



Soul or brain: what makes us human?

Keynote speakers:

Włodzisław Duch (Toruń, Poland)
Philip Larrey (Rome, Italy)
Daniel De Haan (Cambridge, GB)
Jason T. Eberl (Indianapolis, USA)
Georg Gasser & Josef Quitterer (Innsbruck, Austria)
Javier Sanchez-Canizares (Pamplona, Spain)
Józef Bremer (Kraków, Poland)
Antonella Corradini (Milan, Italy)
Jerzy Vetulani (Kraków, Poland)

We kindly invite short papers related to one of three above mentioned topics. The proposals (20 min) should be in English (including abstract, title, and academic affiliation) and sent to piotrroszak@umk.pl by **30 April 2016**.

More information:
<https://soulorbrain.wordpress.com>

Interdisciplinary Workshop

19-21 October 2016

Venue:

Center of Dialogue in Torun, Poland

Most (secular) philosophers identify the concept of the soul with a religious worldview and an utterly dualistic understanding of the human person. In the scholastic tradition, however, the soul was embedded in a holistic and hylomorphic understanding of the human person, and was regarded as the seat of all vital capacities: vegetative, sensitive, and rational. The soul was thus primarily a guarantor of the unity of the human person throughout the various biological and mental changes occurring over her lifetime.

Our workshop aims to address the question whether this Aristotelian-Scholastic understanding of the human soul is still viable or whether it has been superseded by more adequate scientific concepts. Our workshop will contribute to the dialogue between representatives of this traditional philosophical account of the human person and modern science.

We will focus on the following main topics:

1. What are the merits and limits of the Aristotelian-Scholastic concept of the soul, in the light of modern science?
2. Is there anything that secures a special ontological status for the human person? If so, does it emerge from our rational capacities or is a broader concept required to elucidate it?
3. What guarantees our personal unity and identity over time – an unchangeable soul or a properly working mind resulting from proper biological functioning?



**Faculty of Theology
Nicolaus Copernicus University**

in cooperation with



**the Department of Christian Philosophy
University Innsbruck**



**International Journal
on Religion and Science**