HUMANITARIAN RESPONSES TO CRISIS
INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE
Hosted by Kennesaw State University
March 21, 2014
From Crisis Comes Hope

Sometimes it takes the worst of nature to bring out the best in humanity.

International Responses to Crisis is a day-long conference organized by Kennesaw State University’s Institute for Global Initiatives. The event is part of the university’s ‘Year of Japan’ celebration, and highlights the role of Japan in humanitarian efforts around the world, including the devastating March 2011 earthquake and tsunami, which resulted in the loss of more than 15,000 lives and caused more than $300 billion in property damage.

In the aftermath of a crisis, businesses and humanitarian organizations around the world turn their attentions to helping the people in affected areas start to rebuild.

As an attendee of International Responses to Crisis, you will hear directly from organizations involved in global relief efforts, and will learn what is being done to prepare for future disasters.

Keynote Presentations

Building Disaster Resilient Societies: JICA’s Experience around the World

Speaker: Kimio Takeya, Visiting Senior Advisor working on Disaster Risk Reduction Strategies for the Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA)

As a country that has a long history of being affected by various disasters, Japan has incorporated Disaster Risk Reduction (DRR) considerations into its development plans and investments in order to reduce the impact of disasters. The approach of Japan has been to learn lessons by examining the impact of disasters and installing more resilient systems to mitigate potential future damage.

Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA) is the development agency of the Government of Japan which carries out cooperation activities around the world. Thus, naturally JICA’s approach has been to continuously extend cooperation in the field of DRR rooted in the Japanese experience with the aim to build capacities of developing countries to cope with disasters as a means to achieve sustainable development. Mr. Takeya will introduce several case studies and the solutions implemented.

The Open-Sogo-Fujo Network: The Role of Civil Society in Humanitarian Action

Speaker: Tae Namba, Board Member and Director of International Relations with the Association of Medical Doctors of Asia (AMDA).

Sogo-Fujo is a traditional Japanese term meaning mutual assistance within a given community. AMDA has gone beyond the confinement of traditional affinity groups, reaching out to people, far and near, whoever is in need of assistance. AMDA has opened up the spirit of Sogo-Fujo across and beyond communities.

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Ms. Namba will introduce the philosophy and concepts of open-Sogo-Fujo with specific examples of AMDA’s experiences worldwide. She will expand on the social milieu of the past and present Japan which living in an age of uncertainties - politically, economically and socially with ever-increasing natural threats - AMDA will continue to seek collaborative ways to realize and sustain peace in the world.

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Since its inception in 1984 and steadily building on its past experience, AMDA pursues a comprehensive and inclusive approach to its activities focusing on peaceful sustainable development. AMDA's “Global Partnership for Sustainable Peace” philosophy aims to realize peaceful coexistence of diversity in which ordinary people can sustain a decent living and realize their hopes for tomorrow.

Under the open-Sogo-Fujo, AMDA will fortify its present network and incorporate new partners from all possible fields for collaboration and joint-activities in emergency relief and peace-building efforts.
Conference Agenda

8:15-9:00 am
Social Sciences Atrium
Conference Registration

8:45-9:00 am
Social Sciences Atrium
Butoh-Inspired Performance & Installation Exhibit
Produced by Mara Mandradjieff, KSU Instructor of Dance and Sandra Bird, Professor of Art Education and their students.

9:00-9:30 am
Social Sciences 1021
Welcoming Remarks
Daniel S. Papp, KSU President and the Honorable Kazuo Sunaga, Consul General of Japan in Atlanta

9:30-10:15 am
Social Sciences 1021
Opening Keynote Address
“Building Disaster Resilient Societies: JICA’s Experience Around the World”
Mr. Kimio Takeya, Senior Advisor, Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA)

10:15-11:00 am
Social Sciences 1021
Special Session
“Providing Clean Drinking Water in Emergency Disaster Relief”
Mr. Bruce Karas, Vice President, Environment and Sustainability, The Coca-Cola Company

10:15-11:00 am
Social Sciences 1021
Special Session
“UPS Humanitarian Relief Program – Logistics in Time of Crisis,”
Joe Ruiz, The UPS Foundation, Director, UPS Humanitarian Relief Program

11:00-11:15 am
Lobby
Break

11:15-12:15 pm
Social Sciences 1021
Panel Discussion
Brian Woodall, Associate Professor, Sam Nunn School of International Affairs, Georgia Institute of Technology

12:15-1:30 pm
The Commons
Lunch

1:30-2:00 pm
Zuckerman Museum
Tree Planting Dedication Ceremony
Hiroshima Bombing Survivor Trees provided by UNITAR Green Legacy Hiroshima Project with support from the KSU Museum of History and Holocaust Education

2:00-2:45 pm
Social Sciences 1021
Afternoon Keynote Address
“The Open-Sogo-Fujo Network: The Role of Civil Society in Humanitarian Action”
Ms. Tae Namba, Director of International Relations, Association of Medical Doctors of Asia (AMDA)

2:45-3:45 pm
Social Sciences 1021
Special Session
“Humanitarian responses to the Tohoku Crisis”
Mr. Mikio Yamane, Soka Gakkai Youth Division Leader, Tohoku Area

3:45-4:00 pm
Lobby
Break

4:00-5:15 pm
Social Sciences 1021
Special Session
“Participatory Crisis Archiving: The Digital Archive of Japan’s 2011 Disasters”
Nick Kapur, Project Manager, Digital Archive of Japan’s 2011 Disasters, Reischauer Institute of Japanese Studies, Harvard University

3:45-4:00 pm
Lobby
Break

5:30-7:00 pm
Social Sciences Atrium
Dinner Reception

STUDENT POSTERS AND VOLUNTEERS: “Bringing Ishinomaki City Back Better,” Exhibit prepared by KSU alumna Akiko Nakamizo and undergraduate & graduate students from the Departments of Conflict Management, Communication, and Social Work.
The conference opens with a butoh-inspired art installation by Dance faculty member Mara Mandradjieff and School of the Arts faculty member Sandra Bird.

This piece explores the recovery process of navigating through both the emotional and physical realities of destruction. It also investigates attached identity and memory to objects, specifically post-disaster trash.

Performing Artists
Mara Mandradjieff
Christen Weimer
Emmie Graham

Visual Artists and Artworks
Chaotic Clash of Trash by April Alexander and Mary Cowan
The Wave by Galina Buromskikh and Tara Hemelgarn
Beauty, Lost in Forever by Ally Carowell and Jocelyn Reise
The Unfinished Project by Caitlin Chase and Holly Martin
Tree of Death by Quan Chen

Installation photos courtesy of nationalgeographic.com and theguardian.com
Sounds courtesy of 120 nature Sounds and Rivers & Brooks

A highlight of the conference is the tree planting dedication ceremony at Zuckerman Museum, where Kennesaw State University will become home to a piece of living history.

The UNITAR Green Legacy Hiroshima Project is presenting KSU with several trees, which are descendants of a Ginkgo Biloba tree located in Hiroshima’s historic Shukkeien Garden, 1,500 meters from the atomic bomb hypocenter. The parent tree was among a small cluster of trees that survived the August 6, 1945, bombing.

These trees will be planted under the auspices of the KSU Institute for Global Initiatives and the Museum of History and Holocaust Education.

Green Legacy Hiroshima has been established to safeguard and spread worldwide the seeds and saplings of Hiroshima’s Atomic Bomb survivor trees - and their message of caution and of hope for a nuclear-free world.

KSU also offers several opportunities for students to study abroad in Japan, including exchange programs with Soka University in Tokyo and Chukyo University in Nagoya, International Student Exchange Programs, an arts, language, and cultural study abroad program, and travel opportunities as part of the university’s LINK Leadership Program.
About the Presenters

Chuck Casto joined the Nuclear Regulatory Commission in 1985 as an Operator Licensing Examiner in Region II. From 1997 to 2008, he held a number of progressively more responsible leadership positions in Region II, including Deputy Director, Division of Reactor Projects, Director, Division of Reactor Safety, and Director, Division of Reactor Projects. In 2008, he was appointed as Deputy Regional Administrator, Region IV. In 2010, he was appointed Deputy Regional Administrator for Construction, Region II. In March 2011, Mr. Casto was the lead NRC executive providing support to the Japanese government and U.S. Ambassador following the earthquake and tsunami that struck Japan affecting several reactors at the Fukushima Daiichi site. In 2012, Mr. Casto was appointed as Regional Administrator, Region III. Prior to joining the NRC, Mr. Casto worked in the nuclear industry as an operator and as an NRC certified Senior Reactor Operator Instructor. He received a Bachelor’s degree from the State University of New York, a Master’s degree in Public Administration from the University of Georgia, and is a doctoral student studying Crisis Leadership in the Coles College of Business at Kennesaw State University.

Barbara S. Gainty (PhD, University of South Carolina) is Interim Chair and Associate Professor in the Department of Communication at Kennesaw State University, Georgia, USA. Her teaching areas are in public relations, crisis communication, and graphic design, and she is a member of the KSU Honors College faculty. Dr. Gainty’s research interests include crisis communication/crisis management (particularly in educational settings), public relations, distance education, public engagement through new media, and leadership. Dr. Gainty was the founding faculty advisor for KSU’s PRESA (Public Relations Student Society of America) chapter, and, in 2007, she was awarded The George Beggs Advisor of the Year award. Dr. Gainty has more than 20 years of professional communication experience.

Taro Hachimoto serves as Youth Division Leader for Soka Gakkai and Soka Gakkai International (SGI). Sokai Gakkai is a lay Buddhist movement encouraging “peace, culture, and education” around the world. Taro currently leads the newly-formed “SGKA Global Action” youth campaign, which promotes nuclear disarmament, fosters cultural exchanges throughout Asia, and provides reconstruction efforts for victims of the 2013 Great East Japan Earthquake. Following the earthquake and tsunami, Taro led a Soka Gakkai relief team to Sendai City in Miyagi Prefecture, and stayed onsite for more than 50 days. He is also the Director of the Youth Division Administrative Office’s Organizational Affairs Department. Taro attended the University of Tokyo, where he earned a Bachelor of Law degree in 1997.

Hideaki Irie is an associate professor of the Graduate School of the Faculty of Law at Kyushu University. He has more than 20 years of experience as an environmental, health and safety professional and has practiced in a wide range of industrial operations in the U.S., Canada and China. He is a Certified Industrial Hygienist in Comprehensive Practice, a Certified Safety Professional and is a Registered Occupational Hygienist in Canada.

Mitsui Makoto is a Staff Writer, Science News Department, at the Tokyo Head office of The Yomiuri Shimbun, the Japanese daily newspaper credited with having a circulation of about 10 million, one of the largest in the world. He has reported on news on life sciences, climate change, space development and science policy, not only the technical aspects of these topics but also on the ethical and social issues related to them. After March 11th, 2011, he covered the disaster at the Fukushima nuclear power plant, focusing on the safety aspects and the health effects of radiation. He is presently visiting scholar at the Graduate School of Journalism in UC Berkeley as Fulbright Scholar. He graduated from Kyoto University, in Molecular Biology.

Nick Kapur is a historian of modern and contemporary Japan and is presently a postdoctoral fellow at Harvard University, where he manages various digital archiving initiatives for the Reischauer Institute of Japanese Studies and the Fairbank Center for Chinese Studies, including Harvard’s Digital Archive of Japan’s 2011 Disasters. Dr. Kapur’s research interests include contemporary history, environmental history, cultures of imperialism, the history of education, literature and film, and comparative cultural history. His current book manuscript, The 1990 US-Japan Security Treaty Crisis and the Origins of Contemporary Japan, explores the impact of the massive 1960 protests in Japan on US-Japan relations, Japanese society and culture, and the Cold War international system. In addition, he has forthcoming articles on Chinese and Japanese environmental policy since 1970, and US-Japan relations during the John F. Kennedy administration. His next major research project will examine discourses on suicide and self-sacrifice in Japan and wider East Asia from the late 19th century to the present.

Joe Rait is Director of the UPS Foundation’s Humanitarian Relief Program, coordinating UPS’s $7.5 million annual investment in program support, logistical expertise, skilled volunteers, and capacity building efforts to enhance community resilience, response, and recovery capabilities of UPS partner agencies. In this role, he oversees partner relationships, program development and operational execution including the UPS Relief Link Program, to enhance the supply chain capabilities of humanitarian relief partners, as well as manages UPS’s engagement in the Logistics Emergency Team (LET) lead executive program for the U.N. World Food Programme and Global Logistics Charter, to prepare and deploy logistics experts immediately following natural disasters. Since 2007 UPS has deployed responders in Indonesia (2007), Myanmar (2008), Haiti (2008), Philippines (2009), Pakistan (2009), Haiti (2010), Pakistan (2010), Japan, Horn of Africa, and Nigeria (2011) Sahel Region of Africa (2012) and the Philippines (2013). Joe also manages the UPS Logistics Action Team (LAT) initiative that offers logistics support to American Red Cross disaster services coordinators in high risk communities including: Florida, Georgia, Alabama, Mississippi, Louisiana, Texas, California, Tennessee, Kentucky, New Jersey, New York and Colorado. Since 2011, the LAT has provided logistics support for Hurricane Isaac, Hurricane Irene, Hurricane Sandy, and Colorado flooding. Joe also oversees UPS’s in-kind support, which included more than 250 shipments across 46 countries in 2013.

Kenji Tateiwa is Manager of Nuclear Power Programs at Tokyo Electric Power Company, Inc. (TEPCO), where he leads collaborative efforts with US nuclear-related institutions to enhance the safety of nuclear facilities based on lessons learned from the Fukushima Daiichi nuclear accident and to promote safe decommissioning of the site. Previously at TEPCO, Mr. Tateiwa worked in the Nuclear Safety Group of the Nuclear Power Engineering Group, and as a Project Manager in the Nuclear Safety Department of the Business Development and International Affairs Department. He has also worked in the Engineering Group of the Fukushima Daiichi Nuclear Power Plant. Mr. Tateiwa holds the Japanese Government’s certifications as a Class-I Radiation Specialist and Chief Nuclear Engineer. In addition, he holds both a Bachelor of Engineering and a Master of Engineering from Kyoto University, as well as a Master of Business Administration from the Stanford Graduate School of Business.

Brian Woodall is Associate Professor in Georgia Tech’s Sam Nunn School of International Affairs. He received his PhD in Political Science from the University of California at Berkeley, and has held full-time faculty positions at the University of California at Irvine and Harvard University, as well as visiting appointments at the University of Tokyo. His research focuses on issues of comparative politics, political economy, and international relations in East Asia, North Asia, and East Asia. Dr. Woodall is the author of Growing Democracy in Japan: The Parliamentary Cabinet System Since 1885 (Princeton), Japan Under Construction: Corruption, Politics, and Public Words (University of California Press), and Japan’s Changing World Role (Asia Society), and co-editor of and contributor to Elections in Korea, Japan, and Taiwan Under the Single Non-Transferable Vote (University Michigan Press). In addition, he has authored numerous articles, served as Chair of the Southern Japan Seminar, and serves on the editorial boards of several academic journals. He also is on the Board of Corporate Advisors to the Who’s Who in Asian American Communities Foundation. He has been interviewed on CNN, Bloomberg BusinessWeek, and other media outlets. His current research projects examine issues related to Japanese and East Asian energy and environmental policies. Dr. Woodall has received research support from the U.S.-Japan Friendship Commission, the Abe Fellowship Program of the Social Science Research Council, the University of California Pacific Rim Research Program, and the Japan Foundation. His teaching includes graduate and undergraduate courses in comparative politics, Japanese politics and political economy, U.S.-Japan, and East Asia.

Mikio Yamane is the Youth Division Leader for Soka Gakkai’s branch in Japan’s Tohoku Region. Prior to joining Soka Gakkai, he worked with the Japanese Red Cross Society. He joined the organization in 2005 and has held full-time faculty positions at the University of Michigan Press). In addition, he held several previous positions within the Soka Gakkai movement, including Youth Division and Young Men’s Division Leaders for the Miyagi Prefecture branch, Student Division Leader for the Tohoku Region branch, Director for the Miyagi Prefecture Emergency Communications Center. He earned a Bachelor of Law degree from the Waseda University School of Law in March 1998.
Special Thanks

The conference organizers want to say thank you to all of the presenters, sponsors, community partners, KSU students, faculty, and staff who came together to make this event a success.

A very special thank you goes out to the Japan Foundation for their generous support of this conference and of the ‘Year of Japan.’

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