



## FIRST ANNOUNCEMENT

Dear Colleague,

The International Society for the Study of Medieval Theology (Internationale Gesellschaft für Theologische Mediävistik – IGTM), the Institute of Philosophy of the University of Warsaw, and the Institute of Philosophy of the University of Silesia in Katowice have the pleasure of inviting you to the international conference

*Altiora te ne quaesieris (Sir. 3, 22): THE MEDIEVAL PURSUIT OF WISDOM*

### SUBJECT

The conference aims at discussing various aspects of the **medieval search for intellectual and moral perfection**. It is open to philosophical and theological considerations related to the concept of wisdom intended in a broad sense, both in its theoretical and practical dimensions. Among the many possible interpretative paths, there are such issues as:

- the cognitive optimism vs the ethical and epistemic limitations of knowledge,
- the problem of the latent medieval scepticism and of various approaches to the problem of knowability, which is related to the variety of definitions of the scope of the unknown.
- the basic motivations of medieval intellectuals, their aims and scientific ambitions,
- the tension between the condemnation of ignorance, the prohibition of curiosity, and the natural desire for knowledge.
- the impact of Aristotle's theory of science on the medieval views on intellectual research.

Furthermore, from a philosophical perspective, wisdom can be considered a matter of inherently and typically human activity; but, when viewed from a theological point of view, *scientia* and *sapientia* are gifts beyond the natural human powers. The pursuit of wisdom in the Middle Ages is a provocative issue, open to many other considerations, and it encourages an interdisciplinary debate.

### THE DATE AND THE VENUE OF THE CONFERENCE

The Conference will be held in the historical buildings of the 1000-year-old Benedictine Abbey of Tyniec near **Cracow (Poland)** on **September 2–6, 2017**.

**PARTICIPANTS:** We welcome participants in three categories:

- (1) regular presentation: speakers who present their papers within a regular session,
- (2) poster presentation within a poster session,
- (3) presence and discussion only: general audience who participates without presenting a paper/poster.

**PAPERS AND ABSTRACTS:** As a rule, 20 minutes are allotted for each paper; after every set of three papers there will be 20 minutes for discussion. Short abstracts (maximum 3000 characters) are expected by **March 31, 2018**.

**THE CONFERENCE FEE:** There is **no conference fee**. Participants pay only for their meals and accommodation.

**REGISTRATION** will be opened from November 24, 2017 onwards at the **conference website**: <http://igtm2018.uw.edu.pl>  
The deadline for registration and short abstract is March 31, 2017.

### ORGANIZERS

#### Institutional Organizers

- International Society for the Study of Medieval Theology (Internationale Gesellschaft für Theologische Mediävistik – IGTM)
- University of Silesia in Katowice, Institute of Philosophy
- University of Warsaw, Institute of Philosophy

#### Organizing Committee

University of Warsaw: Dr. Magdalena Bieniak, Prof. Krystyna Krauze-Błachowicz, Dr. Marcin Trepczyński (secretary of the conference); University of Silesia (Katowice): Prof. Hanna Wojtczak, Dr. Maciej Stanek

Please kindly forward this Announcement to all scholars interested in medieval theology and philosophy.

