



## CALL FOR PAPERS

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: ***Competing Voices in Cultural Spaces*** to be held from **Friday, March 4 - Sunday, March 6, 2016**.

The pursuit of anthropological research has evolved to include a wide array of human and non-human behavior across all continents. However, the integration of multiple sub-disciplines into one field has the potential to confuse and complicate key concepts, as we approach the same idea from multiple vantage points and using diverse vocabulary. The current theme will allow for an in-depth discussion of differences and conflicts between 'voices', whether they are researcher or subject voices, and 'cultural spaces', which can include, linguistic, physical, or online/offline boundaries. Some potential questions for discussion include:

- How do we define a cultural space? How might the idea of 'homogenous' linguistic or cultural communities help or hinder anthropological research?
- How can anthropologists best work with communities to ensure their needs are being met? What responsibility do we as anthropologists have to make our work accessible outside of academia?
- Should anthropologists be 'working with' rather than *on* or *for* and how might this complicate our research? How can a researcher's own 'voice' affect their work?

This conference will provide an opportunity for graduate and undergraduate students to reflect critically on how our conceptualization of both human and non-human voices are both shaped by and reflect the surrounding cultural space, as well as how our understandings of this space will affect the lived experiences of those within.

We invite you to submit abstracts for 15-minute oral presentations by **Friday January 15, 2015** to [uwoanthconference@gmail.com](mailto:uwoanthconference@gmail.com). Please include your name and affiliation, paper title, abstract (up to 250 words), and 3-4 keywords.

Suggested ideas for papers include but are certainly not limited to: -Research design -Indigenous issues -Reflexivity -Community archaeology and involvement -Politics, knowledge, and power -Colonialism and globalization -Facilitating fieldwork

We highly encourage students from outside of London, Ontario to submission an abstract. Non-London residents whose abstracts are received by the deadline (January 15, 2015) 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/WAGS/events\\_and\\_conferences.html](http://anthropology.uwo.ca/graduate/WAGS/events_and_conferences.html)

Please circulate widely to interested parties and direct any questions to [uwoanthconference@gmail.com](mailto:uwoanthconference@gmail.com).

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