

GERMAN U15 | VOLKSWAGEN FOUNDATION | U15 CANADA

INTERNATIONAL SCIENCE & POLICY SYMPOSIUM (ISPS)

“NAVIGATING GLOBAL RESPONSIBILITY: HOW RESEARCH-INTENSIVE UNIVERSITIES STRENGTHEN SOCIETIES.”

January 22nd – 23rd, 2025, Herrenhausen Palace, Hanover, Germany

PROGRAM

Wednesday, Jan 22nd

INTERNATIONAL SYMPOSIUM (DAY 1)

14:30-14:45	<p>Opening & Welcome International Science & Policy Symposium <i>Dr. Georg Schütte, Secretary General of Volkswagen Foundation</i></p>
14:45-15:00	<p>Introductory Notes <i>Prof. Michael Hoch, Chair German U15, Rector of the University of Bonn</i></p>
15:00-15:45	<p>Opening Keynote “Navigating Global Responsibility: How Research-Intensive Universities Strengthen Societies“ <i>Prof. Peter Stoicheff, Chair U15 Canada, President and Vice-Chancellor of the University of Saskatchewan</i></p>
15:45-16:15	Coffee Break
16:15-17:30	<p>Panel discussion I: “Excellence in Research, Innovation, and Global Talent Mobility” <i>Featuring: Prof. Uwe Cantner, Chairman of the Commission of Experts for Research and Innovation at the Federal German Government; Prof. Sophie D’Amours, Rector of Université Laval; Prof. Wolfgang Wick, Chair of the German Science and Humanities Council</i> <i>Moderated by: Prof Ed McCauley, President and Vice-Chancellor of University of Calgary</i></p> <p>How do we define excellence? And is “excellence” a suitable concept for achieving the best framework conditions for research and innovation? What kind of political environment and institutional framework conditions are</p>

	<p>required for universities to guarantee excellence in research? How can innovations be strengthened? What framework conditions are needed for this? How do excellence and innovation relate to one another? How does international exchange foster excellence? Who is included or excluded in our notion of “international”?</p> <p>Q&A with audience</p>
17:30-18:00	Wrap-up Day 1
18:00	Reception
Thursday, Jan 23rd	
INTERNATIONAL SYMPOSIUM (DAY 2)	
09:00	Morning Coffee and Welcome
09:30-10:00	<p>Input: “Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion in Higher Education: Research-Intensive Universities as Models of a Just Society”</p> <p><i>Prof. Malinda Smith, Vice-Provost and Associate Vice President Research (Equity, Diversity and Inclusion), University of Calgary</i></p>
10:00-11:00	<p>Panel discussion II: “Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion: What is the University’s Role for Social Stability and Sustainable Progress?”</p> <p><i>Featuring: Prof. Gülay Çağlar, Political Sciences, Gender & Diversity, FU Berlin; Prof. Priscilla Layne, Director of the Center for European Studies, The University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill; Prof. Ingrid Piller, Humboldt Professor at University of Hamburg; Prof. Enrico Schleiff, President of Goethe University Frankfurt;</i> <i>Moderated by: Prof. Patrick Deane, Principal and Vice-Chancellor of Queen’s University</i></p> <p>How do equity, diversity and inclusion factor into universities’ responsibilities as international agents of social stability and sustainable progress? What are main hindrances to turning our universities into equal, diverse and inclusive institutions? How does research on EDI factor into our institutional transition? What role can an inter-institutionally, internationally developed approach – as for instance discussed by U15 Canada and German U15 – play in this?</p> <p>Q&A with audience</p>
11:00-11:30	Coffee Break
11:30-12:00	<p>Input: “Courageous Commitments in Crisis: On Research in Changing Geopolitical Landscapes”</p> <p><i>Prof. Dr. Bogumiła Kaniewska, Rector Adam Mickiewicz University, Poznań</i></p>

12:00-13:00	<p>Panel discussion III: “Navigating Research and Higher Education in Changing Geopolitical Landscapes: What is the Future of International Academic Collaboration?”</p> <p><i>Featuring:</i> Prof. Jeanick Brisswalter, President of Université Côte d’Azur; Prof. Mona Houry, Vice President for Strategy and Diversity at the Hebrew University; Prof. Robin Mason, Pro-Vice Chancellor (International) at University of Birmingham; Prof. Günter M. Ziegler, President of Freie Universität Berlin; <i>Moderated by:</i> Prof. Jacques Frémont, President and Vice-Chancellor of University of Ottawa.</p> <p>How can Universities strengthen international ties despite an increasingly tense global political landscape? What is the university’s singular role in maintaining sustainable social stability? How do Universities provide safe spaces for transnational exchange and debate? What role can an inter-institutionally, internationally developed approach – as for instance discussed by U15 Canada and German U15 – play in this?</p> <p>Q&A with audience</p>
13:00-14:00	Lunch
14:00-14:30	<p>Input: “Pathways to Sustainable Food Systems - Policies and Technologies in an Era of Multiple Crises.”</p> <p><i>Prof. Matin Qaim, Center for Development Research (ZEF), University of Bonn</i></p>
14:30-15:30	<p>Panel discussion IV: “Pathways to Sustainable Food Systems - Policies and Technologies in an Era of Multiple Crises.”</p> <p><i>Featuring:</i> Prof. Angela Bedard-Haughn, Soil Science, University of Saskatchewan; Prof. Peter Dannenberg, Human Geography, University of Cologne; Prof. Thomas Heckeley, Economic and Agricultural Policy at the University of Bonn; Prof. Matin Qaim, Center for Development Research (ZEF), University of Bonn; <i>Moderated by:</i> Prof. Annette Scheersoij, Vice-Rector for Sustainability, University of Bonn</p> <p>How does excellent research contribute to increasing food security globally? How do we deal with shocks to the food system in the wake of natural disasters and climate change? How can food systems be made more environmentally and socially sustainable and resilient? What role does smart digital technologies play in advancing the sustainability of food systems?</p> <p>Q&A with audience</p>
15:30-16:00	Coffee Break
16:00-16:30	<p>Keynote: “Knowledge Production in and for Open Societies: Assaults on Academic Freedom and University Autonomy under Soft Authoritarian Rule.”</p> <p><i>Prof. Shalini Randeria, President & Rector of Central European University</i></p>

16:30-17:30	<p>Panel discussion V: “How Do Universities Remain Spaces of Open Discourse?”</p> <p><i>Featuring:</i> Prof. Klaus Gärditz, Public Law, University of Bonn; Prof. Katrin Kinzelbach, Human Rights Politics, University of Erlangen-Nuremberg; Prof. Shalini Randeria, President & Rector of Central European University; Dr. Kai Sicks, Secretary General of German Academic Exchange Service (DAAD); <i>Moderated by:</i> Katie Gallus, Moderator and Journalist</p> <p>What is the state of academic freedom and free speech on campuses world-wide? How do universities negotiate political responsibility? How can universities provide conditions for democracy to flourish? What kind of political agency do universities have? How has the political role of universities changed over the past few decades?</p> <p>Q&A with audience</p>
17:30-18:00	Wrap-up Day 2
18:00	Reception