



The Western Anthropology Graduate Society (WAGS) jointly with the Anthropology Undergraduate Society at Western University (London, ON) are pleased to announce: **Western University's 4th Annual Anthropology Graduate Student Conference** entitled: ***Anthropology and Community: An Exploration of Collaborations and Engagements Inside and Outside of the Field*** **Friday, March 3rd through Sunday, March 5th, 2017.**

Anthropology is the social science that is arguably the most well equipped to tackle the “big questions” of today. Across the globe, anthropologists find themselves enmeshed within competing networks of colleagues, collaborators, communities, artifacts, non-humans, and ontologies. Navigating these complex systems proves a difficult task, but the social sciences’ diverse methodologies lend themselves to engagements with the rhizomatic, the leaky, and the non-linear. This conference will explore some of these complex relationships, and demonstrate the ways in which the discipline forms connections within field sites, online spaces, and classrooms, between colleagues, collaborators, and the public. We invite abstracts from across the social sciences that will facilitate scholarly discussion and critical thinking around the concept of ‘community’. The following questions provide a starting point for critical investigation of the theme:

- How do you define *community* in your research?
- What communities are formed through your research?
- How do you go about locating and tracing communities?
- What is the impact of your research for community-based organizations or knowledge building?
- How do you perceive the social from the material record?
- What forms of engagements can anthropologists use?
- How do you balance the responsibilities you have as a researcher to various academic and non-academic communities?
- What different boundaries exist between the researcher and communities, and how do you navigate them?
- What power relations exist in your research with communities?

We invite you to submit paper abstracts for 15-minute oral presentations by **Friday January 13th, 2017** to uwoanthconference@gmail.com. Please include your name and affiliation, paper title, abstract (up to 250 words), and 3-4 keywords.

We highly encourage students from outside of London, Ontario to make submissions. Non-London residents whose abstracts are received by the deadline (January 13th, 2017) and are accepted will be eligible to apply for the ***Western Anthropology Conference Student Travel Bursary***.

Updates, the program, keynote speaker(s), bursary guidelines and eligibility, and other resources will be posted on the conference website:

http://anthropology.uwo.ca/graduate/association_clubs/wags_annual_graduate_student_conference.html.

Please circulate widely to interested parties and direct any questions to:
uwoanthconference@gmail.com.

Thank you very much!

Western Anthropology Conference Committee 2016-2017

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