

**Siberian Challenges: Siberian-Polish Research Group**

**(headed by prof. Jan Kieniewicz)**

**Scientific activity**

The Group has begun the preparations for submitting a collective research project under the title “Searching for Identity. The Mechanisms of Social Transformation at turning points in history”. It will be an attempt of a comparative study using the achievements of the cooperation with the Siberian academic centers.

**Publishing activity**

The editing (translation, editing, proofing) of the volume „Vstrecha na Baykale. Bremya proshlogo, vyzovy budushchego” (Meeting at Lake Baikal. Burdens of the Past, Challenges of the Future), edited by Andrey Bazarov (Ulan-Ude) and Jan Kieniewicz (University of Warsaw), has been completed. The book (350 pages) had appeared on June 19, 2014.

The Group has been continuing the editing of volume 8 of the Artes Liberales Debates, devoted to the tasks of the intelligentsia in solving social issues in different historical periods and to the position of the humanities in Poland and Russia. For this volume we have used the materials that had been developed during the 2013 Open Seminars.

The Group started working on volume 9 of the Artes Liberales Debates, in which we will publish, among others, the material that was created during the debate of the Siberian Round Table in Warsaw (December 10, 2013).

**Educational activity**

From February until the end of May the cooperation with the doctoral program “Searching for Identity: Global Challenges, Local Traditions” took place. During that period the team of the program was extended to 20 researchers (including 2 professors from Siberian academic centers) and 17 doctoral students (including 5 doctoral students from Siberian academic centers).

Every doctoral student has two supervisors. The seminar meetings resembling research sessions of a large research team take place every two weeks. It is very important to involve young researchers from Siberia into the process of trans-disciplinary and collective research activity. We prepared a modern program of research workshops devoted to practical application of the knowledge about identity in solving problems in borderland societies. The entire process was encompassed by an experimental project aimed at testing the possibilities of educating doctoral students within trans-disciplinary studies (combining different academic disciplines) as well as studies that integrate different areas of academic study. The project “Searching for Identity” arose from the Group’s activity and has currently become its main task.

## **Members of Siberian-Polish Research Group**

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- dr Robert Wszyński (Warsaw University)
- dr Albert Jawłowski (Warsaw University)
- dr Kuenney Takasaeva (Warsaw University)
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