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ENTANGLEMENT

IN THE DIGITAL ERA

Technology's Imprint on Society, Research, and Humanity in the 21st Century

March 22nd 2025 – Western University, London, Ontario

2025 WAGS CONFERENCE

ENTANGLEMENT IN THE DIGITAL ERA: TECHNOLOGY'S IMPRINT ON SOCIETY, RESEARCH, AND HUMANITY IN THE 21ST CENTURY

Anthropology is undergoing a profound transformation as digital technologies reshape how we perceive research and interact with the world. In this era of entanglement, the boundaries between human experience and technological innovation blur, challenging anthropologists to rethink foundational approaches to studying society, culture, and people.

This conference explores the evolving intersections of anthropology and technology,

addressing how digital tools are redefining relationships, communities, human biology, knowledge dissemination and research practices. From advances in bioarchaeology and archaeology, like GIS mapping and machine learning, to shifts in sociocultural methods such as virtual ethnography and social media analytics, technology enables anthropologists to capture the multidimensionality of human life, both past and present, in unprecedented ways. Yet, as these innovations expand access to information, they also provoke critical questions about cultural autonomy, social justice, and ethical considerations in a digitized world.

Anthropological practices are migrating into digital environments, and with this the discipline becomes increasingly more collaborative and interdisciplinary. As technology reshapes relationships between people, communities, and their digital interfaces, it is simultaneously transforming the anthropological discipline itself. This conference seeks to foster dialogue on the promises and perils of these shifts, exploring the nuanced ways digital innovation intersects with researchers and the topics they study, alongside how anthropologists can navigate the opportunities and challenges of the digital age.

Join us as we examine the impact of technology in the 21st century, considering its transformative potential alongside its profound implications for the future of all fields in anthropology.