

Strengthening Deaf Academics and Researchers' Agora
10th Deaf Academics and Researchers Conference (DAC)
Université du Québec à Montréal, Montreal, June 19-23, 2021

Call for proposals - 2ND ROUND

The term *Agora* comes from Ancient Greece and encapsulates two elements: a place where people may exercise their political rights, and a market held in a public square. This term also evokes the idea of a meeting of diverse cultures, perspectives and peoples.

Our Agora is a meeting space where Deaf academics and researchers, with diverse Deaf identities and cultures, learn from one another and develop various perspectives together. DAC strives to be a space where we not only discover research from various disciplines, but also provide an environment for intra- and interdisciplinary perspectives (such as in arts & literature or STEM). The Agora also connects the Deaf academics and researchers through physical and virtual spaces that allow for collaborations and knowledge dissemination to occur.

As this will be the 10th DAC, the Organizing Committee would like to take the opportunity to celebrate this important international milestone, and to strengthen Deaf academics and researchers Agora further. There are at least three themes where we can reflect together in order to strengthen our Agora:

- **Power relations within the Deaf Agora.** How does the deconstruction of power relations in our Deaf academic spaces offer avenues for reflection and action towards greater social justice and towards best practices for allies? Although there is a diverse range of theories and concepts to consider, intersectionality is an example of one that can guide us in deconstructing power relations. This notion of intersectionality was a political demand and is one of the major contributions of Black Feminist thought. A theoretical framework coined by Kimberlé Crenshaw, intersectionality refers to experiencing multiple forms of oppression simultaneously, notably those related to gender and race, but also to social class, sexuality, ability, age, among others.
- **Multidisciplinarity and interdisciplinarity within the Deaf Agora.** Which spaces can offer and promote beneficial encounters and exchanges between various disciplines in Deaf studies; or between Deaf academics and researchers? Multidisciplinarity is an approach that makes it possible to consider several perspectives from different disciplines within the same study objectives. Interdisciplinarity is the collaboration between people from different disciplinary fields within one project.
- **Linguistic diversity within the Deaf Agora.** What are the issues related to the linguistic diversity of Sign Languages? Whether it is in terms of crosscultural and international communications, immigration, the preservation of endangered sign languages, or the challenges posed by translation technologies, the issues of linguistic diversity has many facets.

There are other themes that could be covered during the conference, including STEM and various impacts of COVID-19, for instance.

Instructions for submitting a abstract proposal

Proposals must be sent to info@DAC2021.com with “Abstract proposal—DAC 2021” in the subject heading.

Deadline: Monday, March 15, 2021

- **Five type of abstract proposal** are welcome:
 1. **Workshop:** session of a dynamic nature, offering space for reflection on a chosen issue, and involving around twenty people for an approximate duration of one hour.
 2. **Round-table:** session of a dynamic nature, involving usually 3 or 4 persons doing each a brief presentation on a common theme, followed by a discussion with the public and the animator or the round-table. Alternative models are welcome (eg. fishbowl).
 3. **Feed-back session:** an opportunity for graduate students to present their dissertation/thesis projects or discuss issues developed from their academic journeys and/or research, in order to solicit feedback from participants, for a duration of approximately 30 minutes.
 4. **Conference:** session of magistral presentation, with 1 or 2 persons doing a presentation of total duration of 20 minutes.
 5. **Panel:** session of magistral presentations around a common theme, with usually 3 or 4 persons doing each a presentation of 15 minutes, chaired by an animator.
- **Abstract proposals** must include:
 - The title of the proposal.
 - The type of proposal: workshop, round-table, feed-back session, conference or panel.
 - The contact details of the author(s): name, institutional affiliation and email.
 - A summary of the proposal submitted in International Sign of no longer than 3 minutes. In the case of panels, each signed abstracts should be listed with a title and a summary (maximum 3 minutes for each abstract).
 - 5 keywords related to the proposal

→ For those who have never present in academic conference are warmly welcome to submit a proposal in order to contribute to strengthen Deaf academics and researchers Agora.

→ The conference will take place online via Zoom.