



WEDNESDAY EVENING SEMINAR

Education Program Presents

Student Panel: War, Weather, and Wealth (or Lack Thereof)

Tomoaki Morikawa, Wendy Miles and Syed Khan
University of Hawai‘i at Mānoa and East-West Center

Wednesday, March 19, 2014

6:30 – 8:30 p.m.

Makana Room, Imin International Conference Center

Three East-West Center student fellows will present their research on the issues of war, weather, and wealth (or lack thereof), issues that greatly affect Asia and Oceania.

Tomoaki Morikawa (Japan) a PhD student in American Studies builds an interdisciplinary scholarly foundation in the fields of historic memory, museum studies, architecture, and psychoanalysis in the context of U.S. history and culture. In particular, he investigates how memorials function in the American context as a public space and how the memories of loss caused by traumatic events are transmitted and shared through a built form in contemporary American society. He is especially interested in the work of the architect Daniel Libeskind, for his memorial architecture is located at the crossroad of the fields of Tomoski’s interest and thus will be the cornerstone for his interdisciplinary scholarship. Libeskind is known for such designs as the Jewish Museum Berlin and he is the master planner for the reconstruction of the World Trade Center site. For WES, Tomoaki will examine the project brief Libeskind proposed for the reconstruction of the Sachsenhausen concentration camp in order to think through the intersectionality between architecture and trauma, and between space and memory.

Wendy Miles (U.S.) is a PhD candidate in the Geography department, where she also teaches the course, “Globalization and the Environment”. Prior to beginning her doctoral studies, Wendy was the associate director of the North Coast Land Conservancy. Her doctoral research focuses on the political ecology of environmental conservation and climate change mitigation. At the 2007 United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change meeting in Bali, representatives from the world’s nations agreed on the “urgent need to take further meaningful action to reduce emissions from deforestation and forest degradation.” Indonesia was an important player in these discussions. According to some indices Indonesia is ranked as the 3rd highest emitter of greenhouse gases after China and the United States, but unlike the U.S. and China, Indonesia's emissions are primarily due to forest loss and peatland fires. In hopes of addressing this, Indonesia is experimenting with a new international mechanism called “REDD” (Reducing Emissions from Deforestation and Forest Degradation). REDD relies on payments for ecosystem services (specifically CO2 sequestration) to encourage society to place a higher value on forest

conservation. Wendy's presentation will explore how REDD's international market-based environmental conservation logic translates to local contexts, through a case-study of Indonesia and Australia's "Kalimantan Forests and Climate Partnership" REDD pilot project.

Syed S. Khan (Bangladesh) is a business graduate and is currently pursuing a PhD in Economics. He has more than five years of experience working in mid-level management of a corporate bank. While at the bank, he pioneered expanding the ATM Service network to the urban as well as rural population with an ambition to bring the traditionally underserved population with modern banking facilities. His current research interests include Network Economics, International Finance and Macroeconomics. He hopes to conduct research work in trade development among Asia Pacific nations through better financial environment and inter-governmental policies. His presentation will combine his current research work in labor migration in Bangladesh and a working paper of ADB that focuses on China on a similar issue. He intends to study the externality from cellular network coverage in mobilizing labor force from different parts of the country. ADB currently has a working paper that studies the land phones and internal migration of the rural Chinese population. As more and more cellular coverage is expanding in developing countries, mobile network seems to be more policy-relevant for various reasons. This paper hypothesizes a positive externality and will utilize GPS data to track the exact impact of cellular coverage on specific labor population and their welfare.

To help make WES a sustainable gathering, please bring your own cup for a hot beverage and small plate for light refreshments. The public is invited to attend.