

# POSTHUMANISM RESEARCH INSTITUTE

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Posthumanism Research Institute Contact and find us: PRI@brocku.ca https://brocku.ca/pri/

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#### **NEW PRI DIRECTOR**

After almost 9 years at the helm of the PRI, Christine Daigle will be stepping down from the role but continuing to be active at the institute, serving on the Executive Committee.

Dr. Trevor Norris, from the Faculty of Education, will be the new Director, effective July 1st.

Dr. Elizabeth Neswald, from the History Department, will serve as Associate Director.

Welcome to this new leadership!



#### **CALL FOR PAPERS:**

# More-Than-Human Rights: Interdisciplinary Perspectives for Earthly Flourishing Conference



MORE THAN HUMAN LIFE
NYU Law

The premise of this conference is that a fruitful discussion of the rights of nature – or, as we propose to call them, more-than-human (MOTH) rights – needs to consider a broad range of knowledges and practices.

In order to advance this dialogue, we recently published the book More-Than-Human Rights: An Ecology of Law, Thought and Narrative for Earthly Flourishing, edited by César Rodríguez-Garavito. This interdisciplinary conference will bring together scholars and practitioners from diverse fields and disciplinary backgrounds, including the social sciences, law, natural sciences, philosophy and the arts, to explore the concept of more-than-human rights from various angles.

Participants will engage in roundtable discussions of their papers, supplemented by keynote sessions led by experts in the field. Keynote speakers include: Christine Winter (University of Otago), David Gruber (CUNY; Project CETI); José Gualinga (Kawsak Sacha Initiative, Sarayaku Indigenous Peoples); Merlin Sheldrake (Vrije University Amsterdam), among others.

To participate in the conference, please submit an application using the provided link before **August 31st, 2024.** Your application should include a brief summary (250 words) of the original paper (up to 10,000 words) you intend to present at the conference. Papers may represent ongoing research or entirely new projects. Two months prior to the conference (mid-January 2025), all participants must submit their papers for review by fellow conference participants. After the conference, we will explore opportunities to publish the collection of essays that will come out of the Conference.

MORE INFO



#### **CALL FOR PROPOSALS:**

## 2025 Annual Meeting of the Philosophy of Education Society

The program committee invites your submissions for the 2025 annual meeting of the Philosophy of Education Society, to be held at the Kimpton Hotel Monaco Inner Harbor in Baltimore, MD, March 6-10, 2025.

Submissions are welcome starting August 1, 2024, and are due on November 1, 2024.

Link to the conference website will be available during summer 2024. We invite papers and session proposals for all topics in philosophy of education. To encourage focused conversations, we also invite contributors to consider this year's theme: "Education and the Future of the Future."

## PES/Educational Theory Pre-Conference Workshop Philosophy of Education Beyond the Human

Accepted papers will be workshopped during a series of collaborative sessions with the other contributors throughout the day on March 6, 2025, before the annual PES conference in Baltimore begins that evening. The revised papers will then be considered for publication in a special issue of Educational Theory. The pre-conference workshop presents a unique opportunity to engage with colleagues, with the goal of creating a shared intellectual conversation around the proposed theme. That is why we call these special issues "symposia" and not just a collection of individual papers. Hotel accommodation for the night of March 5 and all meals during the March 6 workshops will be covered by the journal.

Paper proposals (1000 words, excluding references) are due on September 16,

**2024.** These will undergo an anonymous review process and authors will be informed if their proposal has been accepted for the pre-conference workshop by October 11, 2024. Final drafts of the papers will be due about a month before the event. Authors not selected for the workshop will be encouraged to submit papers or works-in-progress sessions to the general PES conference.

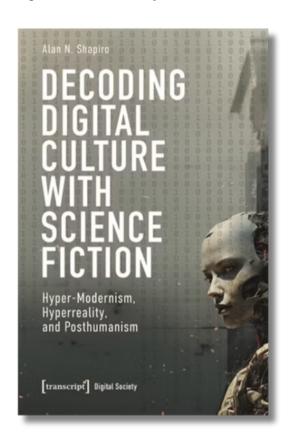
Submit proposals to: rmt@illinois.edu

MORE INFO

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# NEW (FREE) BOOK: Decoding Digital Culture with Science Fiction by Alan N. Shapiro



#### LINK FOR FREE PDF

How do digital media technologies affect society and our lives? Through the cultural theory hypotheses of hyper-modernism, hyperreality, and posthumanism, Alan N. Shapiro investigates the social impact of Virtual/Augmented Reality, Al, social media platforms, robots, and the Brain-Computer Interface. His examination of concepts of Jean Baudrillard and Katherine Hayles, as well as films such as Blade Runner 2049, Ghost in the Shell, Ex Machina, and the TV series Black Mirror, suggests that the boundary between science fiction narratives and the »real world« has become indistinct. Science fictional thinking should be advanced as a principal mode of knowledge for grasping the world and digitalization.

Alan N. Shapiro teaches media theory at Hochschule für Künste Bremen and future design research at Hochschule Luzern. He has also been visiting professor of transdisciplinary design and heterotopia at the Folkwang Universität der Künste, Essen, and worked for many years as a software developer. He is originally from New York City and lives in Frankfurt.

# RECORDING ON YOUTUBE Metahuman Futures Forum- 2024

### LINK TO YOUTUBE PAGE

You can find the recordings of Metahuman Futures Forum of 2024 clicking on the link above.



#### EPTC/PRI 2024 PANEL - POSTHUMANISM AND THE HUMAN-TECHNOLOGY NEXUS

June 17, 2024 - Birks 105, McGill University

Chaired by Christine Daigle (Director, Posthumanism Research Institute, Brock University)

The PRI is hosting a panel jointly with EPTC at Congress again this year.

The meeting is taking place at McGill University (Montreal) on June 17th.

All are welcome!

The Posthumanism Research Institute (PRI) at Brock University hosts a variety of local and international members who are interested in tackling questions pertaining to our contemporary state of multiple crises. If a Humanist worldview—with its human exceptionalism, binary thinking, and oppressive hierarchical patterns—has driven us to our current situation, which is often the starting point for posthumanist thinkers, what might be pathways to thinking ourselves differently? This entails exploring the multiple relations and entanglements in which we exist and reflecting on the nature of these relations and the thriving of entities involved.

It is in this context that this year's EPTC/PRI panel decided to explore the human-technology nexus. Since our human and nonhuman existences are permeated by various degrees of technologization, it is important to think through that particular entanglement. Our panel seeks to generate a reflection on emerging questions in the human-technology relationship, identifying dominant narratives, worldviews, and social structures that facilitate Humanist tendencies. As posthumanists, we are interested in leaving a Humanist conception of the human behind, not the human itself. What of that human itself and how it relates to technology? In what way has technology contributed to our evolution and to the shaping of our identity(ies)? What are the ethical implications of embracing accelerated technological developments such as AI and advanced computing? What potentials lay in such developments for mutual thriving?

MORE INFO

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#### **CALL FOR APPLICATIONS:**

#### Metahuman Summer Lab - 2024

# Techniques of the Body & Body Intelligence: the Reversal of Extinction 17 to 21 July - Inscriptions till 15th June

In rural SPAIN: in Casa de la Libertad, in a small village of Salamanca two hours away from Madrid and 40 min. from Salamanca. There is train or bus to Peñaranda de Bracamonte, which is 13km away.

At the METAHUMAN LAB we explore ways of being in the world that may help undo the planetary catastrophe that human dominion has created over the past 10 millennia. Challenging ruthlessly all forms of oppression, non-human and human, and their underlying concepts (of species, gender, race, ability, etc.) we confront the fact that it is the totality of forms of sedentary living and its related overpopulation emerging since the rise of farming that have created the extinction cycle that drags us along all other species.

The lab onto-hacks our most deeply rooted Human Supremacist assumptions and proposes experiential practices and techniques for rediscovering a lost moving-sensing body, which is the only means to undo our toxic ways of living and regain a symbiotic relation to the Earth and its 8,7 million species. From movements exercises based on proprioception, through flexinamic structures and interactive projections, to gathering plants this fully vegan event proposes techniques for transforming our ways of living and regaining the dance of life.

The Original Affluent Society theory stemming from the 1960 in anthropology tells us that gatherers hunters lived and live better than sedentary cultures, and for 99% of its history of around 300.000 we lived only like that and we were just one million population: never accumulating, with egalitarianism and respect for other life forms and the environment, moving with the earth and its flows. All modes of oppression have appeared with accumulation and our devastating occupation of the earth with farming, agriculture and cities. But the Lab, building upon Del Val's movement philosophy suggests that it is the gradual loss of movement in the Sapiens that lies in the roots of the problem. Regaining the moving body is key.

For the program and detailed information, click HERE

Fully VEGAN event.

The space has a strict "Holocaust-free" policy and doesn't allow animal products in the place.