

Digital Regulation in the Public Interest: 3rd Annual Virtual Symposium Call for proposals

On behalf of the Brock University Faculty of Social Sciences, Dr. Natasha Tusikov (Associate Professor, Department of Social Science, York University) and Dr. Blayne Haggart (Professor of Political Science, Brock University) are pleased to invite you to submit a proposal for the third annual Brock University Faculty of Social Science virtual symposium, [Digital Regulation in the Public Interest](#), to be held on **Friday, March 13, 2026**.

As in our previous two symposia in this series, the purpose of this event is to reach across disciplinary boundaries to bring Brock faculty working on digital-policy issues together with colleagues from around the Golden Horseshoe to share and/or provide updates on their work in a collegial and constructive environment. Our overriding objective is to foster a greater sense of community among scholars working in this area.

We invite research focused on public and private governance, widely defined, in our increasingly (commodified) knowledge-driven digital society, again, widely defined. In particular:

- The political economy of data, intellectual property, and digital systems
- Critical approaches to digital policies, including platform governance, social media, and machine learning/artificial intelligence
- Social and environmental justice (broadly defined) in the digital/knowledge-driven era
- Power and control in the digital society
- Indigenous digital/knowledge-policy issues
- State and non-state, domestic and transnational governance
- Artificial intelligence (however defined) regulation
- Who benefits in and from the knowledge-driven society? Who loses out?

This symposium is likely to interest faculty and student researchers who conduct research focused on the policy side of these issues, primarily within a framework that prioritizes issues of social/environmental justice, rather than on their technical or commercialization sides. In particular, we encourage doctoral students and early-career researchers to present on their work.

The goal of the symposium, beyond introducing the audience to a wide range of views on these issues, is to serve as an early step toward identifying potential collaborative possibilities across Faculty and Departmental boundaries within Brock, and between Brock researchers and those in the Southern Ontario region. It is also designed to offer a welcoming environment for doctoral students to gain experience in presenting their research to, and to gain constructive feedback from, a professional audience.

If you would like to participate in the symposium, [PLEASE USE THIS FORM](#) to submit a 200-word abstract describing what your presentation would address by **January 15, 2026**. We also invite you to circulate this call for proposals to any colleagues you think might be interested in participating.

A dedicated section of the Faculty of Social Sciences [website](#) has been created for this series. The site serves as a repository for associated resources, such as presentations and recordings (with permission), links to presenter profiles, and information on related courses and programs available at Brock University.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact either Blayne (bhaggart@brocku.ca) or Natasha (ntusikov@yorku.ca).

Kind regards,

Blayne Haggart and Natasha Tusikov