

Conference Paper Mission Statement

The 2015 Knowledge From the Margins conference will be inclusive (science and technology studies as a "big tent") but definitive in its focus on knowledge produced by (or about) people and institutions who are marginalized in society (e.g. layperson, low-income, low-caste/class, indigenous, non-Western, non-Protestant, racial/ethnic minority, female gender, LGBTQ sexual orientation, disabled, etc.)

The conference is organized around four themes:

- Theme 1: "Participation and Innovation by the Marginalized"
- Theme 2: "Objectivity from the Margins"
- Theme 3: "Marginal Differences"
- Theme 4: "Production of Ignorance and Marginality"

Please refer to the conference website (<http://lbc.msu.edu/KFM/>) for an expanded explanation of these themes.

All conference papers will be disseminated in an open-access format to facilitate these goals.

Conference Papers: Structure and Content

To address the conference's mission statement, every submitted paper must use the following criteria:

- Abstract
- Keywords
- Introduction
- Analytical Perspectives
- Empirical Analysis (can be composed of several sections)
- Conclusion

Papers that deviate from these requirements will be returned to the author.

Abstract (200-250 Words)

Must *directly state and summarize* the central argument of the paper. The author should *limit* extensive historiographical and scholarship debates discussed in the paper. *Avoid* phrases such as 'This article is about...', 'The article examines/discusses...', 'It is demonstrated/argued that...', et al.

Keywords

3-6 keywords should be listed after the Abstract.

Introduction (up to 1000 Words)

Each presented paper should have an Introduction that attracts readers who are *non-specialists but interested in critical perspectives*.

An ideal Introduction will be framed by an important public issue (not an academic one). These examples could include a news story, event, legislation et al. In most cases, the chosen public issue should relate to science and technology's impact on social justice and / or sustainability. Furthermore, the Introduction should engage with community-oriented and/or activist work that provides social commentary on science, technology and society. Empirical details should be *minimized* in the Introduction.

Analytical perspectives: The questions in the Introduction provide a basis for bringing in analytical perspectives relevant to the mission statement of the conference. *At least one concept should clearly relate* to conference themes. The concepts should be thoroughly explained, with relevant direct quotations from original sources (both primary and secondary). The paper should utilize essential analytical concepts that will be used by the author, rather than give a long literature and / or historiographical survey.

Empirical Analysis: The submitted paper will investigate empirical material by drawing upon analytical perspectives that were introduced earlier. This section *should not* introduce theories or concepts that have not been explained previously.

Conclusion: The submitted paper's conclusion should *summarize and reiterate* the author's major argument and tie together key points which were discussed at length in the paper. The Conclusion also should summarize how the author's analytical perspectives have illuminated their chosen topic.

Total length: 10,000 words maximum, including all text (References, notes, et al.).

Stylistic Guide

Before a paper is accepted as a final product, it must abide by the stylistic guidelines enumerated below.

Headings: Please insert several subheadings (upper & lower-case letters in boldface), within which you can also use sub-subheadings (upper & lower-case letters in italics). An ideal paper will include approximately 3 to 5 headings for every 1,000 words. Each one should start on a new line.

Numbering Pages: All submitted papers should number their pages in the footer section using center justification.

Endnotes: Numbered notes should be used only for making important points and should be minimized, by integrating them into the main text. The final paper will put all notes at the end, just before the Bibliography/ References section.

Quotations: Quotations should be enclosed with single quote marks, or with double marks for quotes within quotes. Long quotations should be indented, not enclosed in quote marks.

Citations/references: All references should use the Harvard style (author, year, page); each one should refer to an item in the alphabetical Bibliography. Put citations at the end of a sentence, not in the middle, for ease of reading.

Bibliography/references: Standard format is similar for articles in books or journals, as follows: Surname, Initial. (year) Title of article, Journal/Book Title, vol. (no.), pp.ii-xx (City: Publisher).

Other information needed: All authors should include a brief biographical note consisting of a couple sentences for the Contributors section, placed at the end of the paper.

Conference Papers: Digital File Types

Please submit conference papers in PDF format.

Instructions to submit your paper to the Conference Digital Curator

The conference digital curator's contact information is as follows:

Name: Sebastian Mercer

Email Address: mercie14@msu.edu

Step 1: Prepare your paper according to the style guide provided by the conference digital curator.

Step 2: Go to a website called MSU File Depot (<https://filedepot.msu.edu/>) to transfer your file to the conference digital curator.

Step 3: Select the DropOff Button.

Step 4: Follow the instructions to verify your email address.

Step 5: Use the conference digital curator's contact information above to send your paper.