

The 1996 publication of the book The History of the Lithuanian Language was a most painful and tragic event in Ramute's life. The author of this book, Zigmantas Zinkevicius, was the most famous Lithuanian language linguist. He was a professor at the University of Vilnius.

He asked Ramute to translate this book from the original Lithuanian language into English. She spent several years devoting all of her spare time to translating this 332-page book. Yes—332 pages!

She thought that she had a firm agreement with Zinkevicius concerning several matters about this translation. First, she would be fully credited for the translation. Secondly, she would be paid for her time. Given finances at the University of Vilnius, and the state of Lithuania's economy at that time, she was willing to accept a very low salary. A symbolic salary would have sufficed.

My own personal note concerning this is, given the length of the book, and the need for her to frequently write to Zinkevicius to clarify technical linguistic expressions, Ramute should have been a co-author.

What actually happened was tragic.

She was given no credit for the translation! On the second page of the book, one finds "TRANSLATED BY RAMUTE PLIOPLYS". This was not printed in the book. This is a sticker that was affixed to that page purely in response to Ramute's demand that it be placed there. The original publication made no mention of Ramute's incredibly hard work.

Needless to say, Ramute did not receive one penny for the years of work that she put into this labor.

Zinkevicius' conduct was totally unprofessional and disgusting.

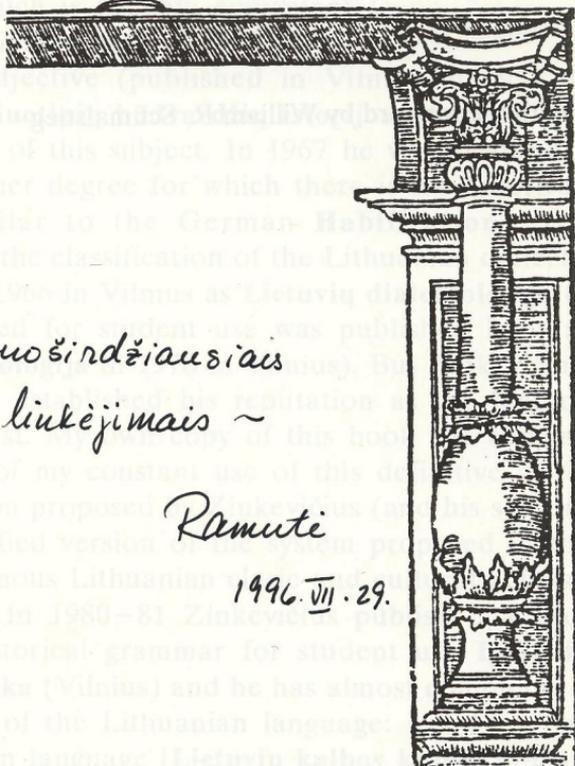
The linguistics faculty at the University of Vilnius should be, and continue to be, totally ashamed of their conduct in this case.

A remedy is available. This linguistics faculty could donate a generous amount of funds to the Ramute Plioplys Memorial Fund, held at the Lithuanian Foundation in Chicago, Illinois. After Ramute's death, I established this fund, and was the primary fund provider. All of the annual proceeds from this fund provide scholarship support for students would be studying Lithuanian linguistics.

Audrius V. Plioplys MD, FRCPC

December 29, 2018

Zigmas Zinkevičius
The **H** *istory*
of the **Lithuanian**
Language



Audriui,

*Su nuošindžiausiais
linkėjimais ~*

Ramuti

1996. VII. 29.



Mokslo ir
enciklopedijų
leidykla
Vilnius 1996

UDK 808.82-087
Zi-102

INSTITUTE OF LITHUANIAN LANGUAGE

TRANSLATED BY RAMUTĖ PLIOPLYS

With a Foreword by William R. Schmalstieg



Mokslu ir
enciklopedija
ISBN 5-420-01363-0

Vilnius 1996

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English translation