

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

TENTATIVE PROGRAM

(speaker and panelists to be confirmed)

| Wednesday, Jan 22 nd | |
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| INTERNATIONAL SYMPOSIUM (DAY 1) | |
| 14:30-15:00 | Opening & Welcome International Science & Policy Symposium |
| 15:00-15:45 | Opening high-level keynote „Navigating Global Responsibility: How Research-Intensive Universities Strengthen Societies“ |
| 15:45-16:15 | <i>Coffee Break</i> |
| 16:15-17:30 | Panel discussion I: “ Excellence in Research, Innovation, and Global Talent Mobility ” <i>Guiding questions: What kind of political conditions are required for universities to guarantee excellence in research, innovation and international exchange? How do we define excellence? How does international exchange foster excellence? Who is included or excluded in our notion of “international”? How do excellence and innovation relate to one another?</i> Q&A with audience |
| 17:30-18:00 | <i>Coffee Break</i> |
| 18:00 | <i>Reception</i> |

Thursday, Jan 23rd

INTERNATIONAL SYMPOSIUM (DAY 2)

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| 09:00 | <i>Morning Coffee and Welcome</i> |
| 09:30-10:00 | Input: “Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion in Higher Education: Research-Intensive Universities as Models of a Just Society” |
| 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>Guiding questions: 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?</i></p> <p>Q&A with audience</p> |
| 11:00-11:30 | <i>Coffee Break</i> |
| 11:30-12:00 | Input: “Couragous Commitments in Crisis: On Universities’ Geopolitical Responsibility” |
| 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>Guiding questions: How can Universities strengthen international ties despite an increasingly tense global political landscape? What is the universities’ singular role in maintaining sustainable social stability? How do Universities provide safe spaces for transnational exchange and debate?</i></p> <p>Q&A with audience</p> |
| 13:00-14:00 | <i>Lunch</i> |
| 14:00-14:30 | Input: “Sustaining Human Life on Earth through Higher Education: How Universities Contribute to Food Security” |
| 14:30-15:30 | <p>Panel discussion IV: “Sustainability and food systems of the future. What universities do for security and stability”</p> <p><i>Guiding questions: How does excellent research contribute to increasing food security globally? Natural desasters and climate change: How do we deal with shocks to the food system? How can food systems be made more environmentally and socially sustainable and resilient?</i></p> <p>Q&A with audience</p> |

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| 15:30-16:00 | <i>Coffee Break</i> |
| 16:00-16:30 | Keynote: “Universities for Democracy: How Research and Education Foster Free Societies” |
| 16:30-17:30 | Panel discussion V: “Do Universities Remain Spaces of Open Discourse?” <i>Guiding Questions: What is the state of academic freedom and free speech on campuses world wide? How do Universities negotiate political responsibility and provide conditions for democracy to flourish?</i> Q&A with audience |
| 17:30-18:15 | Wrap-up and farewell: moderated discussion with 2-3 participants |
| 18:00 | <i>Reception</i> |