

An international conference

# THE RISK OF FREEDOM

**Liberal Arts at the Autonomous University:  
Polish Context. American Context**

with participation of representatives from Columbia College,  
Columbia University in the City of New York

## PROGRAM

**JUNE 15, 2018 ■ 9.45 ■ WARSAW ■ DOBRA 72 ■ CONFERENCE ROOM**

FACULTY OF "ARTES LIBERALES", COLLEGIUM ARTES LIBERALES,  
UNIVERSITY OF WARSAW



# COLLEGIUM ARTES LIBERALES MISSION STATEMENT

Whereas, taking into consideration the fundamental objectives of our institution, the University of Warsaw, as formulated by its founders in 1816: *the University exists not only to maintain education and skills in the nation to the same standard as the learned world already knows, but also to improve them, disseminate them, and use their theory for the benefit of the society.*

Whereas, seeking to fulfill these purposes today, we are convinced that:

- The cornerstone of the University is the unity of learning and teaching
- The University's social mission is to ensure access to knowledge and acquisition of skills
- The University's civic mission is to educate young leaders for Poland who will employ in their activity the force of argument, and not the argument of force
- The University's cultural mission is to integrate universal and local values

Whereas, we believe that fulfilling this mission and its objectives will only be possible when

- the University attracts the best students and becomes an attractive workplace for the best faculty,
- teaching methods enable and encourage mutual interaction between professors and students
- challenging both to make the greatest possible intellectual effort to build a spirit of an authentic *universitas studiorum*,
- a broad interdisciplinary context provides the basis for developing the individual skills and interests required for effective life and work in a knowledge- and information-based society

Whereas, it will be the aim of the Collegium Artes Liberales to educate University graduates who:

- understand the social and institutional principles shaping civic activity,
- are able to make thoughtful and active contributions to the world of culture,
- know how to pose questions and formulate problems,
- are able to find sound and cogent answers and know how to implement them through cooperative action,
- are capable of reflection on the human condition and on the world of practical affairs,

- are able to express their opinions and, while respecting other people's opinions, know how to defend their own views in public debate,

Whereas, the Collegium Artes Liberales will offer a diverse selection of classes, conducted in the liberal arts format; namely, classes that:

- develop the ability of critical thinking, analysis, and comprehension of written text or delivered speech, constructing a written statement, and presenting the student's own views in a discussion,
- are held in small groups, ensuring regular contact between and among students and professors, which gives every participant the opportunity to participate actively in classes,
- stimulate development of small, clearly-identified communities (that include the faculty), which serve to promote civic attitudes and behavior in the academic setting, in the University's immediate urban environment, in the wider region, and in the country as a whole

Whereas, in its activities, the Collegium will make use of the experience of other countries, including leading U.S. universities and liberal arts colleges,

Whereas, the Collegium Artes Liberales comes in response to the challenges facing our University as we enter a new millennium, and at the same time marks a return to the sources of the university as an institution, understood to mean a community of teachers and learners,

**We do, therefore, solemnly resolve, to establish the Collegium Artes Liberales affiliated with, and as an integral element of, the University of Warsaw.**

the 10<sup>th</sup> of December 2008

the University of Warsaw  
the "Artes Liberales Institute" Foundation  
the Endeavor Foundation

# PROGRAM

- 9:45–10:00 a.m.      **Introductory remarks:** Jerzy Axer and Lisa Hollibaugh
- 10:00–10:30 a.m.      Opening lecture: **Liberal Arts and Risks for Freedom**, Ira Katznelson
- 10:30–12:00              Panel I: **The Risk of Freedom – Institutional Perspective**  
Moderator: Marek Wąsowicz  
Panelists: Marcin Pałys, Gábor Klaniczay, Irina Savelieva
- 12:00–12:15 p.m.      Coffee/Tea break
- 12:15–2:00 p.m.        Panel II: **The Risk of Freedom – Crossing the East-West Border**  
Moderator: Paweł Stępień and Irina Savelieva
- 1. Polish-Siberian Academic Partnership**  
                                 Jan Kieniewicz and Ayur Zhanaev
- 2. Polish-Ukrainian Academic Partnership**  
                                 Robert A. Sucharski and Taras Finikov
- 3. Polish-Russian-German Academic Partnership**  
                                 Paweł Stępień and Jörg Schulte
- 2:00–3:00 p.m.            Lunch
- 3:00–4:30 p.m.           Panel III: **The Risk of Freedom – Humanists in Action**  
Moderator: Jerzy Axer
- 1. Engaged humanities in Europe, Center for Research and Practice in Cultural Continuity**  
                                 Justyna Olko
- 2. Our Mythical Childhood, Cluster “The Past for the Present: International Research and Educational Programme”**  
                                 Katarzyna Marciniak and Sonya Nevin
- 4:30–5:30 p.m.           Summarizing discussion: **Liberal Arts – The Risk and Freedom**  
Moderator: Jolanta Choińska-Mika  
Panelists: Jerzy Axer, Lisa Hollibaugh, Ira Katznelson, Jan Miernowski
- 7:00 p.m.                   Speakers’ dinner

# PARTICIPANTS

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**Prof. Jolanta Choińska-Mika**

Vice-Rector of the University of Warsaw for Student Affairs and Quality of Teaching, Chairman of the Council of the Collegium Artes Liberales

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President of the International Fund for Education Policy Research, Deputy Minister of Education and Science of Ukraine in 2009–2010, Former Rector of the "KROK" University, Kiev

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Collaborator in the Project "Searching for Identity: Global Challenges, Local Traditions", Faculty of "Artes Liberales" and Faculty of History, University of Warsaw