



Anthropology  
UNIVERSITY OF TORONTO



## CALL FOR PAPERS: MEDUSA 2019 — *futures*

Medusa: University of Toronto Anthropology Graduate Student Union Conference

Deadline: Monday January 21, 2019

Contact: [medusaconference@gmail.com](mailto:medusaconference@gmail.com)

Website: [www.utorontoagsu.com](http://www.utorontoagsu.com)

Keynote: Announcement forthcoming

The Anthropology Graduate Student Union (AGSU) at the University of Toronto invites proposals for the 6th annual Medusa Graduate Conference. The conference will take place on **Thursday March 28 and Friday March 29, 2019** in the Department of Anthropology at the University of Toronto, St. George campus.

The theme of the 2019 conference is “Futures”. This year’s theme responds to the sense of precarity and anxiety clouding the current political moment, and the uncertainty of looking forward through time. Imagining the future is an integral experience of peoples past, present, and future. It is therefore an important facet of anthropological inquiry relevant to all sub-disciplines. What kinds of futures do we hope for, dread, imagine, and cultivate? How does lived experience frame how peoples across time and space speculate on the future? How must we invent and re-invent our methodologies in order to address new questions and challenges? For Medusa 2019, we welcome inventive and thought-provoking submissions of quality student research from both graduate students and advanced undergraduates. Applicants working in all sub-disciplines of anthropology and related fields are encouraged to apply. Our committee gratefully receives all submissions, but especially those that engage with themes of temporality, futurity, historicity, uncertainty, risk, “progress”, prediction, imagination, and hopefulness.

### Conference Format:

Reimagining the future requires reimagining how we present our research endeavours. We therefore welcome artistic, performative, and otherwise creative submissions, along with panel presentations, individual papers, and posters. Submissions will be grouped thematically. Medusa will continue its tradition of facilitating interdisciplinary dialogue by placing presenters from disparate backgrounds in conversation with one another. Presentations will be 15 minutes in length, followed by discussion. We also encourage the submission of media works related to your research and fieldwork, including photography, auditory media, or other compositions. Pending funding, Medusa will offer partial compensation for travel expenditures. Those funds are not guaranteed. Please contact us in the instance that you require any further clarification. Additionally, interested attendees are invited to join us for a thematically relevant post-conference outing to the recently re-opened Museum of Contemporary Art on the morning of Saturday March 30.

### Submission Instructions:

Creative and performative submissions will be evaluated based on artistic merit. For individual papers and posters, please submit an abstract of no more than 300 words to [medusaconference@gmail.com](mailto:medusaconference@gmail.com) by Monday January 21, 2019. For panel submissions, please submit a proposal as well as the abstracts for each paper on the panel (maximum 4 papers). Submissions should include the presenter’s level and year of study (Undergraduate, MA/MSc, PhD), departmental and university affiliation, complete address, telephone number, email address, title of paper, and audio-visual requirements. On behalf of the Medusa 2019 organizing committee and the AGSU, we thank you kindly for your interest and look forward to your submission.