One year of the Academia Europaea Knowledge Hub in Wroclaw

December 16, 2011 the Board of Trustees of the Academia Europaea announced the establishment of a new centre of the Academia Europaea in Wroclaw. The new Hub was established with the support of the Mayor and the City of Wroclaw. The main aims of the Academia Europaea Knowledge Hub-Wroclaw are to provide high level academic activities and to strengthen European relationships between academic communities.

Regimes of Memory Conference

In 2012 the Hub developed a range of high quality international activities including one-day open conference on Regimes of memory, patterns of consolidation. comparative issues which was held at and in the cooperation with the University of Wroclaw on October 30, 2012. Professor Iván Zoltán Dénes, an active member of the Academia Europaea, was the initiator and exercised substantive supervision over this international meeting of scholars. The Wroclaw office staff took care of the organizational aspects of the event. The main question of the conference was how different communities were able to process their collective traumatic historical experiences, and what can be learned from the outcomes and dynamics of these processes. Inaugural speech was delivered by the president of the Academia Europaea, professor Lars Walløe. The lectures were given by, among others, professor Pieter Emmer (University of Leiden on Dutch courage? Changes in the historical self-perception of the Netherlands), professor Maciej Janowski (Polish Academy of Sciences, on Interpreting Regimes of Memory in Poland from East Central European Comparative Approach. Cases and Contexts) and professor Balázs Trencsényi (Central European University, on The post-1989 revival of the National characterology in Romania, Hungary and Bulgaria). The contributions to this conference will be published in the European Review, the Journal of the Academia Europaea, published by Cambridge University Press.

Visiting Lectures

The aim of visiting lectures is to support the process of development of academic potential through participation of visiting professors from abroad. This way, the Academia Europaea wishes to increase the attractiveness of the educational offer provided to students, PhD. candidates and all scholars from Wroclaw.
The first visiting lecture took place at the Institute of Political Sciences on October 29, 2012. Doctor Chantal Kesteloot from The Centre for Historical Research and Documentation on War and Contemporary Society gave an outstanding lecture about political transformation of Belgium. The second lecture took place at the Academia Europaea Knowledge Hub-Wroclaw on December 18, 2012. Professor Anne Buttimer, vice-president of the Academia Europaea, professor emerita of Geography at University College Dublin and former president of the International Geographical Union talked about Changing Perspectives on Society and Environment: Retrospect and Prospect.

Board Meeting

On July 7-8, 2012 Academia Europaea Wroclaw Knowledge Hub hosted the meeting of the Board of the Academia Europaea. The meeting was mainly focused on next year’s anniversary conference. Among the discussed topics were the title of the conference, invitation of Nobel Prize winners and organizational aspects of the venue.

Outlook

In 2013, a number of wide scope high quality international activities are planned by the Academia Europaea Knowledge Hub-Wroclaw. These include: 25th Academia Europaea Annual Meeting, summer schools, seminars and other interdisciplinary projects, such as students practices.

The most important task for the Academia Europaea Knowledge Hub-Wroclaw is to organise 25th Annual Meeting which will be held at the Wroclaw Congres Center on September 17-19, 2013. The annual meetings are open to the public, students and scholars. The aim is to engage interests and participation from all scientific disciplines and local scholars.
The Erasmus National Agency in Poland has decided to co-found the project *Summer School on Democracy. How old and new democracies cope with the economic crisis*, organized by the University of Wrocław and other universities from Europe (e.g. University of Bucharest or Free University of Brussels). The Wrocław summer school will offer a possibility for students and scholars to learn and to carry out research in a multinational academic environment and will take place in June 2013. The Academia Europaea has decided to make a contribution to this initiative.

Two prominent scholars and members of the Academia Europaea have agreed to participate in the *Summer School on Democracy* offering two lectures. Academia Europaea Knowledge Hub-Wrocław is going to provide optimum coordination between the main organizer, the University of Wrocław, and Academia Europaea.

In 2013 the Academia Europaea Knowledge Hub-Wrocław will organize at least two visiting lectures. One of the lectures will be held by professor Lars Walløe, president of the Academia Europaea. Possible topic of the lecture is: *Epidemics of Bubonic plague in Europe - causes and consequences*.

Another activity of the Academia Europaea Knowledge Hub-Wroclaw planned for 2013 is to develop high quality seminars. This initiative is possible thanks to the Riksbankens Jubileumsfond in Sweden which has given a subsidy to the Academia Europaea to organize three seminars in social sciences and humanities in 2013/2014. The titles of the seminars are:

- *Early Modern Print Culture in East-Central Europe,*
- *Literary Margins and Digital Media,*
- *Central European Representations of Colonial Worlds.*

All three seminars will give special attention to the role of communication technologies. The objective is to pinpoint places in Central Europe in knowledge networks, on a European scale and globally. The intention is to establish an annual plan of meetings of highlevel learning programmes and bring to Wroclaw the very best European scholars.

Student practices are also a very important aspect of the activity of the Academia Europaea Knowledge Hub-Wroclaw and a very valuable aspect of development of students. The goal of this initiative is to use in practical way material learned at the university and to bridge the gap between theory and practice in the educational system.

**To contact us:**
Academia Europaea Knowledge Hub-Wroclaw
Rynek 13
50-101 Wroclaw, Poland
tel. / fax +48 71 770 20 26
e-mail. nowak@acadeuro.wroclaw.pl
http://www.acadeuro.org/