

Talking Indigenous Knowledge in Circle: An (AI)²AN Journal Club and Collaborative Research Circle on Responsibility, Tribal Sovereignty, and Indigenous Futures



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SIGNIFICANCE

- **Responding to Rapid AI Change:** Artificial intelligence (AI) is reshaping education, healthcare, research, governance, and everyday life, raising urgent questions about Tribal sovereignty, community benefit, and self-determination.
- **Accountability to Communities at Home:** Our relationships with families, Tribal leaders, colleagues, and community members inform our learning and reinforce our responsibilities to our communities.
- **Creating an Intellectual Space for AIAN:** The Circle brings Indigenous scholars and thinkers together to learn, exchange ideas, challenge assumptions, and collectively imagine Indigenous futures.
- **Examining Benefits, Harms, and Alternatives:** We critically examine AI's potential benefits and concerns about cultural appropriation, data extraction, technological dependence, and environmental consequences.
- **Building a Scholarly Network:** Through interdisciplinary collaboration among Indigenous scholars and allies, we seek to strengthen relationships, support Indigenous-led scholarship, and develop community relevant resources.

AI & AIAN = (AI)²AN

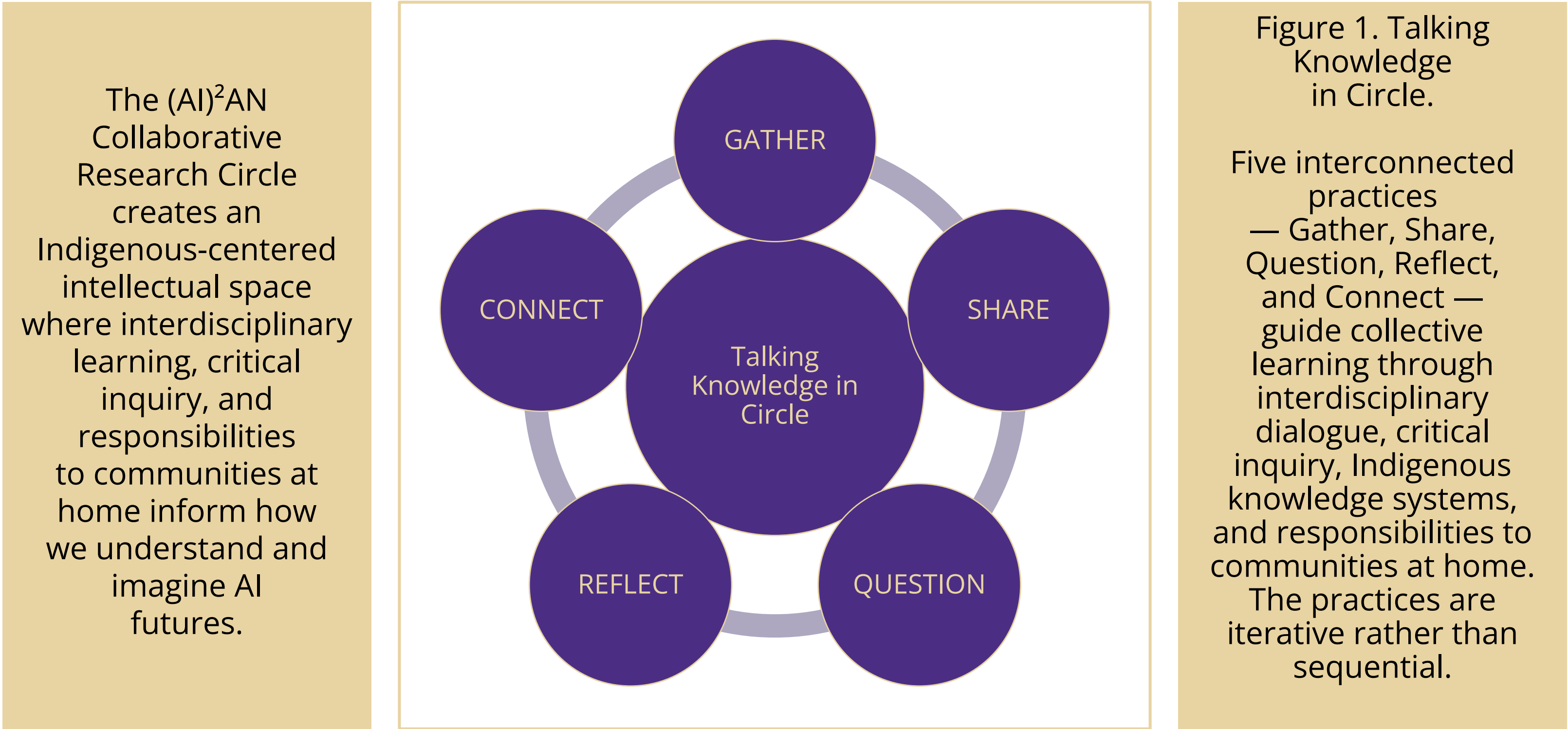
Potential Benefits: health, education, language, research, Tribal administration.

Potential Challenges: accuracy, consent, cultural protocols, Indigenous knowledge protections, Tribal sovereignty, limited American Indian and Alaska Native (AIAN) perspectives

PARTICIPANTS

Indigenous scholars, researchers, and allies, graduate students, postdoctoral researchers, university faculty, interdisciplinary practitioners.

TALKING KNOWLEDGE IN CIRCLE



COLLABORATIVE LEARNING

- Tribal Sovereignty
- Indigenous data histories
- AI systems and governance
- Environmental consequences
- Indigenous futures

Our selected materials examine the histories and continuing reuse of Indigenous data, knowledge sovereignty and cultural protocols, AI development and governance, and the environmental consequences of data centers.

We also explore AI's potential benefits for Tribal communities alongside Indigenous scholarship on refusal, ethical design, and alternative technological futures. *These themes reflect our selected public materials and areas of inquiry, not empirical findings from Circle participants.*

COMMUNITY OF PRACTICE

Together, we seek not only to understand AI's impacts, but to help shape its future on our own terms, for our communities, and for generations to come.

The (AI)²AN Collaborative Research Circle brings together Indigenous thinkers, scholars, and allies to learn, question, challenge, and imagine AI futures.

Guided by Indigenous Research Methodologies, reciprocity, responsibility, Tribal sovereignty, and self-determination, we are building a community of practice that connects scholarship with communities at home.

FOUR CONNECTED PHASES

- 1 **JOURNAL CLUB:** Summer 2026
Build shared intellectual foundations through scholarship, policy, and case studies.
- 2 **PODCAST CLUB:** Fall 2026
Broaden learning through public conversations, Indigenous perspectives, and contemporary issues.
- 3 **SYMPOSIUM:** Spring 2027
Convene a broader intellectual and community conversation, with a collaboratively shaped agenda and planned scholarly outputs.
- 4 **COMMUNITY EDUCATIONAL RESOURCES:** Summer 2027
Co-develop and adapt educational materials and other resources responsive to Tribal community priorities.

WHAT COMES NEXT

- Expand our scholarly network,
- Establish a symposium planning committee, develop collaborative publications, and
- Invite Tribal partners to help identify, shape, and review useful educational resources.

JOIN THE CONVERSATION

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We welcome Indigenous scholars, Tribal leaders, knowledge holders, educators, students, practitioners, and allies interested in collective learning, symposium planning, and community-focused educational resources.