

2nd Annual INSPIRe Virtual Symposium

(International Network of Student Perspectives in Research)

Illuminating the world through student research, networking, and discussions

September 8 – 21, 2013

CALL FOR ABSTRACTS

“Exploring ability expectations through diverse disciplines and topics”

Abstract Submission Deadline: July 30, 2013

Send your abstracts to

inspirevirtualsympoium@gmail.com

The Wolb Pack, a team of inter- and trans-disciplinary undergraduate and graduate research students based at the University of Calgary are pleased to announce a call for abstracts for the 2nd annual INSPIRe virtual symposium. The conference theme is **“Exploring ability expectations through diverse disciplines and topics”**.

WHO SHOULD PARTICIPATE?

You should participate if you are an undergraduate or graduate studies student of a post-secondary institution/organization.

AIMS OF THE CONFERENCE

The aims of this conference are to:

1. Encourage student discussion regarding socio-cultural *ability expectations*.
2. Provide a peer-reviewed opportunity for undergraduate and graduate students to showcase their work.
3. Provide a platform for dialogue and networking without the costs of travel and conference fees.

POTENTIAL TOPICS OF SUBMISSION:

Topics may engage a variety of social groups (e.g. disabled people, ethnic minorities, gender, socioeconomic status, immigrants, migrants, etc.) and discussion of ability expectations. Suggestions of topics include, but are not limited to:

- Ableism
- Aging
- Bodybuilding
- Bullying
- Bionics
- Climate change

- Disability studies
- Economics
- Education
- Energy issues
- Environmental justice
- 'Eco-ability'
- Equity and equality
- Ethics
- Eugenics
- Feminist approach to ability expectations
- Future of communication technologies and ability expectations
- Global outlook
- Health consumerism
- Health science technology and health care
- Human development
- Human enhancement
- Human security
- Immigrant policies
- Indigenous studies
- Local outlook
- Media discourses and representation of various social groups
- Organ donation and transplantation
- Peace
- Privacy and health science technologies
- Prospects of artificial wombs
- Racism
- Science and technology governance
- Sensory systems
- Social determinants of health
- Social justice
- Social robots
- Social well-being
- Sport
- Sustainability
- Sustainability and economics
- The human body
- Water issues

ABSTRACTS

Eligible submissions include primary research, conceptual pieces, creative pieces, and literature reviews. Please contact the conference organizers for information regarding other formats.

- Abstracts (max. **250 words** in length excluding references) must include:
 - Title
 - Name(s) of author(s), affiliations, and contact information of author(s)
- Abstracts should be submitted in English.

Completed abstracts should be submitted to inspirevirtualsympoium@gmail.com by **July 30, 2013 with the wording** "Inspire Virtual Symposium" in the subject line of the email.

Formats for final submissions (choose one):

	Submission Format
1. Oral presentation	Podcast (audio file)
2. Poster	PDF
3. Manuscript	PDF

CONFERENCE TIMEFRAME

- Week 1
All participants have 1 week to read or listen to the material and post questions/comments.

- Week 2
Authors to respond to questions/comments posed to them; authors should monitor the discussion forum during this week.



WHO WE ARE

We are a team of inter- and trans-disciplinary undergraduate and graduate research students based at the University of Calgary. We are interested in socio-cultural ability expectations and their impacts (please see <http://ableism.wordpress.com>). We investigate various topics (e.g. social robotics; emerging science and technology; energy, water and climate change security and justice; ethics; education; resilience; immigrants; meaning of health; health policy; health consumerism, among others) through an ableism lens.

WHY Are We Doing THIS?

Our research team increasingly aims to disseminate our data at conferences through virtual means, particularly given the often untenable fees for travel. We are very grateful for these opportunities; as such we envision this conference as a way to express our appreciation and to give back to the research community. In addition, we aim to provide other students an opportunity to disseminate their views and to network with us and others.

WHAT IS ABILITY STUDIES? <http://ableism.wordpress.com/>

Ability expectations and preferences are one dynamic through which members of a group judge others, themselves, and their lives. As researchers in ability studies, we investigate cultural aspects of ability preferences, the culture of ability preferences, and the impact of ability preferences on various levels. Ability studies investigates: (a) the social, cultural, legal, political, ethical and other considerations by which any given ability may be judged, which leads to favouring one ability over another; (b) the impact and consequence of favouring certain abilities and rejecting others; (c) the consequences of ableism in its different forms, and its relationship with and impact on other "isms".

WHAT DOES VIRTUAL MEAN?

The conference and all accepted contributions will be hosted online. Once all completed submissions have been received, the webpage will go live, at which point conference participants (all the accepted authors) have 1 week to read or listen to the material at their leisure. Attached to the conference webpage will be a discussion forum where conference participants may post questions/comments to authors. This is a project of the Wolb Pack©

http://www.crds.org/research/faculty/Gregor_Wolbring.shtml