

**ANNUAL REPORT of the Polish Federation of BPW**  
**April 24, 2005 – April 8,2006**

**I. General Information**

- The Executive Board:
  - Katarzyna Bekasiak - President
  - Mirosława Stryjska - Vice President
  - Ewa Przybylska - Secretary
  - Grażyna Cieślak - Treasurer
  - Ewa Papla - Past President
  
- The Polish Federation of BPW consists of 6 clubs in Poland: BPW Poznan, BPW Poznan East-West, BPW Warszawa, BPW Lublin, BPW Łódź, and BPW Jarocin.
  
- 117 members in total as of December 31st, 2005.
  
- All dues for 2005 were paid in Lucerne in June 2005.
  
- 11 closed meetings were held to discuss:
  - Ongoing matters;
  - Participation in the European funded programs.

**II. Activities**

1. The Polish Federation was a Partner in the European Program: "Women in the Business World – Enhancement of Female Entrepreneurship" funded by The European Union in the framework of programmes and actions in the social and employment sectors.

This project was coordinated by the Cyprus Ministry of Justice and Public Order/National Machinery for Women's Rights and BPW Cyprus. BPW Germany and KETHI Greece were also the Partners.

The main objective of the Project was the promotion of change in gender roles and the establishment of gender equality. Each Partner organized one conference and one seminar.

On May 16th, 2005 – the Polish Federation organized a large conference in Puszczykowo with the participation of over 120 people from all over Poland.

2. June 6th, 2005 - Katarzyna Bekasiak took part in the Conference in Athens, organized by KETHI Greece;
3. June 17th-21st, 2005 – 4 of our members took part in the Jubilee European Congress in Lucern, where Ewa Papla was accepted as an ECC Member;
4. August 24th,2005 – a special meeting was held in Jarocin to constitute a new club;
5. September 17th, 2005 – BPW organized an official meeting in Poznan with other women’s organization to support Mrs Henryka Bochniarz as a candidate for the President of Poland. The meeting was conducted by Katarzyna Bekasiak;
6. September 23rd, 2005 – Katarzyna Bekasiak took part in the conference in Hamburg organized by BPW Germany within the frame of the Project: „Women in the Business World – Enhancement of Female Entrepreneurship“;
7. September 20th, 2005 – two members of our Federation were awarded by the President of Poland for their 15-year activity for women’s issues:
  - Mrs Anna Spaczynska – with Gold Cross;
  - Mrs Ewa Papla – with Silver Cross;
8. October 10th, 2005 – BPW organized a one day seminar for women from rural, problematic and undeveloped area in Poland as a continuation of the Project: „Women in the Business World– Enhancement of Female Entrepreneurship“;
9. October 17th, 2005 – BPW was invited by the Proxy Minister of Equal Status to a discussion aimed at creating a serious political statement: 13 steps to equal rights in the new political situation in Poland;

10. November 2nd, 2005 – Ewa Papla took part in the final Conference in Nicosia to close the Project: „Women in the Business World – Enhancement of Female Entrepreneurship“;
11. November 16th, 2005 – BPW signed a petition addressed to the new Polish Prime Minister, in protest to the cancellation of the office of the Minister of Equal Rights;
12. December 19th, 2005 – A 2 year EU funded program was started. Prepared by BPW, it is entitled “Program for the Social Activation of Women” and is a comprehensive program aimed at assisting professional career development for women in Poznan and its surroundings. Funded by the European Social Fund, Section 1.6 – Integration and Reintegration of Women in to the Work Force.  
Ewa Papla took office as a Director of the Program;
13. March 8th, 2006 – official inauguration of the Program;
14. March 8th,2005 – A Candlelighting Ceremony for 3 BPW clubs took place in Atrium Hotel in Puszczykowo.

Katarzyna Bekasiak  
Immediate Past President of BPW POLAND