Geomorphology of the southern side of Bellsund – Leader Piotr Zagórski

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Since 1986 the Bellsund Region (NW part of Wedel Jarlsberg Land), has been explored by the members of Polar Expeditions organised by M.C. Skłodowska University in Lublin. The main base was located in Calypsobyen, the western coast of the Recherche Fiord.

Within the programme of Expeditions some interdisciplinary researches of polar environment have been done. Among them there are Earth Science (geomorphology, geology, meteorology, soil science, environment protection) and Biology (botany, biochemistry) and radiochemistry. As the reflection a lot of scientists of various fields have been present in Expeditions.

The interest was the relief, cover formations and paleogeography of Pleistocene, the functioning of glacial and periglacial geoecosystems in local and global conditions of climate changes and the influence of anthropogenesis. The introduction of the latest computer technology and method of positioning allow making cartographical view of the relief.

The effect of 18th Expeditions has been numerous publications in national and international magazines, as the examples below confirm:

– Zalewski M.S. (ed.) 2000. *Bibliography of Polish Research in Spitsbergen Archipelago 1930–1996, part I*, Publications of the Institute of Geophysics Polish Academy of Sciences, Warszawa;
– Zagórski P., 1998. *Spitsbergen Bibliography: Geomorphology, Glaciology and Quaternary Geology*. IV Conference of Polish Geomorphologists II, Spitsbergen Geographical Expeditions, (ed.) J. Repelewska-Pękalowa, Wyd. UMCS, Lublin, 291–314.

The results of the studies were presented in many conferences and national sessions as well as internationally, for example International Conferences on Permafrost: Trondheim (1988), Beijing (1993), Zurich (2003), and in conferences: Frankfurt/Main (1989), Mainz (1992) and Potsdam (2005).