

Non-University Institutions in Science and Humanities, 1890-2015

Prague 27th – 29th May 2015

The purpose of the conference, organised as a part of the celebrations of the 125th anniversary of founding of the Czech Academy of Sciences and Arts (Česká akademie věd a umění, ČAVU), is to summarise the development and significance of non-university institutions associated with the advancement of science and humanities in the Central and South Eastern Europe (not only in the Czech Republic, but also in other countries of these regions). The conference, which is intended for historians, as well as sociologists, economists, and sciences managers, follows a threefold perspective: historical (summary and description of existing forms of non-university environment and their development); analytical (evaluation of the state of these institutions and analysis of their performance in terms of the needs for further development of education and science); and programmatic (a proposal of a realistic vision of their future functioning). Consequently, it is divided into three sections:

- A. Development between 1890 and 1989 (until the Fall of Communism),
- B. Development between 1989 and 2015,
- C. A round table devoted to the expected future development.

Geographically, the conference focuses mainly on the communities of Central and South Eastern Europe, namely the countries that were part of the Soviet Bloc before 1989 (the Czech Republic, Hungary, Poland, the Baltic states, Romania, countries of former Yugoslavia, and Albania). Topics connected with developments in Germany or Austria will not be avoided. Comparatively, its focus is on the academic community of the whole Europe and the world.

Specific subjects of the conference:

- adopting the model of large academies of sciences in these regions and its modification (19th and early 20th century)
- the significance of non-university institutions in the academic life of a region, country, or state
- their relationship to other types of science and humanities institutions (universities and their institutes, ministerial research, industrial research, NGO, etc.)
- their role in introducing science and humanities to international scholarly networks
- their influence on forming and changing of the scholarly community in these countries and regions

- mechanisms of their functioning, methods of financing, and their role in financing science and humanities in a given country or region
- adopting the Soviet model of an academy of sciences (so called research academy) in this region and overcoming it (from the 1950s to the early 21st century)
- perspectives for future development of non-university science and humanities institutions in the Central and South Eastern Europe and possible forms of their functioning.

The conference is organised by the Masaryk Institute and Archive of the ASCR, in cooperation with the Centre for the History of Sciences and Humanities, Institute for Contemporary History ASCR

The official languages of the conference are English and Czech (translation will be provided).

Conference fee: social evening with refreshment 600 CZK / 25 EUR, students and retirees free.

Deadline for submission of abstracts (up to 200 words) is January 31st, 2015, please send the abstract to the e-mail address: casa125@mua.cas.cz

On behalf of the conference organizers: Doc. PhDr. Martin Franc, Ph.D. (MÚA AV ČR) and PhDr. Antonín Kostlán, CSc. (ÚSD AV ČR)