



Call for Abstracts

Atlantis Critical Studies in Gender, Culture and Social Justice

Special Issue

Signing the Scarborough Charter: Dialogues, Processes and Actions

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Deadline for abstracts: November 15, 2022

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The Scarborough Charter on anti-Black racism and Black inclusion has been signed by more than fifty post-secondary institutions across Canada. This historic development signals a significant commitment to taking concrete actions to address anti-Black racism and Black inclusion in Canadian higher education.

The Charter has been described as a significant tool that provides universities with guidelines and novel language for guiding their anti-Black racism strategies and framework for action. It addresses anti-Black racism in historic, anti-discrimination and social justice terms in Canada and signals an urgent call for remedial action across the higher education sectors. The Charter speaks to a range of issues facing universities, including increased hiring of Black faculty and staff in relation to historic underemployment in the higher education sector, decolonizing and broadening curriculum and the initiation of Black Studies programs across institutions.

With the signing of the Scarborough Charter, universities across Canada are responding to the chorus of calls for concrete and urgent action, and are taking this initial step to address systemic racism and gaps in representation and to acknowledge historical and present barriers facing Black inclusion in the academy.

For this Special Issue of *Atlantis*, we seek contributions from scholars, academics and students who are critically interpreting and actively engaging with this Charter. The goal of the Special Issue is to ask: How does/can the Charter prioritise the processes and tangible actions of change? How does/should the Charter influence ways in which the academy frames and considers Black inclusion and excellence? How can the Charter respond to specific student and Black community members' concerns in relation to higher education? What pedagogical challenges does the Charter pose in its quest to decolonise the academy?

We aim to publish a range of submissions including scholarly articles (4000-7000 words), critical reflections (2000 words) interviews (3000-4000 words) and other forms of artistic contributions including photo essays.

Contributions may include (but are not limited to) the following themes:

- History of the Charter (how it was created, obstacles encountered etc.) and its significance
- Gender inclusion and the Charter
- Language of the Charter, including specific wording of the text as well as implications for English- and French-language institutions, staff and students
- Imaginings and futures in relation to the Charter
- Implications of the Charter for decolonization and self-determination
- Managing the boundaries of the Charter in the context of EDIA mandates
- Performance, embodiment and acts of the Charter
- Cohort hires: representation and retention
- The roles and responsibilities of and implication for registrars, faculty associations, and unions

- Black Caucuses and Communities of Practice for Black flourishing
- Students' perspectives on the Charter
- Anti-Black racism taskforce governance and outcomes
- Black Excellence: articulations and iterations
- Aspects of the Charter affecting neurodiverse and disabled community members
- Aspects of the Charter affecting *2SLBGTQIA+ community members

We encourage submissions in English and French from established and emerging scholars, graduate students, independent scholars and community members with lived, intersectional experiences. We highly encourage contributions from those who identify as Black or of the African diaspora. We welcome perspectives from those who identify as Indigenous and Métis, as well as racialized scholars or community members.

Submission Process

We request interested authors to submit abstracts of no more than 200 words. Full papers will be invited based on review of the abstracts. Please include 50-word author bios. We encourage self-identification in author bios.

Send to: Dr. Katherine Barrett, *Atlantis* Managing Editor, atlantis.journal@msvu.ca

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About Atlantis: Critical Studies in Gender, Culture and Social Justice

Established in 1975, *Atlantis* is a scholarly research journal devoted to critical work in a variety of formats that reflects current scholarship and approaches to the discipline of Women's and Gender Studies. It incorporates a diversity of feminist, anti-racist and critical identity, intersectional, transnational, and cultural studies approaches to a wide range of contemporary issues, topics, and knowledges. *Atlantis* is dedicated to the ongoing growth of knowledge in the field of Women's and Gender Studies, as well as to critical reflections on the field itself. *Atlantis* is an open-access journal publishing 2-3 times per year at <https://journals.msvu.ca>