



POLISH AMERICAN CONGRESS  
Education  
Commission



*Preparing people to lead extraordinary lives*



Consulate General  
of the Republic of Poland  
in Chicago

## **ROMAN PUCINSKI AND POLISH AMERICAN POLITICS**

### **Conference and Student Leadership Workshops**

#### **LOYOLA UNIVERSITY CHICAGO**

Building a new generation of Polish American political activists in celebration of the life and leadership of Roman Pucinski by promoting a better understanding of politics at the local, state and federal levels, with the aim of inspiring future leaders.

**Friday, November 15<sup>th</sup>, 2019**

**Piper Hall, 970 W. Sheridan Road**

8:30 – 9:00 Registration and Breakfast

9:00 – 9:15 **WELCOME and OPENING SESSION**

**Thomas Regan**, SJ, PhD, Dean of the College of Arts and Sciences, Loyola University Chicago

**Hon. Piotr Janicki**, Consul General of the Republic of Poland, Chicago

**Bożena Nowicka McLees**, Director of Interdisciplinary Polish Studies, Loyola University

9:15 – 10:00 KEYNOTE ADDRESS: **Dominic Pacyga**, Professor Emeritus, Columbia College

*Polish American Politics in Chicago*

10:00 – 11:30 **PANEL 1: Political Agendas of the Polish American Community**

- From Parishes to Politics – **Matt Olchawa**, PhD Candidate Jagiellonian University
- Labor Unions and Local Politics
  - **Tom Balanoff**, President of SEIU Local 1
  - **Richard Owsiany**, President, Polish Museum of American
  - **Daniel Pogorzelski**, Writer and Editor, Forgotten Chicago
- Polish American Congress – **Dr. Joanna Wojdon**, University of Wroclaw

11:15 – 11:30 Coffee break

11:30 – 1:00 **PANEL 2: Roman Pucinski's Life and Career**

- Lidia Pucinski's Role – **Dr. Joanna Wojdon**, University of Wroclaw
- About Roman Pucinski – **Dr. James Pula**, Purdue University

1:00 – 2:00 Lunch

2:00 – 3:00 **Documentary Film about Roman Pucinski – introduction by Daniel Pogorzelski**

- Post screening discussion led by Bożena Nowicka McLees

3:00 – 3:15 Coffee break

3:15 – 4:45 **PANEL 3: Remembering Congressman and Alderman Roman Pucinski**

- In the U.S. Congress (1959-1973) and in the City of Chicago
- The Chicago City Council, Alderman from the 41<sup>st</sup> Ward (1973-1991)
  - **Dr. Arthur Lurigio**, Loyola's CAS Dean for Faculty, 41<sup>st</sup> Ward constituent
  - Former Alderman **Jack Jennings**
- Stories from the Alderman's Office
  - **Richard Owsiany**, President of the Polish Museum of America
  - **Therese Samulski-Korzeniowski**, retired CPS teacher
- President of the Polish American Congress Illinois Division, PAC Charitable Foundation and other civic and political activities in Chicago
  - **Fr. John Pawlikowski**, Polish-Jewish Dialog
  - **Eugene Rosypal**, Polish American Congress Charitable Foundation

4:45 – 5:00 CLOSING REMARKS - **Hon. Aurelia Pucinski**

**ROMAN PUCINSKI LEADERSHIP WORKSHOPS**  
**for Polish American High School & College Students**  
**LOYOLA UNIVERSITY CHICAGO**

**Saturday, November 16<sup>th</sup>, 2019**

**Regis Hall, 6340 N. Winthrop Avenue**

10:00 – 10:05 Welcome:

**Bożena Nowicka McLees**, Director of the Polish Studies Program

**Hon. Aurelia Pucinski**, Judge on the Illinois Appellate Court

10:05 – 10:45 Opening remarks:

**Nancy Kaszak**, Illinois House of Representatives from 34<sup>th</sup> district (1993-1997)

**Conrad Nowak**, Attorney, former Chairman of the Polish American Association

10:45 – 11:00 Coffee Break

11:00 – 1:00 **LEADERSHIP WORKSHOPS IN SMALL GROUP DISCUSSIONS LED by:**

1. **Joanna Borowiec** - Participate in the 2020 national census. Vote and register people to vote.
2. **Mark Dobrzycki** - Running for office and holding an elected office in a suburb.
3. **Nancy Kaszak** - IL State Representative, running for Congress, working with your constituency.
4. **Mark Kupiec** - *ALL politics are local*: organizing political campaigns in Chicago.
5. **Thomas McLees** - Volunteer in local elections, phone banks, canvassing and knocking on doors.
6. **Conrad Nowak** - Getting involved and making a difference: effective strategies for committing to a cause in a meaningful way.
7. **Matt Olchawa** - Political culture in Washington D.C. and in Brussels.
8. **Maureen Pikarski-Murphy** - Organize groups with common interest in your high school or universities to effectively express your ideas, requests, and if needed to take action.
9. **Sergiusz Zgrzebski** - Develop your skills in public speaking, communicate through various media, and navigate the social media campaigns.
10. **Robert Zwolinski** - Running for office in an Old Polish neighborhood.

1:00 – 1:30 **CLOSING SESSION: ALL panelists and participating students FORUM**