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O P O L S K I

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Prospering in Academia: 3rd Central European International Week

*University of Opole, Opole, Poland
International Conference, 21-22 April 2020*

Academic careers may still enjoy some prestige and tend to be popular among some graduate students who might be willing to follow the footsteps of their professors. Yet, the reality of handling the research, teaching and administrative duties with mixed return at the expense of the insecurity or instability and high competitiveness as well as blurred work/life balance yields different outcomes and tends to be ambiguous and contradictory at different stages of university trajectories. The context of the higher education is at the same time the one of growing anti-intellectualism and loss of trust in science on one hand, and of a precarious and ultra liberal character of efficiency and applicability on the other. It is hence useful to reflect on the issue of what makes it likely (or unlikely) to prosper in academia and how to overcome obstacles and deficiencies academics are faced with. This conference theme is not designed to invite complaints, but rather to enable the sharing of best practices and experiences as well as to offer support.

We invite submissions for (multi)disciplinary presentations that discuss the positive outcomes of research-related stalemates, of recently developed solutions and verified research pathways.

This conference discussion can be directed towards, but not limited to, the following topics:

- balancing theoretical and applied research
- paradigm changes and new areas of research
- improvements in validating the methods and replicating the results
- overcoming the limitations, trends in science of the future
- warrant, relevance and worth in scientific endeavor, ethics in research design
- science for society, civic engagements, democratizing the academia, politics of doing science
- academic impact or evidence-based policies and implementations
- academic freedom and open access
- merits of interdisciplinarity, multidisciplinary and transdisciplinarity
- fostering equality in terms of class, gender, race and ethnicity, inclusive science
- self-development and growth, work-life balance in academia
- effective dissemination and science popularization, achieving visibility

- strategies for administering research and development
- academic career trajectories, academic well-being, mentoring
- academic spaces, contacts and interactions – virtual and real
- academic contracts and forms of employment
- managing research, teaching and administrative duties
- planning careers in academia - prospects of early careers
- managing toxic relations: balancing one's well being and the academic responsibility
- between feudal and participatory - power relations in academic setting

Students and PhD candidates who would like to share their research projects and discuss them with experts are welcome to join the conference panel for students held on 22 April 2020

To take part please register through an **online form** and include the topic of your proposed presentation with a short abstract by **30 March 2020**.

Papers accepted for the conference should be **15 minutes long**.

Scientific Committee

professor Katarzyna Molek-Kozakowska, dr. Michał Wanke

Organizers

Halina Palmer-Piestrak, Karolina Młotek, Katarzyna Herok, Paulina Panic

Important dates

- **Registration** and abstract submission: before 30 March 2020
- Acceptance notifications and preliminary programme: 7 April 2020
- Fee payment: 20 April 2020
- Conference: 21 April 2020
- Student panel: 22 April 2020
- Central European International Week at the University of Opole: 20 – 24 April 2020

Fees

- Conference fee: 30 EUR
- Participation in the International Week and conference: 120 EUR
- Participation of UO students and staff: free of charge
- University of Opole bank account: PL88 1090 2138 0000 0005 5600 0076 (SWIFT: WBK PP LPP)