WORKSHOP PROGRAM

THURSDAY, 18 MARCH, 2021

5:00 PM – 6:30 PM	**Keynote Presentation** *Nuclear Compensation: Hope, Responsibility, and Collaboration around Fukushima* HIROKAZU MIYAZAKI, Northwestern University Discussant: Kathryn Goldfarb, University of Colorado

FRIDAY, 19 MARCH, 2021

3:00 PM – 3:05 PM	**Welcome** TIM OAKES and KATHRYN GOLDFARB, University of Colorado
3:05 PM – 3:45 PM	***Suspending Damage: Atomic Livelihood in the Age of Decommissioning*** RYO MORIMOTO, Princeton University Discussant: Tim Oakes, University of Colorado
3:45 PM – 4:25 PM	***Living in Paradox: Technopolitics of Health and Well-Being in Fukushima*** HIROKO KUMAKI, Dartmouth College Discussant: Donna Goldstein, University of Colorado
4:25 PM – 4:40 PM	**Break**
4:40 PM – 5:20 PM	***Sound Trucks as Technology of Antinuclear Protest*** NORIKO MANABE, Temple University Discussant: Miriam Kingsberg Kadia, University of Colorado
5:20 PM – 6:00 PM	***Hidden Vulnerability: Power, Structure, and Nuclear Disaster in Fukushima*** SULFIKAR AMIR, Nanyang Technology University Discussant: Darren Byler, University of Colorado
6:00 PM – 6:15 PM	**Break**
6:15 PM - 7:00 PM	**Final Roundtable Discussion** All invited participants

SPEAKER ABSTRACTS and BIOS

Hidden Vulnerability:
Power, Structure, and Nuclear Disaster in Fukushima

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This paper briefly discusses how vulnerability becomes hidden in a complex sociotechnical system. Situated in the Fukushima nuclear disaster, the paper explains several factors that contributed to the hidden vulnerability in Fukushima Daiichi. The focus is placed on the development of vulnerability at the micro level where human operators and technical components interact and linked to the socio-political environment at the broader level. It is posited that vulnerability is a process that unfolds over time and that the fragility of sociotechnical system is emergent in nature. Furthermore, vulnerability is likely to turn hidden due to the socio-political environment that undermines the potential risk of system accident. Integrating concepts from the sociology of disaster and STS, this manuscript aims to demonstrate the process in which the construction of vulnerability emerge from the condition in which epistemological bias and institutionalized ignorance are inextricably intertwined.

Sulfikar Amir is an Associate Professor of Science, Technology, and Society (STS) and a faculty member in Sociology Programme at the School of Social Sciences, Nanyang Technological University in Singapore. His research interests primarily focus on examining institutional, political, and epistemological dimensions of scientific knowledge and technological systems. He has conducted research on technological nationalism, development and globalisation, nuclear politics, risk and disaster, design studies, city and infrastructure, and resilience. Sulfikar Amir is the author of "The Technological State in Indonesia: the Co-constitution of High Technology and Authoritarian Politics" (Routledge, 2012), and the editor of "The Sociotechnical Constitution of Resilience: A New Perspective on Governing Risk and Disaster" (Palgrave, 2018).

Living in Paradox:
Technopolitics of Health and Well-Being in Fukushima

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This paper examines practices of health and well-being after the Fukushima Daiichi Nuclear Power Plant Accident from a social and technopolitical perspective. Nuclear infrastructures have been founded on a paradox, in which certain amount of exposure is inevitable for its operation, while any amount of radiation exposure could be harmful. This technical limitation has co-constituted with the structure of risk governance, which has normalized certain amount of exposure as "reasonable" for nuclear workers and the general public. As a result, health has increasingly become a compromise, negotiated between biological risks and socioeconomic benefits of living with nuclear infrastructures. This paper provides ethnographic accounts of the uneven effects of this technopolitical paradox, and divergent ways in which the exposed public has responded to the nuclear accident to ensure their health and well-being. While governmental projects of recovery and energy transition may gesture towards a sense of moving "beyond" the disaster and the nuclear age, my interlocutors' lives present an ever-deepening entanglement with the nuclear age and its constitutive paradox. This urges us to ask how health and well-being, as well as futures, are enacted from within the paradox, rather than from a place of transcendence that externalizes life that continues to be negotiated in the paradox.

Hiroko Kumaki is a postdoctoral fellow in the Society of Fellows at Dartmouth College. She received her doctorate in Anthropology from the University of Chicago. Her research examines the intersections of health, environment, and science and technology. Her current project is an ethnographic study of policies and practices surrounding health and well-being after the nuclear accident in Fukushima, Japan, in 2011.

Sound Trucks as Technology of Antinuclear Protest

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A characteristic part of antinuclear protests following the Fukushima accident was the sound truck. Piled high with speakers and sound equipment, it was a movable stage upon which DJs, rappers, and bands performed. The crude affordances of this technology—loudness and visibility—played a crucial role in making opposition to nuclear power visible at a time when media coverage seemed minimizing or unsympathetic to antinuclear views, let alone protests. The performances on the sound truck also made protests more inviting for ordinary citizens.

This paper considers the development of performances in these Japanese sound demos. First appearing in LGBTQ parades in the 1990s, sound trucks gained media notice during the anti-Iraq War protests of 2003. During the antinuclear protests of 2011–2012, sound-truck performances evolved from presentations of pre-written songs to a participatory call-and-response, with rappers and musicians trading Sprechchor slogans with protesters. This style became the dominant performance style for sound demos, which has persisted through protests against

racism, the Security Bills, and labor conditions throughout the 2010s. The paper considers the ways in which social circumstances, political opportunity, policing, urban acoustics, and landscape shape protest performance and social-movement participation.

Noriko Manabe is associate professor of music studies at Temple University. She researches music in social movements and popular music in Japan and the Americas. Her monograph, *The Revolution Will Not Be Televised: Protest Music after Fukushima* (Oxford), won the John Whitney Hall Book Prize from the Association for Asian Studies, the BFE Book Prize from the British Forum for Ethnomusicology, and Honorable Mention for the Alan Merriam Prize from the Society for Ethnomusicology. Her second monograph, in progress, posits a typology of intertextuality in protest music and the patterns by which these methods are used. She is editor of 33-1/3 Japan, a book series on Japanese popular music from Bloomsbury Publishing; co-editor of the *Oxford Handbook of Protest Music* (with Eric Drott); and co-editor of *Nuclear Music* (with Jessica Schwartz).

Nuclear Compensation:
Hope, Responsibility, and Collaboration around Fukushima

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In this presentation, I discuss a collaborative project on nuclear energy and its social costs I have coordinated with an international team of anthropologists, science and technology studies scholars, legal scholars, lawyers, project finance specialists, and activists, since 2016. The project has recently completed a report entitled “Nuclear Compensation: Lessons from Fukushima.” The report examines the limitations of existing domestic and international frameworks for nuclear power plant accident damage compensation that the Fukushima disaster has exposed. These technical limitations concern a broad range of sociolegal issues from artificial boundaries created for compensation eligibility to nuclear reactor manufactures’ liability, and cross-border damage claims. These issues in turn have broader economic, political, and ethical implications for the future of nuclear energy. The report calls for the incorporation of issues of compensation into nuclear emergency preparedness and response planning. It also proposes that a forum be created for anticipatory, participatory, and transnational dialogues between experts and citizens, including victims of past disasters, concerning nuclear disaster compensation. In this presentation, I reflect on this collaborative project, and the transnational conversation it seeks to initiate, as a lens through which to examine an interplay between hope and responsibility at stake in the future of nuclear energy.

Hirokazu Miyazaki is currently the Kay Davis Professor and Professor of Anthropology at Northwestern University. Miyazaki has extensively published on theories of exchange, futurity, and hope. His current research focuses on a variety of forms of activism surrounding the uses of

nuclear power. He is the author of *The Method of Hope: Anthropology, Philosophy, and Fijian Knowledge* and *Arbitraging Japan: Dreams of Capitalism at the End of Finance,* and has edited or co-edited *The Economy of Hope, Peace through the U.S.-Japan Doll Exchange* (in Japanese), *and Nuclear Compensation: Lessons from Fukushima.*

Suspending Damage:
Atomic Livelihood in the Age of Decommissioning.

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In the past decade, what have we as scholars learned about Fukushima prefecture beyond the 2011 nuclear accident and its harm? Based on ethnographic fieldwork conducted between 2013-19, this talk recounts residents' hopes and desires as they struggle to live and die well in coastal Fukushima amidst the ongoing decommissioning of the damaged power plant. In so doing, I follow Indigenous scholar Eve Tuck's call for the suspension of research that centers the category of damaged subject. I contend that the failure to attend to nuclear power as an enduring (infra)structure risks reproducing residents as damaged subjects, while obscuring the disasters' protracted impacts on surrounding residents' and their descendants' quality of life, cultural continuity, memories, the sustainability of their land and livelihoods, and local ecology.

I illustrate one version of such a damage-centered approach, which I call *half-life politics*, by using the government-led decontamination in coastal Fukushima as a case study. I argue that decontamination foregrounds the technologically determinable presence and absence of radiation in the environment and their potential harm to humans above all other things. Despite the best intentions behind the policy, this approach to the 2011 nuclear accident and its aftermath (and the extraction and consumption of sufferings as its byproduct) has alienated residents who remain in coastal Fukushima. It has also failed to sufficiently address nuclear energy's social and cultural challenges beyond its harm to individual bodies. I further argue that academic and media emphasis primarily on nuclear victimhood has contributed to the half-life politics in coastal Fukushima.

In anticipation of the age of decommissioning (*Hairo no Jidai*) in Japan, I close by drawing connections between Fukushima, Kazakhstan (Stawkowski), and the American Southwest (e.g., Churchill, Kultz, & Silko). In so doing, I suggest that confronting an already and unequally irradiated world requires shifting analytical attention from nuclear victimhood (how people have been damaged) to atomic livelihood (how people hope, despite their suffering).

Ryo Morimoto is a first-generation scholar from Japan and an Assistant Professor of Anthropology at Princeton University. Before joining Princeton, he was a postdoctoral fellow and a project manager of the Japan Disaster Digital Archive (jdarchive.org) at the Reischauer Institute

of Japanese Studies at Harvard University. As a 2020-21 member of the School of Social Sciences at the Institute for Advanced Study, he is finishing his book project, entitled "The Nuclear Ghost: Atomic Livelihood in Fukushima's Gray Zone."

DISCUSSANT BIOS

Anthropologist **Darren Byler** is an incoming Assistant Professor of International Studies at Simon Fraser University in Vancouver, British Columbia and a post-doctoral research fellow in the China Made Project at the Center for Asian Studies, University of Colorado Boulder. He is the author of a forthcoming ethnography titled *Terror Capitalism: Uyghur Dispossession and Masculinity in a Chinese City* and a narrative-driven book titled *In the Camps: China's High-Tech Penal Colony.* His current research interests are focused on infrastructure development and global China in the context of Xinjiang and Malaysia.

Kathryn Goldfarb is Assistant Professor of Anthropology at the University of Colorado Boulder. Kathryn explores how social inclusion and exclusion shape holistic well-being and embodied experience. Her work brings together three domains that generally are understood separately—kinship, medical anthropology, and semiotics—to examine how past and present social relationships are experienced in visceral, embodied terms. She has published in *Japanese Studies*, *Medical Anthropology Quarterly*, and *Social Analysis*, among other journals, and is the author of the forthcoming book *Fragile Kinships: Child Welfare and Well Being in Japan.*

Donna Goldstein is Professor of Anthropology at the University of Colorado Boulder. Author of *Laughter Out of Place* (UC Press 2003, 2013) and editor of several special issues and volumes on environmental harm and corruption, her current work addresses the history and futures of Brazil's nuclear energy program, scientific communities, and uncertain data. She is coeditor of *Corruption and Illiberal Politics in the Trump Era* (Routledge, forthcoming).

Miriam Kinsgberg Kadia is Associate Professor of history at the University of Colorado Boulder, specializing in the study of modern Japan. She is the author of *Moral Nation: Modern Japan and Narcotics in Global History* (University of California Press, 2014), and *Into the Field: Human Scientists of Transwar Japan* (Stanford University Press, 2020). She has also published articles in the *Journal of Asian Studies*, *Journal of Japanese Studies*, *Monumenta Nipponica*, *Comparative Studies in Society and History*, *Modern Asian Studies*, and other journals and edited collections. In recent years, she has held fellowships through the American Council of Learned Societies and at the Institute for Advanced Study in Princeton, NJ. She is currently working on a history of time accounting in Shōwa and Heisei Japan.

Tim Oakes is Professor of Geography and Director of the Center for Asian Studies at the University of Colorado Boulder. Tim is the project director for China Made (https://chinamadeproject.net/), a research collaborative exploring the socio-technical

dimensions of China's infrastructure development. His most recent work explores the development and use of leisure and consumption spaces in China's urban areas, as well as in urbanizing areas of rural China. He is currently looking at urban planning and infrastructural urbanism in China's 'New Area' urban zones.