Conference Organizing Committee: Richard Grusin (C21 Director), Mary Mullen (C21 Deputy Director), John Blum (C21 Associate Director), and Rebekah Sheldon (C21 Provost Postdoctoral Fellow)

The Nonhuman Turn conference is sponsored by the Center for 21st Century Studies, College of Letters and Science, with support from the Graduate School, University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee.
Weather Patterns

A proposition: Entertain the environment.
A technique: Sentimental construction.
A process: Register the environmental conditions in a series of relational cross-currents. Make felt how the simple presence of movement in the space affects not only the space itself, but the nature of the work. Ruffle the presupposition that the human is necessarily at the center of this activation. Enfold the participant in an active ecology of the world, attuning to its difference. Do not place the participant in the role of direct activator of change. Sense, compose, dress, architect.

Artists: Erin Manning, Nathaniel Stern, Brian Massumi, Nicole Ridgway, Bryan Cera, C. Matthew Luther, and Nirmal Raja

Acknowledgements

Many thanks to the panel moderators, C21 fellows, and C21 project assistants for their support and participation in the conference. We'd also like to thank our student volunteers: Benjamin Babb, Kalling Heck, Shawna Lipton, Molly McCourt, Kristin Prins, Gestina Tiffany Sewell, and Ali Sperling. Lastly, we thank Johannes Britz, Provost & Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs; Rodney Swain, Dean of the College of Letters and Science; and Jennifer Watson, Associate Dean of the College of Letters and Science for their support of the conference and the Center for 21st Century Studies.
Welcome and General Information

The Center for 21st Century Studies is pleased to welcome you to the Nonhuman Turn Conference at the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee. The plenary speakers and breakout sessions take up the “nonhuman turn” that has been emerging in the arts, humanities, and social sciences over the past few decades.

Registration
On Thursday, May 3, conference registration will be held in Curtin Hall 939, the Center for 21st Century Studies' seminar room, from 1:00 – 2:30 p.m. During the rest of the conference, you can register outside of Curtin 175.

Welcome Reception
We have organized a welcome reception for all conference participants on Thursday, May 4 at Sala da Pranzo at 6:00 p.m. There will be complimentary hors d’ouevres and a cash bar. Sala da Pranzo is located across the street from Curtin Hall, at 2613 E Hampshire St.

Event Locations
All of the plenary talks will take place in Curtin hall 175. The breakout sessions will occur in classrooms on the first floor of Curtin hall. Please see the schedule for specific room assignments. Since classes will be in session on Friday, we do change rooms between sessions; rooms will be marked clearly. For those participants who have purchased lunch, lunch will take place in Greene hall, a short walk from Curtin Hall. Lunch tickets will be in your conference folder. You can also purchase lunch at Greene Hall if you did not pay in advance.

AV and Media Needs
Each breakout session will have a volunteer to help assist with technology. Please direct questions to them.

Shuttle Service and Transportation
We will provide a shuttle bus from the Doubletree by Hilton Hotel in downtown Milwaukee to the conference once per day, and a shuttle bus returning to the Doubletree after the conference events once per day. The shuttle will pick you up in front of the hotel, and at the circle in front of Curtin Hall off Downer Avenue.

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<th>Date</th>
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<td>Thursday, May 3:</td>
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<td>Friday, May 4:</td>
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<tr>
<td>Saturday, May 5:</td>
<td>8:00 a.m.</td>
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If you miss the shuttle bus, you can take a taxi. A fairly good resource for travel to and around Milwaukee can be found on the website “Getting around Milwaukee without a Car” at http://kiwinc.itgo.com/mwc/. If you are driving, please consult the UWM Parking and Transit website for parking information at www4.uwm.edu/parking.

Installations and Investigations

Think Make Digital Group

This University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee group approaches the question, “What is the nonhuman turn?” by exploring internet conversations generated in anticipation of and response to the C21 Nonhuman Turn conference. The group will visualize and analyze its findings after the conference in a white paper. Hopefully, many of the graphics will be included in the book that follows from the Nonhuman Turn conference as well as on the C21 website.

Our tools for gathering information involve:

- Background research into the presenters and topic areas prior to the conference
- Promoting the use of Twitter and a conference hashtag prior to and during the conference
- Monitoring the Twitter back-channel for the conference and cultivating conversation on it around certain themes and questions
- Having a small space at the conference for attendees to respond to questions in writing

Katie Morrissey (English)
Matt Trease (Digital Arts and Culture, English)
Eric Herhuth (English)
Nick Proferes (School of Information Sciences)
Rachel Sullivan (English)
Alyssa Huhndorf (Digital Arts and Culture)
Marc Tasman (Coordinator of Digital Arts and Culture)
Matt Russell (Learning Technology Center, instigator of Think Make Digital)
Conference Schedule

Thursday, May 3
Curtin Hall 175, University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee
3243 N Downer Ave

1:00 - 2:30  REGISTRATION (Curtin Hall 939)
2:30 - 6:00  REGISTRATION (Outside Curtin Hall 175)

3:00 – 3:15  WELCOME: Richard Grusin
(Director, Center for 21st Century Studies)

3:15 – 4:30  PLENARY: Brian Massumi, “Animality and Abstraction”
Introduced by Rebekah Sheldon, UW-Milwaukee, C21 Provost Fellow

4:30 – 4:45  BREAK

4:45 – 6:00  PLENARY: Erin Manning, “Another Regard”
Introduced by Nathaniel Stern, UW-Milwaukee, Art and Design

6:00 – 7:30  RECEPTION at Sala da Pranzo, 2613 E Hampshire St

Friday, May 4
Curtin Hall 175, University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee
3243 N Downer Ave

8:30 – 9:00  COFFEE

9:00 – 9:30  CONFERENCE INTRODUCTION: Richard Grusin,
“Why Nonhuman? Why Now?”

9:30 – 10:45  PLENARY: Jane Bennett, “Thinking about Sympathy in an Age of
Powerful Things”
Introduced by Kennan Ferguson, UW-Milwaukee, Political Science

10:45 – 11:00  BREAK

11:00 – 12:15  BREAKOUT SESSION 1

Objects 1: Curtin Hall 175
Panel Moderator: Jason Puskar, UW-Milwaukee, English

“Rhetorical Carpentry and Becoming Object” – James J. Brown, Jr.,
UW-Madison, English

Mediation 2: Curtin 118
Panel Moderator: Charlotte Frost, UW-Milwaukee, C21 Provost Fellow

“iResearch: Using Smartphones To Do Materialist Media Theory” –
Mark Cote, Victoria University, Media and Communication Studies

“The Materiality of Mobile Media: An Object-Oriented Approach to
Mobile Networks” – Jason Farman, University of Maryland, American
Studies and Digital Cultures and Creativity

“Happy Accidents—Facebook and the Autonomy of Affect” – Tero
Karppi, University of Turku, Media Studies

Queer/Feminist/Gaga: Curtin 109
Panel Moderator: Susan Bernstein, UW-Madison, English

“Object-Oriented Gaga: Theorizing the Nonhuman Mediation of
Twenty-First Century Celebrity” – Shane Denson, Leibniz Universität
Hannover, English

“Becoming Queer/Queer Becoming: Art, Affect, and the Dissolution of
Being (Human)” – renée c. hoogland, Wayne State University, English

“Relationality and the Revitalization of Nature In Materialist
Feminisms” – Janet Wirth-Cauchon, Drake University, Study of Culture
and Society

3:45 – 4:00  BREAK

4:00 – 5:15  PLENARY: Ian Bogost, “The Aesthetics of Philosophical
Carpentry”
Introduced by Michael Newman, UW-Milwaukee, Journalism,
Advertising and Media Studies

5:15 – 5:30  CLOSING REMARKS: Richard Grusin
"In the Dome of the Parliament of Things": Media Art’s Engagement with Bruno Latour (with Peter Sloterdijk as Best Man) – Marc Tuters, University of Amsterdam, Media Studies

12:00 – 1:00  LUNCH

1:00 – 2:15  PLENARY: Mark Hansen, “Against Clairvoyance: The Future of 21st Century Media”
Introduced by Sandra Braman, UW-Milwaukee, Communication

2:15 – 2:30  BREAK

2:30 – 3:45  BREAKOUT SESSION 4

Performance: Curtin 124
Panel Moderator: Heather Warren-Crow, UW-Milwaukee, Art and Design

"Ecology without Nature, Theatre without Culture: Towards an Object-Oriented Ontology of Performance” – João Florêncio, Goldsmiths, University of London, Visual Cultures

“Call Me Ishmael and Other (New) Material Performa(ctime)s and Ontological Entanglements” – Lissa Holloway-Attaway, Blekinge Institute of Technology, English/Literature, Culture and Digital Media Programs

“DesignLab and Performatively Oriented Scholarship: The Revelations of Dr. Kx4l3ndj3r” – Jon McKenzie, UW-Madison, DesignLab

Rhetoric: Curtin 119
Panel Moderator: Rebekah Sheldon, UW-Milwaukee, C21 Provost Fellow

“From the Dustbin of History: Rhetoric and the Problem of Abundance” – Casey Boyle, University of Utah, English

“Metastabilizing Metis: Toward a Transductive Rhetoric of Influence Over Persuasion” – Kevin Cassell, Michigan Technological University, Humanities

“The Invention of the Impossible Object: Ethical "Techne" in Object-Oriented Media Studies” – Steve Holmes, Clemson University, Rhetorics, Communication and Information Design

12:15 – 1:30  LUNCH

1:30 – 2:45  PLENARY: Steven Shaviro, “Consequences of Panpsychism”
Introduced by Elena Gorfinkel, UW-Milwaukee, Art History

2:45 – 3:00  BREAK

3:00 – 4:15  BREAKOUT SESSION 2

Ethics: Curtin Hall 175
Panel Moderator: Stuart Moulthrop, UW-Milwaukee, English

“Tektology Transfer” – McKenzie Wark, The New School for Social Research, Culture and Media

“Companionable Objects, Companionable Conscience: Ethics and the Predicaments of Dwelling with Things” – Kenneth M. George, UW-Madison, Anthropology

“Ethology Becomes Ethics: Exploding Uexküll” – Arun Saldanha, University of Minnesota, Geography
Objects 2: Curtin Hall 119
Panel Moderator: Sandra Braman, UW-Milwaukee, Communication

“Process-Relational Theory and the Eco-Ontological Turn: Clearing the Ground Between Whitehead, Deleuze, and Harman” – Adrian Ivakhiv, University of Vermont, Environmental Studies

“New Media Ontology: Interacting with Object-Oriented Philosophy and Computational Objects” – Bruno Lessard, Ryerson University, New Media

“Against Deleuze’s Joy: Vitalism beyond Affectionate Immanence” – Ben Woodard, University of Western Ontario, Theory and Criticism

Animals: Curtin Hall 118
Panel Moderator: Nigel Rothfels, UW-Milwaukee, Office of Undergraduate Research

“Talking with Animals” – Marilyn Cooper, Michigan Technological University, Humanities

“Compulsory Affectivity: Affect, Animality, and the Nonhuman Turn” – Donovan Schaefer, Syracuse University, Religion

“Animals, Assemblage, and Abstraction: Towards a Dark Ethics” – James K. Stanescu, Mercer University, Philosophy and Communication Studies

4:15 – 4:30 BREAK

4:30 – 5:45 PLENARY: Tim Morton, “They Are Here”
Introduced by Peter Paik, UW-Milwaukee, Comparative Literature

Saturday, May 5
Curtin Hall, University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee
3243 N Downer Ave

8:30 – 9:00 COFFEE

9:00 – 10:15 PLENARY: Wendy Chun, “Imagined Networks”
Introduced by Anne Frances Wysocki, UW-Milwaukee, English

10:15 – 10:30 BREAK

10:30 – 11:45 BREAKOUT SESSION 3

Mediation 1: Curtin 124
Panel Moderator: Michael Newman, UW-Milwaukee, Journalism, Advertising and Media Studies

“Mediation for Nonhuman Cognitions” – James J. Pulizzi, UCLA, English

“The Good Hyperlink” – Anne Helmond, University of Amsterdam, Media Studies

“Simple Solutions: Slashdot and the Articulation of Web Culture as Information System” – Michael Stevenson, University of Amsterdam, Media Studies

[... ] Human: Curtin 119
Panel Moderator: Annie McClanahan, UW-Milwaukee, English

“Digital Extinction” – Joshua Schuster, University of Western Ontario

“Towards a Supra-Human Metaphysics of Media” – Aaron Pedinotti, NYU, Media, Culture and Communication

“Posthuman: Next Steps” – Lucia Santaella, São Paulo Catholic University, Technologies of Intelligence and Digital Design

Arts: Curtin 118
Panel Moderator: Ryan Holifield, UW-Milwaukee, Geography

“Immeditation as Process and Practice of Digital Mattering” – Christoph Brunner, Zurich University for the Arts, Institute for Critical Theory

“Brimming with Vitality: Experiencing Colour Beyond Human Perception in Seurat’s La Grande Jatte” – Troy Rhoades, Concordia University, SenseLab