



SYMPOSIUM
CALL FOR PAPERS

THE DIGITAL CHALLENGE:

HOW TO HUMANIZE TECHNOLOGY

EXPLORING THE PROMISES & PITFALLS OF OUR COMMON DIGITAL FUTURE

HILTON PASADENA, CALIFORNIA, USA, 1 - 3 AUGUST 2019

Suggested Themes:

We live in an era of computerization of everyday life. Automation pervades all aspects of work and leisure, from the shop floor to education and dating services, with limitless possibilities for instant communication via iPhones, the Internet, and social media. But, is humanity becoming overly dependent on machines? Meredith Broussard cautions in *Artificial Unintelligence* (2018) that “computers misunderstand the world.” Simon Head points out in *Mindless* (2014) that smarter machines are “making dumber humans,” and that the age of machines as labor-saving devices has intensified management control of employees via Taylorism or “scientific management.” Humanoid robots pose an even greater challenge. For example, how can humans avoid emotional attachment and dependence on their creations, as explored in Sherry Turkle’s experiments with children and robots, and epitomized by the individual willing to “marry” his iPhone? The question arises: In a world dominated by machines, what is the proper role for humans? Kentaro Toyama proposes in *Geek Heresy* (2015) that technology is Janus-faced and that genuine social progress depends on caring humans. The future of humanity may well depend on scientists’ and humanists’ willingness and ability to bridge C. P. Snow’s famous *The Two Cultures* (1959) conceptual divide in order to humanize technology and promote individual fulfillment and social felicity in the global village.

JIS 2019

JIS Symposium 2019 endeavors to bring together scholars from a wide range of disciplines and denominations for an exciting international conference which takes both scholarship and faith seriously. **JIS Symposium 2019: The Digital Challenge** is co-sponsored by IIR-ICSA-JIS in the City of the Roses--the world-famous Tournament of Roses--in sunny Southern California, with many cultural & sightseeing

opportunities. All conference participants must pre-register. Abstracts (250 words) due: May 1, 2019: c/o Dr. O. Gruenwald, **JIS** Editor, 1065 Pine Bluff Drive, Pasadena, CA 91107, USA, per e-mail (no attachments) to: info@jis3.org. Include: Paper Title, First & Last Name, faculty or student, institution, mailing address, telephone & e-mail. Fully-developed papers will be considered for publication in the refereed *Journal of Interdisciplinary Studies XXXII 2020*. Web: <https://www.jis3.org/symposium2019>.

THE DIGITAL CHALLENGE

CONFERENCE STRUCTURE:

Check-In: Thursday, August 1, 3:00 - 6:00 PM, Hilton Pasadena. **Reception:** Thursday, August 1, 7:00 - 8:00 PM: Coffee Corner. **Main Conference Program:** Friday-Saturday, August 2-3, 8:45 AM - 6:00 PM: Monterey Room. **Keynote:** Friday, August 2: Monterey Room. **Format:** Multidisciplinary panels and papers. Participants are encouraged to attend the entire conference to enhance dialogue, synergy, and synthesis, as well as fellowship. Presenting a paper is not a prerequisite for participation. Indicate if you prefer to serve as discussant. Family members enjoy the reduced student registration rate. **Audio-Visual Equipment:** Bring laptop or flash drive if desired for PowerPoint presentation. **Cultural / Ecclesial / Sightseeing:** Before or after the conference. **Optional Field Trips:** Huntington Library & Gardens, Norton Simon Museum, JPL.

TRAVEL AND ACCOMMODATIONS:

Lodging: We recommend that conference participants make their hotel reservations as soon as possible. **Hilton Pasadena Reservations:** 1-800-445-8667 or 626-577-1000. Cultural/sightseeing/travel/accommodations: **Pasadena Convention & Visitors Bureau:** www.visitpasadena.com; 1-800-307-7977. Bring an alarm clock and a sweater or jacket for cooler mornings and evenings. **Ground Transportation:** Hilton Pasadena (168 S. Los Robles Ave., Pasadena, CA 91101) may be reached from the Los Angeles International Airport (LAX) via shuttles, e.g., Super Shuttle (shared ride \$32): 1-800-258-3826, or rent-a-car (ca. 45-minute drive).

JIS SYMPOSIUM 2019 REGISTRATION FORM:

First and Last Name (Please Print) _____
Institution/Street Address _____
City _____ State _____ ZIP _____
Telephone _____ E-Mail _____

REGISTRATION FEE *:

By March 15, 2019:	After March 15, 2019:	After May 1, 2019:	Totals:
____ Regular: \$100	____ Regular: \$125	____ Regular: \$150	\$ _____
____ Student: \$ 75	____ Student: \$100	____ Student: \$100	\$ _____

TOTAL REGISTRATION: \$ _____

* **Registration fee** includes complimentary copy of *Journal of Interdisciplinary Studies*

Money Order/Travelers Check in U.S. funds drawn on a U.S. bank, payable to: **ICSA**.
Mail Form & Payment to: Dr. O. Gruenwald, 1065 Pine Bluff Dr., Pasadena, CA 91107, USA.
For Credit Card: Use PayPal Cart on **JIS** Web: <https://www.jis3.org/symposium2019>