

Galess Newsletter 10

January 2026

GALESS New Year's message 2026

Our GALESS community jumps into 2026 with a strong push forward from our Asian and African partners. Three new conference initiatives, on these continents in Indonesia, South Africa and China in **2027**, will follow up our conferences in Poland and Melbourne this year in June/July and August **2026**.

A sustainable - green - message will stay close to us in every research domain that we propose to our young student generation. With special attention this year for the minorities in our society. The respect and attention for diversity in all aspects among us like, for example "cultural", but also "less privileged" or "gifted", has always been part of our mission and cooperation based on understanding, is a crucial factor. We need the inspiration of an international student community that gave & gives us so much new directions in thinking in their research efforts every time again, to focus their efforts in this attention and research-area and come up with bright new ideas to make our society a better place for all of us.

We call our research domain in 2026 "Colors Included" . And we look eagerly forward to your new research contributions in our conferences in Poland and Melbourne.

A happy and fruitful New Year and we hope to see you soon in our conferences again !



Wishing you a green 2026

GALESS Conference Poland 2026, exciting new edition coming up !

IV High School named after Nicolaus Copernicus in Rybnik – Poland. A school with tradition and a vision for the future



The IV High School named after Nicolaus Copernicus in Rybnik is a place where solid education meets openness to the world and a modern approach to learning. In the heart of Chwałowice, within a friendly and inspiring atmosphere, students not only gain knowledge but also develop their passions, creativity, and future-oriented skills.

For many years, the school has been successfully active on the international stage. As a multi-award-winning eTwinning School, “Kopernik” takes part in numerous European projects in cooperation with peers from Spain, Italy, Portugal, Turkey, and many other countries. Projects such as “GrAlnY TrAlnY” and “Walls & Calls” help students enhance their linguistic, digital, and social competences while learning cooperation, tolerance, and responsibility

for the world around them.

Another key pillar of the school’s activity is the Erasmus+ programme, under which the school holds accreditation and regularly organises student and teacher exchanges. It offers a unique opportunity to discover new countries, cultures, and educational systems, while developing linguistic and intercultural skills. Projects such as “EuroSpot” and “Education4You” are not only about travelling – they are also about working together to tackle modern challenges, from ecology and entrepreneurship to new technologies and digital education.



In June 2024, the school hosted the international GALESS conference “Energy Transition”, during which young people from various countries discussed the future of energy, sustainable development, and responsibility for our planet. The event combined theory with practice – participants presented their ideas, took part in workshops, lectures, and field activities, showing that young people are active co-creators of the global dialogue about the future.

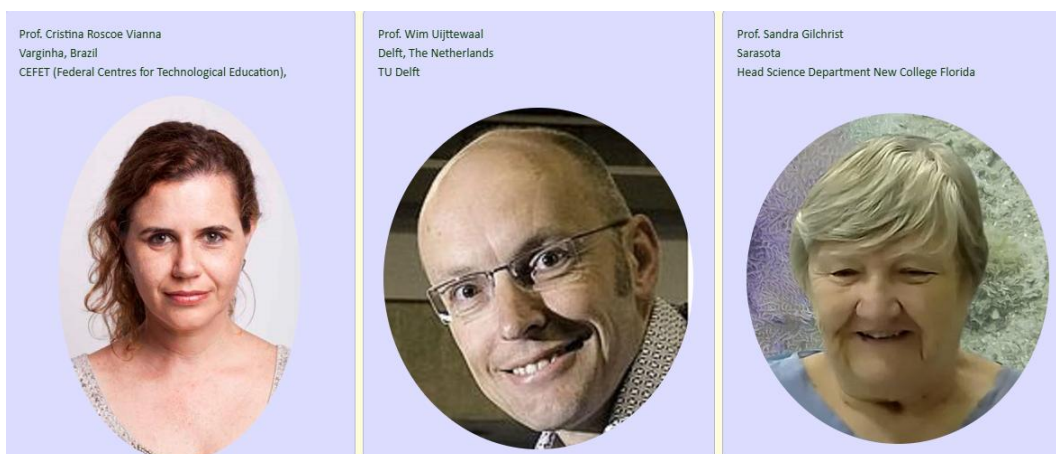


Preparations are already underway for the next edition of the conference, scheduled for late June and early July 2026. This time, participants from around the world will meet in Rybnik to reflect on the topic of minorities – their role, rights, cultural heritage, and place in modern society. The conference will serve as a space for

open dialogue. Students, teachers, and invited guests will discuss how to build a world based on mutual respect and understanding, where every voice matters.

“Kopernik” is a school that combines tradition with a vision of the future – a place where learning transcends borders. It is a community that believes knowledge, engagement, and cooperation can truly change the world.

GALESS Jury Board extensions



Jury Board GALESS

The GALESS Jury Board consists of dedicated people, being involved in the jury-comments regarding research-reports that are published during GALESS Conferences. They have a consulting role in a dynamic interaction with the local jury-teams that are active during

MSc Ann Marie Shields
Bradenton, USA
Education Advisor



Bartosz Sobik
Warsaw, Poland
Education Advisor Energy Transition



conferences as well. Mrs. Cristina Roscoe Vianna from Brazil, Mr. Wim Uijttewaai from The Netherlands and Mrs. Sandra Gilchrist from USA-Florida keep on being our valuable members in this Board. We love(d) all their contributions !

GALESS introduced new research domains recently and we are trying to add new expertise and experience in the perspective of this developments.

Jury Board Extensions:

Mrs. Ann Marie Shields from Florida has a strong background in Science related subjects and she was already part of our Advisory Council. We welcome her in our Jury Board !

Mr. Bartosz Sobik from Poland represents expertise in business engineering with special knowledge in the energy transition. We welcome him as well, coming in from our GALESS Strategy Task Force.

We are looking for further expertise in the AI sector and in areas of green transition. We'll complete our Jury Board selection/transition during the GALESS AC meeting on June 29 in Poland.

GALESS Yearbook 2025 available

Another edition of our GALESS yearbook (edition 2025) is available.

[129_GALESS Yearbook 2025 FF.pdf](#)

We are so proud that our students are producing such valuable research-reports each and every year again. It catches the attention in our GALESS Community but also outside our community ! This yearbook consists of reports regarding our research-domain in 2025 : Empty Pocket. The yearbook has been offered to the publication-department of the United Nations in December 2025.

nr. **100** up to come ..

We are a very productive community ! More than 90 research reports and 4 yearbooks have been published during our GALESS conferences in the last 3 ½ years. So we expect research report nr 100 in 2026 ! All research reports are still available in the Activity Listing of conferences on our website. The yearbooks are available in the News-section of our website www.galess.org

Melbourne Conference August 2026, 3rd edition.



With another strong initial push from Mrs. Linossier from the Camberwell Girls Grammar School in Melbourne, co-hosting from Camberwell Grammar school and Ivanhoe Grammar School and with a learning concept focussed on “gifted students” , our GALESS community can look forward to an exciting new conference initiative from the **Melbourne and Beyond Gifted Network** <http://www.bgiftednetwork.org/> in August 2026 again. This Australian network has grown to more than 30 schools in the Melbourne region in the last two years. Our research GALESS research-domain with attention to “minorities” fits perfectly in their case !



Empathy workshops, and an “ Indigenous Walk” in top city Melbourne are just part of a full school-program over there during 4 conference days. In addition to an extension of school-participation from schools in Melbourne, we welcomed in earlier editions of this GALESS conference a growing number of schools from Germany, Austria, Singapore and Thailand. And they were all excited by a great conference program & top-hospitality !

Explore the full range of creativity in a learning process in every aspect, become aware of the “ Design Thinking Process” and a special unique atmosphere in Melbourne’s school-life: you have to be there to broaden your horizons in the 3rd edition of this Australian conference in our GALESS Network (Conference - Subscriptions deadline Jan. 31, 2026.)

Info: info@galeless.org

Suzhou High School, Conference Partner 2027.

Ancient History added to our GALESS Community!

Suzhou High School of Jiangsu Province:

Where a Thousand Years of Learning Meets Tomorrow



Have you ever wondered what it feels like to walk through a thousand years of history, on the very ground where scholars have pursued knowledge, century after century, without interruption?

Welcome to Suzhou High School of Jiangsu Province, a living museum of learning and a vibrant scholarly community where every stone tells a story, and every story inspires the future. We don't just teach history; we are history, living and breathing on the same land where it all began. We are thrilled to invite the global GALESS community to join this dialogue on our campus in 2027.



Where a Legacy of "Worldly Mind" Begins

Our story starts with a choice – a choice for community over personal gain. In the 11th century, the renowned statesman *Fan Zhongyan* acquired a piece of land in Suzhou famed for its excellent *feng shui*, promising prosperity for generations. Instead of building a family estate, he made a visionary decision: he donated the land to found a public school, believing that nurturing countless talents would benefit the nation far more than blessing a single family.

From this act was born our foundational spirit: **"Be the first to bear hardships, and the last to enjoy comforts."** This ideal of social responsibility is carved into our identity. For nearly a millennium, education has never ceased on this hallowed ground, earning us the title "a living fossil of China's basic education." Walking our central axis, students literally tread over a timeline inlaid in the ground, connecting their steps with those of Song Dynasty scholars who entered the school a thousand years ago.

Forging Tomorrow's Leaders: Achievement and Global Vision

Our campus is a "scholarly garden," designed to inspire. Students pass through *the Gate of Wisdom and Virtue*, reminded that great achievements require both intellect (Zhi) and moral character (De). They study in the shadow of *Sanyuan Lou*, a building named for the highest imperial scholars, which now bears our modern motto: **"A Mind for the World, The Vision of a University, The Spirit of Striving."**

This environment cultivates exceptional talent. Our alumni network includes over 60 academicians of the Chinese Academy of Sciences and Engineering, as well as globally renowned pioneers like Nobel laureate in Physics ***Tsung-Dao Lee***, ***Dr. Xiaowei Zhuang***, a Howard Hughes Medical Institute investigator and MacArthur "Genius Grant" Fellow, and ***Dr. Tianxi Cai***, who became a tenured professor at Harvard University at the age of 24.

Today, our students' development goal of **"lifelong autonomous learners"** prepares students to be these world-changers of tomorrow. We implement a holistic curriculum that blends the depth of the Chinese national curriculum with the international perspective, cultivating **"inquiring, knowledgeable, and caring"** global citizens.

Ready for 2027: A Conference Where Past and Future Converge

Hosting the 2027 GALESS Conference under the theme **"Artificial Intelligence for Sustainable Solutions"** is a natural next step in our journey. What better place to explore the future than within a community that has successfully sustained a culture of learning and innovation for a thousand years?

A Venue of Inspiration: Delegates will present and collaborate in a setting that is itself a testament to sustainable human achievement—a campus that has adapted and thrived across dynasties and centuries.



Culture of Dialogue: Our educational philosophy, **"To be an academic school with a global vision,"** prepares us to facilitate the vibrant, cross-cultural exchange that defines GALESS. We are not just a venue; we are active, eager participants in the global conversation on sustainability.

A Bridge for Ideas: We see this conference as a bridge—connecting our rich legacy with the dynamic future you are building, and connecting the global GALESS community with the depth and potential of China's educational landscape.

We are already preparing to welcome the world. Our community is energized by the prospect of sharing our unique home and learning from the brilliant minds across the GALESS alliance.

To all GALESS students, teachers, and visionaries: Your 2027 journey should be unlike any other. Come and experience where a thousand years of scholarly pursuit meets the urgent, creative energy of tomorrow's problem-solvers. Let's write a new chapter in the history of sustainability together, right here in Suzhou.

We eagerly await your arrival!

GALESS Conference Heads to China !

by Dr. Theresa Lai, GALESS AC Member

I am absolutely delighted to share that the GALESS Conference will be going to China in 2027! My visit to Suzhou High School last November was truly amazing, thanks to the excellent connections made by Mr. Dylan Wu and his facilitation during the visit.



Suzhou High School, nestled in the beautiful Jiangsu Province region of the Yangtze River Delta, is a gem that is simply perfect for an international youth conference. With a rich history dating back to 1035, this esteemed institution is one of China's oldest and finest schools. As I walked through its stunning and serene campus, I was captivated by the seamless blend of traditional Chinese architecture and modern facilities – a truly inspiring place for learning, interactions and exchange of ideas!



The school's International Division offers a globally recognized IB curriculum, masterfully merging Chinese national courses with the International Baccalaureate Diploma Programme (IBDP). This unique approach fosters a vibrant, diverse, and inclusive atmosphere that is consistent with the goals of the GALESS Conference.



Suzhou High School's location in the picturesque city of Suzhou, known for its classical gardens and rich cultural heritage, adds to its appeal. The city's excellent transportation links and infrastructure ensure that conference delegates enjoy accessibility as well as a comfortable and enriching experience. History enthusiasts may find it interesting that beginning from the Southern Song Dynasty (which coincided with the official founding of Suzhou High School), the country's economic and cultural centres shifted to the Yangtze River Basin, where they have remained for the subsequent millennium. Suzhou stands as the core of the long-standing prosperous urban cluster in the middle and lower reaches of the Yangtze River. Today, Suzhou is among China's most advanced regions in terms of high-tech industry and artificial intelligence, with a per capita GDP on par with that of Beijing and Shanghai. For an authentic experience of both China's profound historical culture and its cutting-edge modern industrial civilization, Suzhou offers an unparalleled choice.



Coupled with its location in Suzhou, the school's blend of educational excellence, cultural richness, and vast campus facilities makes it ideal as the venue of the GALESS Conference in 2027. It is an experience not to be missed!