Call for Symposium Proposals

1st University of Rochester Disability Studies Cluster Symposium
Complicating Normalcy: Disability, Technology, and Society in the Twenty-First Century
Rochester, New York
Friday, November 14, 2014

Proposal Submission Deadline: 5 p.m. Eastern
Wednesday, September 10, 2014

Visit www.warner.rochester.edu/pages/dscs for more information.

The First University of Rochester Disability Studies Cluster Symposium is organized around themes found in the documentary *FIXED: The Science/Fiction of Human Enhancement*. This film explores the meaning of “disability” and “normalcy” in the 21st century of the Common Era through an examination of technological and pharmacological advances designed to “fix or enhance the human body,” and the bioethical implications and social tensions that arise from these scientific advances. Some of these bioethical implications and social tensions include the rise in prenatal screening, euthanasia / "right to die" legislation, ongoing stigma and the continued marginalization of children and adults, especially those labeled with intellectual disability, including their segregation in schools, nursing homes and institutions, and the workplace. This symposium will also host the Rochester premier of the documentary *FIXED*.

We invite proposals for the 1st University of Rochester Disability Studies Cluster Symposium on November 14, 2014 at the University of Rochester. Proposals addressing the symposium theme, “Complicating Normalcy: Disability, Technology, and Society in the Twenty-First Century,” are especially welcome, but any timely and relevant subjects of broad interest around disability, diversity, and inclusion will be considered. We also welcome proposals that explore interdisciplinary and intersectional connections with areas of humanities and the arts; business; engineering; education; and social, natural, and biomedical sciences that relate to disability at any level. We encourage submissions from scholars, faculty, staff, students, and community members.
Proposal types and formats include:
1. Individual presentation (30 minutes)
2. Panel presentation (90 minutes)
3. Workshop/discussion/roundtable (60 minutes)
4. Poster presentation

Proposal submission deadline: 5 p.m. Eastern Time, Wednesday, September 10, 2014

To Submit
Proposal Format Each proposal must be submitted as a word document and must include:
1. Name(s) (If there is more than one presenter, please indicate the main contact and lead presenter first)
2. Affiliation(s) (if applicable)
3. Contact information (If there is more than one presenter, please indicate the main contact and lead presenter information first)
4. Title of presentation
5. Abstract (150 words)
6. Description and justification (< 1000 words):
   a. Purpose
   b. Goals and objectives
   c. Justification: Significance / Relevance to the theme of the symposium
7. Permission to publish your abstract in all symposium materials (website, program, in electronic format) if accepted for presentation.
8. Indicate your interest in having your paper considered for publication in symposium proceedings, an edited book, and/or a special journal issue.
9. Indicate agreement to provide presentation content in alternative formats (e.g., handouts available in electronic format and in large print, captioned videos) to ensure that all participants have access.

Please submit your proposal directly to the Program Chair, Julia M. White, at jwhite@warner.rochester.edu. You will receive a confirmation email confirming receipt of your submission within 24 hours. If you do not receive such notification, please contact the Symposium Coordinator, Elizabeth Carpenter, at elizabeth.carpenter@rochester.edu to confirm that your proposal was received.

Evaluation Process and Criteria
All proposals will be peer-reviewed and ranked by reviewers selected by the Program Chair. Program Chair will remove all identifying information from proposals (i.e., #1-3) Reviewers will be members of the Disability Studies Cluster. Decisions will be made by September 25, 2014.

If Your Proposal Is Accepted
Upon notification of acceptance, presenters are required to notify the Symposium Coordinator of their intent to participate/present at the symposium.

All presenters are required to register for the conference. Presenters who fail to notify the Symposium Coordinator and/or who do not register to attend by November 7, 2014 may be
withdrawn from the program at the discretion of the symposium committee. The Disability Studies Cluster is not able to provide any financial assistance, stipends, travel assistance, or lodging to symposium presenters or participants.

Audiovisual equipment:
Each presentation room will be equipped with a computer, projector, and speakers. Presenters should bring their presentations to the symposium on a USB data stick (and if possible, load it into a cloud service). You should bring your own laptop in case of difficulty loading your presentation.

**Important Dates**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>September 3, 2014</td>
<td>Deadline for submitting proposal to symposium Program Chair</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>September 25, 2014</td>
<td>Notification of acceptance sent to presenters</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>October 3, 2014</td>
<td>Notification of scheduling (session time) sent to presenters</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>October 31, 2014</td>
<td>Deadline for presenters to finalize program information (e.g., abstracts)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>November 7, 2014</td>
<td>Deadline for presenters to register for the symposium</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>November 14, 2014</td>
<td>Symposium</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Contacts**

**Program Chair:**
Julia M. White, PhD  
Assistant Professor  
Director, Inclusive and Special Education Program  
Margaret Warner Graduate School of Education & Human Development  
PO Box 270425, LeChase Hall 470  
University of Rochester  
Rochester, NY 14627  
585.273.5090 (voice phone)  
jwhite@warner.rochester.edu

**Symposium Coordinator:**
Elizabeth A. Carpenter, Access Coordinator  
Center for Excellence in Teaching and Learning  
1-154 Dewey Hall  
University of Rochester  
Rochester, NY 14627  
585.275.9049 (voice phone)  
elizabeth.carpenter@rochester.edu