Monday, March 4 SS&MS 21設館村再生モデル事業 5-6:30pm

加作試験栽培

FUKUSHIMA EIGHT LESSONS FROM CITIZEN SCIENCE IN JAPAN

Dr. Caitlin Stronell and Dr. Man-kei Tam





Dr. Caitlin Stronell (left) is a researcher with Citizens' Nuclear Information Center (Tokyo) and has a PhD in political science from Jawaharlal Nehru University, New Delhi.

Dr. Man-kei Tam (right) completed his PhD in Anthropology from the Chinese University of Hong Kong in 2018. He draws from Science and Technology Studies and multispecies ethnography in understanding how Japanese citizens seek to understand radiation risks.

Organized by Prof. ann-elise lewallen, this talk is part of the Environmental and Climate Justice Hub 2018-2019 "Residues of Harm" series. Cosponsored by the East Asia Center, the Environmental and Climate Justice Hub of the Orfalea Center, and the Department of East Asian Languages and Cultural Studies.





In the aftermath of the 2011 Fukushima nuclear disaster, the Japanese state has assembled technologies of decontamination and monitoring that fundamentally reconfigured the environment, together with its human and non-human inhabitants. In the eight years since, civic organizations across Asia have enlisted citizen science to grapple with the uncertainties of radiation. In litate, a former evacuation zone and farming village, citizen scientists deploy novel technologies to engage the state in critical assessments of the risks of radiation, and thereby enact measures to protect returnees' homes and families. In Tokyo, the Citizen's Nuclear Information Center is one of the leading organizations calling for a "democratic science." Since 1975 it has raised questions about the validity of nuclear safety and its inherent linkage to the arms race, especially through Japan's reprocessing program which has created a massive stockpile of plutonium. In this talk, Caitlin Stronell and Man-kei Tam will interrogate the contrasting scientific lessons of Fukushima through drawing upon citizen and expert science enlisted as a basis for community revival in litate and the decades-long tradition of citizen science enacted by the Citizen's Nuclear Information Center across Japan. Dr. Tam will discuss how, in litate, citizens and experts came together with villagers to experiment with new forms of life in a landscape still infused with radiation.