

The Pauline Jewett Institute of Women's and Gender Studies
at Carleton University Presents
Communal Conversations: A Roundtable Symposium on the Future of Knowledge-Making

May 6 & 7, 2022

We are pleased to invite creative thinkers to submit proposals that aspire to move beyond institutionalized (academic, governmental, religious, medical, etc.) methods of inquiry and knowledge-making. This symposium is a welcoming space open to all embodied experiences.

This conference borrows from Katherine McKittrick's approach of Radical Interdisciplinarity: "To do radical interdisciplinary work, from a black sense of place, that changes the kinds of questions we ask is not just about reading outside our discipline, researching, and using slices and terms from people we do not normally read; it is about sharing ideas comprehensively and moving these ideas into new contexts and places" (Dear Science and Other Stories, 2021).

This symposium is inspired by the call for expanding ways of knowing evoked by McKittrick's radical interdisciplinarity. Presenters are encouraged to send submissions that move beyond the boundaries of institutional disciplinary knowledge and towards communal conversations that emphasize sharing thoughts, experiences, knowledge, ideas, and discussions across multiple communities. We are prioritizing submissions from disabled, mad, queer, trans, Black, Indigenous, and other racialized people surrounding their experiences and ways of knowing.

The symposium aims to ask, revise, and further the following reflexive questions:

- What would a future that does not privilege academic/institutionalized knowledge-making look like?
- What approaches can be taken across communities to transform ways of knowing and communicating?
- How can we destabilize and decenter knowledge that upholds power relations, such as within universities?
- How could knowledge be mobilized and shared within and across communities?
- How can we cultivate a space for knowledge production informed by processes of accountability, (un)learning, and collective/interpersonal care?

This symposium welcomes (but is not limited to) the following topics:

- Gender, sex, and sexuality (including Trans and Queer subjectivities)
- Futurity and futurism
- Disability justice
- Madness and saneism
- Climate crisis/emergency and environmental racism
- Land back/land defense/water protection
- Legislation and policymaking
- Sex work activism
- Migration and refugees
- Grassroots activism and coalition building
- Settler-Colonialism, anticolonial perspectives, and decolonization
- Spirituality
- (In)accessible housing and food (in)security
- Anti-fatness and fat liberation
- Surveillance

To respect many ways of knowing and creating, we are hosting a multimedia symposium where presenters can use any form of knowledge-making, such as, but not limited to: stories (written and oral), songs, poetry, poster presentations, paintings or other art forms, podcasts, PowerPoints, research papers, or any other creative method. Please see submission details below for more information.

Submission Guideline for the Symposium:

Kindly submit proposals with the following content in one PDF copy (single spaced 12 pt. font) to wgstsymposium2022@gmail.com by **February 5th, 2022**. We are welcoming submissions in English and French.

Individual submission:

- Title of your work
- 200-word description of your topic and its significance to you or the theme
- 150-word brief biography about yourself
- Indicate method of presentation

Roundtable/panel submission:

- Title of roundtable/panel
- 100-word description of each topic and its significance to you or the theme
- 150-word brief biography of each participant
- Indicate method of presentation for roundtable/panel