

Posthumanism Research Institute Brock University

Rules and procedures June 2023

Background

- The Posthumanism Research Institute has been approved at meeting #635 of Senate on December 9, 2015.
- The co-founders of the institute are Christine Daigle (PHIL), Stefan Dolgert (POLI), Terrance McDonald (HUMA), and Andrew Pendakis (ENGL). They form the Executive Committee with Daigle as Director until the first general assembly of members is held in October 2016.

Mission

- The Institute will gather like-minded researchers who seek to explore questions that arise in the context of posthumanist inquiry. Specifically, the Institute's activities, such as workshops, reading groups, summer schools, conferences and publications, all engaged in a collaborative mode, will provide researchers with the necessary intellectual environment in which to develop their ideas and projects.
- In addition to this we hope to:
 - Offer support to researchers for investigating questions related to our research clusters and help to initiate contact between them.
 - Offer mentoring of students and postdoctoral fellows
 - Organize reading groups, workshops, and summer schools for researchers and graduate students
 - Host visiting scholars and postdoctoral researchers
 - Host a biennial international conference
 - Publish position papers on our website, journal articles, edited volumes and monographs

Membership

- Categories
 - a) Affiliate members: Brock faculty members who are affiliate members agree to launch and participate in initiatives, as well as apply for funding, internal and external, if appropriate, to support the Institute activities and further its mission. To be an affiliate member, one's research must align with the vision and mission and with one or more of the research clusters of the Institute as evidenced by previous research output or current research projects. One becomes an affiliate member by submitting the Affiliation application form and a CV to the Executive Committee. A call for affiliation will be distributed once a year in September and applications will also be considered on a rolling basis.

- b) Graduate Affiliate members: Postdoctoral, doctoral, and masters researchers whose work aligns with one or more of the research clusters as evidenced by their current research projects and/or track record will be considered for affiliation. One becomes an affiliate member by submitting the Affiliation Application Form and a CV to the Executive Committee. A call for affiliation will be distributed once a year in September and applications will also be considered on a rolling basis.
 - c) Associate members: Applications from non-Brock researchers whose work aligns with one or more of the research clusters as evidenced by their current research projects and/or track record and who seek to engage in collaborative work with members of the Institute will be considered. One becomes an Associate Member by submitting the Affiliations Application Form and a CV to the Executive Committee. Applications will be considered by the executive committee on a rolling basis and as opportunities arise.
- Duration of membership
 - a) The duration of the membership for Affiliate members and Associate Members is 5 years at the end of which one may apply for re-affiliation.
 - b) Graduate Affiliate members are members for the duration of their degree and up to five years. They may apply for affiliation as either Affiliate or Associate member after their graduation.
 - c) Membership may be reviewed for members who become inactive within the Institute (including participating in activities and contributing to its knowledge dissemination) for more than two years.
- Rights and responsibilities of members
 - a) All members of the Institute will foster its vision and mission. All members will participate in activities of the Institute as appropriate for their projects. All members will acknowledge their participation in the Institute for their conference presentations and publications if they have received support from the Institute for such.
 - b) All members have the right to attend, participate, and vote in the annual general meeting of the Institute.
 - c) Affiliate and Associate members will have access to the resources offered by the Institute and will be eligible to apply for grants to support their activities (once a budget has been secured). Associate members will have access to some resources offered by the Institute but will only have access to financial resources as part of grants for which they will have been a co-applicant with Affiliate members.

Governance

- Executive Committee
 - a) The Institute will be governed by an Executive Committee comprising up to 5 members, the Director of the Institute, the Associate Director, at least one Graduate Affiliate member and the Editor of *Interconnections. Journal of Posthumanism/Interconnexions. Revue de Posthumanisme*.
 - b) The Executive Committee will be in charge of leading the Institute and launching initiatives. It will be in charge of seeking funding to support the activities of the Institute. It will be in charge of hiring personnel once funding is secured.
 - c) The term of Executive Committee members will be 1 year, renewable at the general assembly of members.

- d) The Director will circulate a call for nominations, including self-nominations, to serve on the Executive Committee each May.
- Director
 - a) The Director will be in charge of overseeing the operations of the Institute and the budget, calling regular meetings of the Executive Committee, and overseeing grant applications, workshop and conference organizations, and the fulfilling of all objectives and plans set in the current document and by the general assembly of members each spring.
 - b) The Director will submit an annual report to the general assembly of members, the Advisory Board, and the Vice-President, Research each spring.
 - c) The term of the Director will be 3 years, renewable at the general assembly of members.
 - d) The Director will circulate a call for nominations for the position in September before their term expires. They are eligible to be nominated or nominate themselves for one subsequent term only.
- Associate Director
 - e) A member of the PRI that is also a faculty member at Brock University will be elected to the position of Associate Director by the general assembly of members for a one year term. The Associate Director will serve as Director in cases of prolonged absence of the Director (more than one month). They will also be a contact person for Brock University's administration in addition to the Director.
- General Assembly
 - a) Every year in May, a general assembly of all members of the Institute will take place.
 - b) The members will elect an Executive Committee each year.
 - c) The members will elect a Director every 3 years.
 - d) The members will discuss the orientation, activities, objectives, and plans of the Institute and will advise the Director and Executive Committee on the direction of the Institute.
- Advisory board
 - a) An Advisory Board comprised of internationally established researchers whose work pertains to the vision and mission of the institute will be established.
 - b) Advisory Board members will provide advice regarding the activities of the Institute and its members upon reviewing the annual report submitted by the Director.

Modifications to the Rules of procedure

- The rules of procedure of the Institute may be altered by submitting a proposal for changes to the general assembly of members.
- A notification for a proposal for changes to the rules of procedure must be announced to the whole membership 2 weeks prior the general assembly of members.
- Proposals for changes require a 2/3 vote to be carried.