, Chinese, Japanese and Thai cuisine was tasted during a dinner (photo 8).

The team also visited the Central Park in New York City – a recreational centre of the city (photo 5), where New Yorkers run for health reasons. On the way to the Statue of Liberty (photo 7) one could see American squirrels (photo 6). In the museum of the former fort, proudly named Castel Clinton National Monument, one could support American national parks by buying American plush squirrel. There was also a big eagle – a monument for American soldiers killed during II World War, a great brass bull on the Wall Street as well as a monument under construction next to the new “one world trade center” building.



Photo 5. In the Central Park, New York
Source: the authors' archives



Photo 6. Grey squirrel (*Sciurus carolinensis*)
Source: the authors' archives



Photo 7. The Statue of Liberty
Source: the authors' archives

MEETINGS ON THE WAY

As Prof. Andrzej Szyszko-Bohusz says: nothing happens by chance; the situations we are in and the people we meet, these are our chances to better men, richer spiritually. It is also not unimportant who we meet during our trips, on the way.

Prof. PhD Wojciech Chodzko-Zajko (photo 1) is an outstanding scientist, kinesiology specialist. He is former President of the American Kinesiology Association (AKA) as well as the initiator of general American concept of kinesiology. Similar to physical culture sciences in Poland, the AKA's activity focuses on physical activity (sport for all), but professional sport in a small scale. Prof. W. Chodzko-Zajko underlined in his speech during the seminar that the relations between physical activity and health and well-being are paramount. Except bio-medical aspects, kinesiology teaching includes cultural, historical and philosophical dimensions of physical activity [Newell 2007; Chodzko-Zajko 2014].

The Professor gave many hints during the discussion, concerning directions of activity (teaching process, programs, research, etc.) as well as evolving from sport and physical education sciences into kinesiology and public health. Moreover, Prof. PhD Tanya M. Gallagher also gave many valuable hints to the Polish delegates. She mentioned about participation in international research without own financial sources. What is important, initial discussions concerning possible bilateral cooperation took place.

Emerson Sebastiao, Brazilian, who is PhD student at Urbana-Champaign, is also a junior research worker of traditional *Angola capoeira* style. He claims, that *capoeira* means rather a kind of culture, dance, rhythm and music to martial art. That is a controversial opinion. Researchers from the international IPA team¹ claim that: "for scientific analysis the phenomenon of *capoeira* is especially interesting (...) Basic interpretations of what *capoeira* is or isn't are debatable. Is it a form of dancing, martial arts form or fighting art/combat

¹ IPA – Idokan Poland Association; martial arts', scientific and educational association, non-governmental organization, non-profit; it has acted mostly in Poland and Germany since 1993. It especially conducts educational and research as well as publishing activity.

sport?” [Cynarski, Sieber 2012: 40-41]. Certainly, motives, values and aims and seeing a separate martial art can be quite different for various objects.



Photo 8. Dinner with Prof. Howard Z. Zeng (Source: the authors' archives)

Prof. PhD Howard Zhenhao Zeng, a Chinese by descent, is a sport coach and educationist, and an active member of the AIESEP². As a result of taking part in several conferences organized by the association (Jyväskylä, Sapporo, A Coruna, Warsaw), the first author of the paper made friends with Prof. Zeng. Therefore, the meeting in New York was obvious (photo 8) [Cynarski 2010a: 85]. The next steps of scientific cooperation have been planned, as well as ping-pong single match. It is worth to mention that Prof. Zeng was a representative and a coach of PRC national team in table tennis once.

One of effects of the meeting and longer co-operation was publishing of results of the American-Polish research. It was published a book, monographic elaboration by Zeng and Cynarski [2016].

The most important in such study tour (and human trip, life?) is meeting with other, interesting people. We can help each other, and it makes us richer in new knowledge.

DISCUSSION

What was special in the study tour? We can make a comparison with other similar work. For instance, in conclusion of his article Cynarski [2017] writes:

“It was found that the described meeting and seminar served both the practice of martial arts as well as scientific research, assessment of the situation and planning of further activities. Several people were honoured and further stages of cooperation were established. It is a certain *novum* in the reflection on this kind of tourism that one of its stated objectives may be the coordination of activities in the field of institutionalization.”

Aims and programme of this study tour was of other character. Practical dimension was more accented: in topics, in workshops, in practical aims. Whereas in the “American tour” programme focused on new knowledge, cooperation in research and other strictly scientific aims. It was a time to learn about new methods and consult interesting projects.

² AIESEP - Association Internationale des Ecoles Superieures d'Education Physique / International Association for Physical Education in Higher Education. It is professional, non-profit, non-governmental organization.

There is an agreement among researchers that scientific tourism is a very positive phenomenon for science development, scientists, as well as for tourism economy [Schäfer 1995; Cynarski 2010b; Kosiewicz 2011, 2014; Cynarski, Ďuriček 2014]. Both researchers and theoreticians consider human aspects and values in here, particularly symbolic and religious dimensions [Kosiewicz 2014; Cynarski, Ďuriček 2014]. Scientific tourism links to other forms of tourism, especially to cultural tourism [Munsters 2008; Mikos von Rohrscheidt 2009; Cynarski 2015a; Cynarski, Kubala 2017], through cognitive needs' fulfillment.

Mikos von Rohrscheidt [2008, 2009] claims that study tours are part of culture tourism and even is its classical form. Whereas, Mika [2007] accepts broader term category, which is cognitive tourism. Scientific tourism, as a separate category, is described rather rarely. The following authors [Cynarski 2010b; Kosiewicz 2011, 2014; Molokáčová, Molokáč 2011; Cynarski, Ďuriček 2014] pay attention to the specificity of the kind of tourism which is interesting (as a phenomenon) also for the sociology of science.

Departure for a scientific conference is one of the various forms of tourism, or sometimes refuses to identify it as a tourist trip. In particular, it may be scientific tourism [Cynarski 2015b] or congress / business tourism [Piskozub 2007; Sawicki 2016], depending on the criteria for classification. Because we used here the systemic and anthropological theoretical paradigm of tourism with conception of non entertainment tourism (for higher values) [Obodynski, Cynarski 2004; Cynarski 2015a], we can speak on cultural and scientific tourism [*cf.* Munsters 2008; Buczkowska 2014].

There are some types of the scientific trip: 1) for taking part in a conference or in a congress of a scientific association [Cynarski, Kubala 2017; Cynarski, Swider 2017a], 2) for other scientific meeting, consultation among experts or something similar [*cf.* Cynarski 2017], 3) for field, outdoor research [*cf.* Cynarski, Swider 2017b], 4) for a study tour - for new knowledge [Guenter 2003; Mika 2007; Cynarski, Sieber, Mytskan 2015]. Of course, participant of a conference or other event can play some different roles. For example, he or she can be invited speaker and keynote lecturer, or only a normal participant who pays for his or hers participation and takes part.

Some scientific journeys or trips are connected with participation in congresses and conferences. Whereas, some trips are typical study tours, as presented in the paper above. [Schäfer 1995; Cynarski 2000b; Cynarski 2000c]. It also can be a trip for spatial purposes and outdoor research for culture anthropologist, sociologist or archeologist. Such a trip can also have a mixed character that manifests itself in: participation in a conference, plus visiting museums and city tour, and meetings with scientists, etc. [Guenter 2003; Cynarski 2000b; 2010b]. The common feature is the realization of scientific aims, conducting research and discussions.

'*Non-entertaining tourism*' concept [Cynarski 2012, 2015a] describes these kinds of tourism in which the dominant goal is to meet higher needs presented in A. Maslow's hierarchy. Scientific tourism has become an inherent part of those needs because it supports values connected with the science (educational, cognitive, self-creation – self-development and creation – development of a scientific institution). Symbolism in scientific tour is similar to cultural tourism. Its illustrations are logos of universities, gates of university buildings, photographs with well-known people – icons of the university or souvenirs of integration meetings and visited venues, etc. (photos 1-8); [*cf.* Bryl 2012; Cynarski, Rut 2014].

CONCLUSIONS

Summing up, scientific tourism is a determinant of science's development, advantageous for scientists and their individual careers. It serves scientific goals - research conducting and discussing its results, enriches in new knowledge. This kind of trip is study tour. Scientific tourism joins with other forms of tourism, especially with culture tourism

thanks to fulfilling cognitive needs. There are unusually human aspects and values of symbolic and religious dimensions.

'Non-entertaining tourism' concept describes these kinds of tourism in which the dominant goal is to meet higher needs. Scientific tourism has become an inherent part of those needs because it supports values connected with the science - educational, cognitive, self-creation and creation. One can also meet interesting people and visit new places (a little squirrel and the Statue of Liberty, eagle and bull).

The study tour presented in the paper occurred to be a full success of both participants and organizers, what is reflected in their unanimous opinions. The attributes mentioned above took place and the program was fully realized. New knowledge and associating values place the journey and studies (scientific internship) in a favourable light, giving a full satisfaction.

All photos taken by: Dr Agata Rzeszutko-Polak and Mgr Joanna Piech

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