



ECOLAS

European Colleges of Liberal Arts and Sciences

[ECOLAS and Global Liberal Arts Alliance workshop](#)

INNOVATION IN TEACHING AND LEARNING

Liberal arts approaches in undergraduate studies
in Europe and the United States

March 4-6, 2010
BISLA, Bratislava

PROGRAM

Workshop *Innovation in Teaching and Learning* brings together educators from various European and American universities and backgrounds. It also brings together the networks of liberal education ECOLAS (within Europe) and Global Liberal Arts Alliance. The workshop will focus on the latest pedagogical trends in liberal arts education, offering hands-on experience of models and approaches of collaborative teaching and learning and set up a platform for future cooperation of the participants and networks.

Thursday March 4

14:00 **Guided tour around the centre of Bratislava**

Art Hotel William

17:00 – 18.30 **Public Lecture and Debate: The State of Bachelor of Arts Degree in Europe after Bologna and in the United States.**

Johnson Room

European Speaker: Jochen Fried

U.S. Speaker: Rick Warner

Moderated by: Samuel Abrahám

DINNER (1st Slovak Pub, Obchodná 62, Bratislava)

Friday March 5

Session I: Mission of Liberal Arts Education

9:00 – 10:30 **Part 1: Presentation and discussion:**

Johnson Room

Presentation of participants and their institutions

Variations in approaches to crafting a liberal arts education

10:45 – 12:00 **Part 2: Presentation & Workshop** (Rick Warner)

Špitzer Room

Presentation: What do we know about the connection between pedagogy and learning?

Workshop: Building a diverse pedagogical repertoire

- Experiencing pedagogical innovation
- Facilitated small group work using the micro teaching methodology to expand participants' pedagogical repertoire

Facilitated: by Rick Warner and Kiran Cunningham

12:00 – 14:00 **LUNCH** (restaurant Rechobot, Grösslingova 24, Bratislava)

Session II: Intellectual and Practical Skills

14:00 – 15:15 **Part 1: Panel discussion:**

Johnson Room

Pedagogical conversations & innovations

Panelists: Yassen Zahariev (NBU, Sofia, Bulgaria)

 Maria Brunskog (Gotland University, Visby, Sweden)

Moderated by: Dagmar Kusá (BISLA)

15:30 – 17:00 **Part 2: Presentation & Workshop** (Kiran Cunningham)

Špitzer Room

Presentation: Fostering transformative learning through a liberal arts education

Workshop: Designing and evaluating coursework for transformative learning

Small group work on crafting assignments and class activities designed to push students along a continuum of transformative learning

- Designing effective evaluation and feedback mechanisms

19:00 **DINNER**

Concert at the Slovak Philharmonic

Saturday March 6

09:00 – 10:00

Špitzer Room

Breakfast at BISLA (Luggage can also be stored at BISLA)

10:00 – 12:30

Session III: How do educational institutions advance?

Johnson Room

Part 1: Panel discussion: Pushing institutional innovations. Meaning of the BA degree. What should be the knowledge of a BA graduate?

Panelists: Herman Tak (Roosevelt Academy, Middelburg, The Netherlands)
 Bruno Macaes (ECLA, Berlin, Germany)

Moderated by: František Novosád (BISLA)

Špitzer Room

Part 2: Workshop (Kiran Cunningham)

Workshop: Designing an undergraduate curricula for transformative learning

Small group work on crafting undergraduate curricula designed move students along the transformative learning continuum.

- How do we know if we're successful? Evaluating teaching and learning outcomes

12:30 – 13:00

Špitzer Room

Lunch break

13:00 – 14:15

Špitzer Room

Closing thoughts: Next Steps

Moderator: Samuel Abrahám

- How will we use what we've learned here at our own institutions?
- What steps can our institutions take to help advance awareness and understanding of liberal arts education?
- How might collegial exchanges among our institutions contribute to the vitality and impact of the liberal arts in our respective settings?
- What are recommendations for next steps for ECOLAS?

14:30

BISLA

Guided tour around the centre of Bratislava

ECOLAS: European Colleges of Liberal Arts and Sciences (ECOLAS) tries to foster and disseminate the good practices necessary to sustain the teaching of the ideals and skills necessary for life-long learning and good citizenship inherent in the tradition of liberal arts and sciences education. The consortium is set up as a loose partnership of European colleges and universities providing liberal arts and sciences program or its aspect for their students. The network is represented in 14 European countries. More: www.ecolas.eu

Global Liberal Arts Alliance: The Alliance is a multilateral partnership of equals wherein expertise and experience are shared equally amongst participating institutions. Moreover, the Alliance recognizes that liberal arts and indeed other colleges face specific challenges in their quest to educate students capable of functioning effectively in a globalized twenty-first century. Towards this end, The Global Liberal Arts Alliance is underpinned by reciprocal interaction and benefit, presidential leadership and engagement in institutional relationships, and a keen focus on academic and administrator exchanges and interactions. Operating with the generous support of the Christian A. John Endeavor Foundation and Andrew W. Mellon Foundation, the Alliance is comprised of 24 liberal arts colleges in the United States, Nigeria, Morocco, Egypt, Pakistan, Saudi Arabia, Slovakia, Bulgaria, Greece, Italy, France and Switzerland. More: www.liberalartsalliance.org

BISLA: The Bratislava International School of Liberal Arts (BISLA) is an accredited three-year degree-granting undergraduate college. Its core curriculum is based on political science with offerings also in other social science disciplines, humanities and fine arts. BISLA also houses the Bratislava Institute of Humanism (BIH), which hosts public lectures and debates on intellectual, social, and political issues concerning Slovakia and publishes a renowned magazine *Critique and Context*. More: www.bisla.eu