



## MSU C4I Weekly Newsletter

March 30, 2020

### Message from the C4I Managing Director

Dear Greater C4I Community,

We here at C4I wanted to acknowledge that it's been a hard few weeks. Many of us in academia are charting new waters (including shifting to online teaching), facing increasing burdens, and living with daily uncertainty. We're shifting to a new normal that none of us expected. In this trying time, one of our greatest strengths is our community.

First, I want to shout out some awesome folks on campus who are supporting research and creating vibrant community in new ways! Thanks to MSU Libraries (and InterLibrary Loan), who are shipping books and materials out to patrons right now. Congrats and thanks to the team that put on last week's [MSU Global Digital Humanities Symposium!](#) While the conference was originally scheduled to be in-person, their last-minute hard work resulted in a wonderful and interactive virtual experience for conference goers! If you've been looking for a Friday night activity, MSU Journalism Professor of Practice Amy Haimerl has moved her [Shady Ladies Literary Society](#) events to one hour Friday night Zoom events, which have featured brief cocktail lessons followed by COVID-19 focused Q&As from economists and epidemiologists.

While MSU C4I won't be providing our normal in-person programming this semester, we're looking forward to creating virtual versions of some of our popular programming (like the the interdisciplinary write-in) and we're excited to bring you some new types of content and opportunities to engage with both the C4I community and the community of interdisciplinary scholars at MSU. You'll see some of these below. We're here to support you in your interdisciplinary research, teaching, and community building and we're here to listen. We invite you to email either the C4I email address ([c4i@msu.edu](mailto:c4i@msu.edu)) or me directly ([vaskoste@msu.edu](mailto:vaskoste@msu.edu)) if there is anything that C4I can do for you or if there are any types of programming or events you'd like us to provide during this time.

On a personal note, many of us may have come from different places but now call Lansing or East Lansing our homes. Our local businesses and our neighbors are key to our community, so if it is possible for you, I encourage you to consider some of the following: attending (and paying for) virtual classes at your gyms/studios/fitness centers, ordering curbside or takeout from local restaurants, buying gift cards from restaurants and other local businesses, donating to the [Greater Lansing Food Bank](#) or to other local organizations, and buying/commissioning art from local artists/musicians/creatives.

With gratitude,  
Stephanie

### Upcoming Events

#### Announcing a "Using Online Tools for Interdisciplinary Research" Panel Presentation with MSU C4I Staff

April 3, 2020

12:00 – 1:00 PM

via Zoom

Register at [bit.ly/MSUC4Ipanel](http://bit.ly/MSUC4Ipanel)

Please join us on 4/3/2020 for our first virtual panel on interdisciplinary research!



This panel presentation will feature three case-based presentations on conducting interdisciplinary research using online tools & methods and will include time for Q&A from the audience. Our schedule is as follows:

- **Opening Remarks:** Dr. Stephanie E. Vasko, C4I Managing Director
- **Panel Presentations**
  - "Facilitating interdisciplinary research online: Challenges and opportunities" from Dr. Michael O' Rourke, C4I Director & Professor of Philosophy
  - "Telling Site-Based Stories: Tools and Techniques" from Dr. Stephanie E. Vasko, C4I Managing Director
  - "Conducting Robust Online Ethnographies" from Dr. Megan Halpern, C4I Scholar-in-Residence & Assistant Professor, Lyman Briggs College
- **Q&A with the Audience**
- **Closing Remarks**

Sponsored by the Center for Interdisciplinarity  
[cal.msu.edu](http://cal.msu.edu) | [c4i.msu.edu](http://c4i.msu.edu)

#### Spring 2020 C4I Virtual Interdisciplinary Write-In

April 17, 2020

9:00AM – 12:00 PM

via Zoom

Register by emailing [vaskoste@msu.edu](mailto:vaskoste@msu.edu)

Are you working on an interdisciplinary journal article, grant proposal, book chapter, thesis, dissertation, curriculum, portfolio, online work, or piece of publicly-engaged scholarship? Join us for three hours of dedicated writing time to advance your interdisciplinary scholarship! Representatives from the MSU Center for Interdisciplinarity will be available to discuss interdisciplinary opportunities. Please email Dr. Stephanie Vasko at [vaskoste@msu.edu](mailto:vaskoste@msu.edu) to register.

#### Announcing the West Michigan Sustainable Business Forum Webinar: Cost and Considerations of the COVID-19 Environmental "Silver Lining"

Interested in perspectives on sustainability and COVID-19? Join C4I Postdoc Dr. Edgar Cardenas at the following (free) online roundtable this Wednesday!

On April 1, from 12-1PM EST, the West Michigan Sustainable Business Forum will host an online roundtable examining the so-called environmental "silver lining" of the Covid-19 pandemic. There is an emerging consensus that actions taken to reduce viral transmission will lead to significant temporary reductions in greenhouse gas reductions and noticeable improvements in environmental conditions in certain regions and industries.

While it believed these temporary reductions may demonstrate the possibility for mankind to respond to global issues such as climate change, they have come within significant ethical concerns, economic challenges and disproportionate impacts. This roundtable will unpack how sustainability practitioners and stakeholders might interpret these issues as they work to promote sustainability and equity in their organizations, industries, and communities.

Panelists include

- Michael DeWilde, Director of the Koeze Business Ethics Initiative at Grand Valley State University
- Paul Isely, professor of economics and associate dean in the Seidman College of Business at Grand Valley State University
- Edgar Cardenas, Postdoctoral Fellow, Center for Interdisciplinarity at Michigan State University and Author of *Between Two Pines: Ushering in a Sustainable Future Through an Art-Science Practice*
- Carissa Patrone, Equity Program Manager, West Michigan Sustainable Business Forum

If you are interested in attending, please register here: <https://wmsbf.org/event-registration-and-payment/>



Our email address is:  
[c4i@msu.edu](mailto:c4i@msu.edu)

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