



The 2008 Illinois International Accounting Symposium

Information for Participants

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Conference Hotel

Participants will be accommodated in Sheraton, Warsaw. The hotel is located in the very center of Warsaw, close to government buildings, the Parliament and various tourist attractions. A single room at the hotel costs €135 per night, a double room €155 (plus VAT 7%).

To book a room visit the hotels' website. The organizers have pre-booked a number of rooms – rooms will await for your booking until April 4th, 2008. If you want to extend your stay, arrive in the morning or late in the evening, or have any other special requests, please contact the hotel directly. The organizers cover accommodation costs for one author and discussant per accepted paper.

Address:

Sheraton Warsaw Hotel, <http://www.sheraton.pl>
ul. B. Prusa 2 , Warsaw 00-493, Poland , Phone: +48 22 450 6100

Person responsible for conference bookings:

Mr. Krzysztof Jaworz / Group Coordinator
Phone: +48 22 450 6915/ Fax: +48 22 450 6901, krzysztof.jaworz@sheraton.com

Transportation

Conference proceedings will take place in two venues: the [Warsaw Stock Exchange](#), and [Kozminski Business School](#) campus. The Warsaw Stock Exchange is just a few hundred meters away from Sheraton Hotel. Transport to the campus will be provided by organizers. A map with the campus pinpointed can be found [here](#).

For moving around the city you can use public transport, which is very popular in Warsaw. A 24h pass for all means of transport - including the underground - costs 7,20 zł (\$3). For a detailed ticket tariff visit [transport authority pages](#), where you will also find a [map](#), including a [detailed map](#) of city center which includes the campus (top right – Jagiellonska street) and the Hotel (bottom – Plac Trzech Krzyzy).

As the hotel is located in the very center of Warsaw there are many trams and buses in the area, and the underground Metro Centrum station is about 1 km away. There is a direct bus from the vicinity of the hotel, line 101, which will take you to the campus (bus stop PIMOT) in about 25 minutes. To get to the campus, you have to cross the street at the streetlight and turn right after you've crossed tram tracks. The campus is a 100 m further along the street. There is a number of other options, but they involve changing lines: e.g. you can get on the underground at Metro Centrum (direction Mlociny), get off at Dworzec Gdanski, and take tram line 16 in the direction Praga; get off at

PIMOT. Cross the tracks and walk 100 m in the same direction as the tram. Alternatively, you can walk west from the hotel to Marszalkowska street and get on tram line 18 north which will take you directly to the school. Trams and underground are not affected by traffic during rush hours.

Other Hotels

Participants can choose to stay at a different hotel, as the proceedings will not take place at Sheraton. In this case, you are welcome to book a room yourself. Warsaw offers a wide range of hotels both in terms of location and prices. Below is a list of selected hotels. For more hotels visit <http://www.booking.com/Warsaw>.

- [Hilton](#), prices range between €95-€275
- [Royal Meridien Bristol](#), €150-€380
- [Holiday Inn](#), average price €165
- [Mercure](#), €145
- [Sofitel Victoria](#), €180
- [Ibis](#), €76

Conference Outline

Thursday, June 5, 2008

12.00-13.00 Lunch

13.00-18.30 Panels, Presentations and Discussions at Warsaw Stock Exchange

18.30-20.30 Reception

Friday, June 6, 2008

7.00-7.30 Breakfast at Hotel

7.45 Bus to Kozminski Business School Campus

8.30-13.30 Panels, Presentations and Discussions

13.30-15.00 Lunch

15.00-18.30 Panels, Presentations and Discussions

19.00 Visit to Lazienki Royal Park, Dinner

Saturday, June 7, 2008

Sightseeing tour of Warsaw, Dinner

Transfer from Airport

[Warsaw Airport](#) is located not far from city center and Sheraton Hotel. The hotel offers a transfer service. Please [send an e-mail](#) with your flight number and arrival date/hour to the organizers if you want to use this option. The transfer costs 80 zł (\$32) per shuttle. You can also order a transfer to the airport for your departure, at a cost of 60 zł (\$25) per shuttle. If you do not supply us with details of your arrival you may still call the hotel upon your arrival, or take a [taxi](#) from one of the

corporation booths at the airport. **Do not** accept offers from taxi-men who may approach you at the arrivals terminal. You can also use [public transport from the airport](#).

Weather in June

June and July are usually the sunniest and warmest months of the year. Average temperature in June is about 20-25 degrees centigrade in the shade. You can expect over 30 degrees in the sun, and remember that the city tends to absorb heat. Historically, June used to be a month of sudden, heavy rains. However in recent years there was very little rain.

Introduction to Poland

Poland is one of the fastest growing economies in the European Union – with GDP growth of 6,3% in 2007 we have outstripped Western Europe by two lengths. So many things have changed since 1989 that it is difficult to recall, what Poland was like back then. Today, Poland is one of the largest countries in the EU – the area of Poland is comparable to that of Italy or Germany, and the number of inhabitants is around 38 million. To travel to Germany or France we do not even need a passport, because there is no border control. Consulting agencies rank Poland among the [top investment destinations](#). [The Warsaw Stock Exchange](#) is the largest stock market in Eastern and Central Europe, with capitalization of \$390 billion. Poland boasts a highly educated work force and 2 million people currently enrolled in higher education programmes.

Despite rapid development Poland is also a beautiful country to visit. It stretches from wide, sandy beaches of the Baltic, to the peaks of the [Tatra Mountains](#). Just a couple of hours away from Paris or London you can find ancient forests, clear lakes and rivers, with elk or buffalo grazing in the wilderness. To make it better, cell phones work almost everywhere! [Bird watchers](#) flock to our [Mazury Lakes](#) and [Bialowieza Forest](#) for sights of unique species. Hikers can visit [Zakopane](#) for some amazing views of rocky mountain peaks and a taste of Slovak beer just across the border. And if you'd rather just enjoy the sun, you can try local cuisine. There is something here for just about every taste.

Because of its location in the middle of Europe Poland has been affected by almost every major event in European history. You can find here castles of the [Teutonic Knights](#), [palaces](#) of XVIII century aristocracy, fortresses from the Napoleonic wars, and a number of World War II memorials. Poland has always been a mixture of Western, Eastern and Southern cultures. There are gothic cathedrals, beautiful [orthodox churches made of wood](#) and old [synagogues](#). You may be surprised to see paintings of Polish aristocracy wielding [crescent shaped swords](#), and you may be lucky to find

[descendants of Ottoman and Tatar invaders](#), who have been living in Poland for half a millenium.

Introduction to Warsaw

Warsaw has been the capital city of Poland since 1596. It is the hub of our history, culture, and economic development. This is the place where all the variety of Poland comes together. It is a city of great contrasts: historical buildings stand just a block away from gleaming skyscrapers of international corporations; there are 12 nature reserves here, but also huge areas of derelict factories left from soviet times; the picturesque Old Town is just next to memorials of World War II, when the city was levelled by retreating German forces. If you want to learn the history and culture of Central and Eastern Europe, Warsaw is the place to start. For more information about Warsaw visit the [Official Tourist Information](#) website. Group sightseeing, with a guide, is planned for Saturday.

Selected places to see:

- [The Old Town](#) – features narrow, medieval streets, old fortifications, the royal palace, archcathedral and a number of museums. The Royal Trackt will take you from the Hotel to the Old Town – a walk worth the effort. There is also a famous monument of the “Little Insurgent” which commemorates Polish scouts, who fought during the 1944 uprising.
- [Lazienki Royal Park](#) – one of the most beautiful parks in Poland. There is a royal palace here and the Chopin monument, where open-air concerts take place.
- [Royal Palace and Park in Wilanow](#) – Royal residence of Jan III Sobieski, who defeated the Ottomans at the [battle of Vienna](#) in 1683.
- [The Warsaw Uprising Museum](#) – here you can learn about one of the most significant events in Polish national history. The museum will help you understand what the War was like in Warsaw, how and why the people of Warswa rebelled against the Germans.

Outside Warsaw: places worth visiting

Organizers can help you arrange trips to other places in Poland. Please contact us if you need assistance. Below are two cities, which are the most popular tourist destinations.

Krakow

[Krakow](#) is the old capital of Poland. It features the Royal Castle, [Wawel](#), and the Royal Cathedral. The old town is well preserved and offers a wide choice of restaurants and cafes. Other tourist attractions include museums of art, the Jewish quarter and synagogues. For more information visit: <http://www.krakow.pl/en/turystyka/>. Krakow is easily accessible by train from Warsaw Central Station. The train takes less than three hours, so you can go to Krakow and return to Warsaw the same day. Krakow Main Station is just next to the old town.

Gdansk

[Gdansk](#) is the “sea capital” of Poland. It used to be a German city of Danzing, than a “free city” in the 1920s and 1930s. It is here that the first shots of World War II were fired. But Gdansk is not at all about the War. It is a picturesque harbour city, with a well preserved old town. For more information on sightseeing visit this [webpage](#). The train from Warsaw takes five hours, so you have to stay at least one night there. You can also get there by [plane](#), but it will be more expensive.

Optional Tour for Accompanying Persons

On 6th of June accompanying persons are welcome to book a trip to [Chopin's villa](#) in Zelazowa Wola and a famous aristocratic residence in [Nieborow and Arkadia](#). The trip is about 200 km in total. The organizers will book a bus and a guide. If you are interested, please let us know as soon as possible.

The Museum in Zelazowa Wola is housed in a late nineteenth century manor, where [Frederyk Chopin](#) was born. It was here that Chopin spent his early childhood, experienced Polish culture and the beauty of local nature. You can notice these experiences reflected in his music. A visit to Zelazowa Wola will help you understand Chopin and what he loved about Poland. The Museum features traditional Polish furnishing, and a garden. It will be particularly beautiful in June.

The Museum in Nieborow and Arkadia includes the palace and park of one of the wealthiest aristocratic families of Poland – the [Radziwills](#). The palace was originally erected in baroque style by cardinal Michal Stefan Radziejowski in XVIII c. In 1774 the palace was acquired by Michal Hieronim Radziwill, who held the voivodship of Vilnius at the time. He refurbished the palace,

brought luxurious furniture, draperies, a well stocked library. His wife Helena built a romantic park in nearby Arkadia – complete with ancient temples, castles, reflection pools and a wide variety of plants and trees. In 1881, their descendant, Michal Piotr Radziwill, started a famous factory of [maiolica](#). For that reason the walls of the main staircase in the palace are covered with thousands of ceramic blocs, which depict hand-painted scenes of rural life.

Further Information

If you have any questions, please contact Karol Marek Klimczak at Kozminski Business School:
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