

Dear friends,

The conference is almost upon us, and I am very excited to meet you soon in Seattle. While you are preparing for your trip, we are doing everything possible and... impossible to arrange for a memorable and exciting conference, and to make your stay in Seattle enjoyable. In the meantime, predicting some of your questions and imagining the rest of them☺, let me give you some advice based on my knowledge and experience:



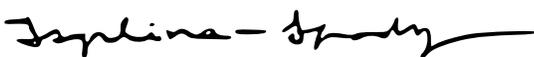
1. Don't try to pack everything for every possible event and weather changes – be wise and bring only a few clothes and shoes that make you feel good and allow to stay... comfortable. Remember you will need to walk around campus (not much but still...). To be absolutely sure what to pack, a few days before the flight, check the Seattle weather on the website weather.com.
2. If you are using certain medications regularly or might need them, please make sure to bring them and put them in your carry-on. Don't pack your medications in checked luggage. Please remember, to purchase them here at the pharmacy will demand a prescription, a visit to the doctor, etc., and a lot of money. So be wise. The same about your medical insurance, especially for foreign guests, please purchase it ahead of time for the duration of your trip to the USA.
3. At the US passport control, you will be asked about the reason of your visit. It's best to have your invitation printed, and remember that additional information could be found on the conference website: <http://korczakconference2018.com> The topic of the conference is, "Education for Excellence, Diversity, and Respect", August 22-25; organized by Seattle Pacific University (SPU) and Korczak Association of the USA. The contact person to mention could be *Dr. Tatyana Tsyrlina-Spady*, tsyrlinapat@spu.edu; phone: 206 465-3578.
4. You are going to stay at *Emerson Hall*, a dormitory on SPU campus: 500 West Emerson St., Seattle, WA 98119. The rooms in the dorm are not air-conditioned (although the lobby and the corridors are). Typically they are not hot but if the weather is unusually warm, then it can become warm in the rooms. Be prepared for this, keep the blinds down and the windows open at night. We will try to provide cold bottled water.
5. Participants will be accommodated on floors three and four of the dorm. SPU campus is situated in a residential area, quiet and safe, easy to walk and pleasant. Each floor has a kitchen with a refrigerator and a microwave. Downstairs on the first floor there is a special room with washing machines and dryers where you will need to use quarters (25 cents' coins) to do washing and drying. Detergent is provided.
6. Since this is a dorm, it does not have all the hotel amenities and necessary equipment in every room. But we are making every effort to collect, purchase, and keep (in a separate storage room) items for your convenience:
 - irons and ironing-boards
 - hair dryers
 - coffee machines
 - a tea kettle
 - mugs
 - glasses, etc.
7. **SPU campus is alcohol- and smoke-free.** Please mind not to bring or use any alcohol on campus, including in your rooms. If you are a smoker, you will need to walk away from the campus for at least 100 meters to be able to smoke. (This is a state law now). In case of violations, fines are imposed. *I am sure I don't need to tell you this but I am required to do so. Thank you for your understanding.*

8. SPU campus has *free wireless Internet access*. All you need to do is choose the “SPU Guest” network and use it.
9. All the auditoriums and classrooms on campus are air-conditioned, and the temperature will be kept cool and pleasant. Every classroom is equipped with a laptop, external speakers, and PowerPoint Projector. You only need to bring a USB drive for your presentation.
10. Please note that the US voltage is 110 and the receptacle (an electrical outlet) has a different (in comparison with other countries) configuration of prongs. So bringing an **electrical adapter** with you will be the best idea. You can easily purchase it on www.amazon.com or at the international airport stores.
11. The conference will be video recorded. If don't want to be recorded, please inform us ahead of time by an email message sent to Ms. Stephanie Tichelaar at stephmichelle@spu.edu with the subject line: *No video-recording for ...* (your first and last name).
12. During the conference we also plan to take your photos and organize them for postings and newspapers. If you do not want to show up in photos, please email to the conference newspaper editor Aliya Shakirova at ashakirova@gmail.com with the subject line: *No photos for ...* (your first and last name).
13. If you responded with “yes” to the earlier email from me about the breakfast on August 22, please be prepared to pay \$ 12 cash at the registration desk on your arrival.
14. If you plan to take a bus tour on August 25 from 2:00 to 6:00 PM to see some of the beautiful vistas of Washington state, including the world famous Snoqualmie Falls, please be prepared to pay \$ 30 cash per adult and \$15 for children and teens under 18.
15. For those of you who arrive late in the evening, we are trying to organize your pickups at the airport, and your pickup person should have a key to your room.
16. If you arrive early or plan to stay after the conference and would like to do some sightseeing in Seattle, you will find everything necessary at the bottom of the front page of the conference website – one of the Seattle tour companies has prepared this link for you.
17. To get to downtown Seattle from SPU campus, you will either need a taxi or Uber, or Lyft (the latter two have easy apps which you can download to your smartphone) or trolley bus #13. Please mind that you will need to pay directly to the driver on the bus but don't expect any change. So you need to have the exact amount of \$2.75.
18. To get cash, use the US Bank on campus, there is an ATM machine as well – both are within a couple of minutes walk from Emerson Hall.
19. All the directions, campus maps, and ideas for where to eat while on campus or downtown are in your printed program.

I hope I have covered the most common and important questions.

Looking forward to meeting each of you soon and wishing you a very safe trip to Seattle and an unforgettable experience.

All the very best,



Dr. Tatyana Tsyrlina-Spady, Vice Chair of the Organizing Committee