

Władysław Barwicki, Nicolaus Copernicus, his predecessors and successors, 1892

The first two pages of Nicolaus Copernicus' *Commentariolus*, the first record of his hypotheses about the revolutions of heavenly spheres. The second page contains the first three postulates of the heliocentric theory

ASTRONOMER



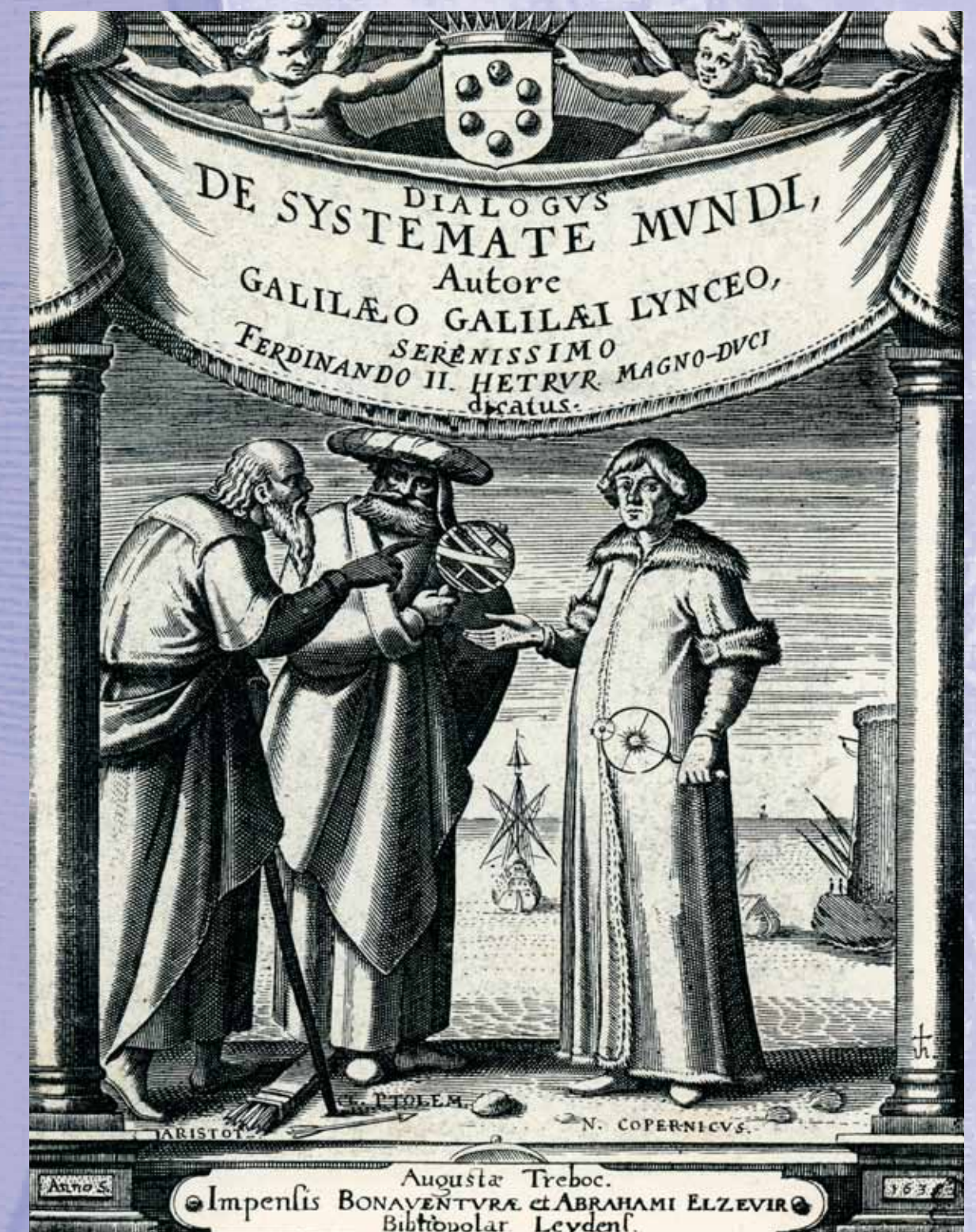
Henryk Redlich, Nicolaus Copernicus teaching astronomy in Rome in 1500, copperplate on the basis of a painting by Wojciech Gerson, 19th century

“There was mention of a certain cleric in Warmia, new astrologer who wanted to prove that the earth moves and not the sky, the Sun, and the Moon. This would be as if somebody were riding on a cart or in a ship and imagined that he was standing still while the earth and the trees were moving. So it goes now. Whoever wants to be clever must agree with nothing that others esteem. He must do something of his own. This is what that fool does who wishes to turn the whole of astronomy upside down. Even in these things that are thrown into disorder I believe the Holy Scriptures, for Joshua commanded the Sun to stand still, and not the Earth”.

Martin Luther in the *Table Talk*.

“In the house in Olsztynek where he resided, over the doors in front of the window he had a hole hewn, through which the sun shed light on a few points in the next room. This was a gnomon which allowed Copernicus to measure the height of the Sun at noon and track the ecliptic”.

Tadeusz Czacki and Marcin Molski in a letter to Jan Śniadecki, 1802.



Jacob van der Heyden, Nicolaus Copernicus in dispute with Aristotle and Ptolemy



Jan Matejko, Astronomer Copernicus, conversation with God, 1873



Copernicus' map of the sky. Andreas Cellarius, *Harmonia Macrocosmica Sev Atlas Universalis Et Novus: Totius Universi Creati Cosmographiam Generalem, Et Novam Exhibens*, Amsterdam, 1661