

ANTHROPOLOGY COLLOQUIUM

Digital Ethics in Biological Anthropology: History, Challenges, and Initiatives

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Within the past decade the use of digital methods of recording within archaeology and anthropology has gone from being somewhat rare to being considered the norm. As a result, questions around the ethics of data collection, ownership, and dissemination have gained important traction. The digitization of human remains, however, raises a number of additional ethical considerations due to the sensitivity of working with biological material. Ethical standards relevant to the curation of physical remains, as well as the digital curation of other artifacts and nonhuman remains, are not necessarily applicable in the context of the curation of digital biological data. This talk, therefore, will examine the ethics of curating digital data in biological anthropology by discussing the history of the discipline, challenges in the curation of digitized human remains, and initiatives both in progress and in place attempting to tackle this complex issue.

EVERYONE WELCOME.