

Finding Futures Tour: An Exploration of Emerging and Mundane Technologies in Urban Settings

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Invitation to Participate

Finding Futures Tour: An Exploration of Emerging and Mundane

Technologies in Urban Settings

We often overlook the complex and intricate landscape of our urban setting. Commonplace technologies from cell phones to GPS devices, from street sweepers to walking shoes, permeate our environment. Behind the scenes, light switches and a maze of pipes treat us to the light and water we often take for granted. Because we've become so accustomed to these resources, we often overlook the technology that produces, drives, or supports them.

Please join us for a walking tour around Tempe, Arizona, to creatively explore the urban scene and reflect on the role of emerging technologies in transforming the landscape. With a keen eye and open mind, participants will be encouraged to capture images of technology use in the Tempe area, so they can later revisit, critique, sequence, and synthesize their experiences.

Inspired by Kevin Lynch's concept of wayfinding, the tour will offer the public an opportunity to:

- Look at the city with a different intention and gaze.
- Understand the technology choices rooted in place.
- Critique technology futures in urban settings.
- Define and explore 'material deliberation' as a prototype.
- Share and exchange collected data.
- Reflect on experiences and images.

The "Finding Futures" walking tour will involve a pleasant stroll down the streets of Mill Avenue and a hike up A-mountain, where participants will be encouraged to observe their surroundings, wander around, and take photos. Participants may playfully explore Lynch's work by untangling the human relationship and the built socio-technical environment. The walking tour will conclude with a roundtable back at the conference location.

Be sure to bring a camera or smart phone, comfortable shoes, and sunscreen.

Please see activity details and registration below.

Finding Futures Tour

Monday, November 7

Tempe Mission Palms (the conference hotel)

Orientation and Introduction: 1-1:15 p.m.

Departure: 1:16 p.m.

Return to Tempe Mission Palms: 3:30 p.m.

S.NET Conference Registration: 3:30-4 p.m.

S. NET Opening Presentation: 4 p.m.

Finding Futures Tour - Roundtable

Thursday, November 10

Tempe Mission Palms (the conference hotel)

Walking Tour Roundtable: 10:30 a.m.

Please see the conference program for more details on the roundtable.

Conference Program here>>

Walking Tour Registration

Participation is limited to twenty (20) individuals to manage the size and experience for those seeking to engage in the enriching activity. Preference will be given to non-ASU registrants. When registering, please be sure to mention which walking event you'd like to participate in.

To Register: please email Michelle Iafrat <<michelle.iafrat@asu.edu>>