The Politics of Disaster
The Mitigation, Management and International Response to Environmental Crises

Environmental disasters have been afflicting mankind for millennia. Earthquakes, floods, volcanic eruptions, drought, and in modern times, industrial calamities number only a few of the destructive forces that have continually plagued life on planet Earth. In the ensuing months and years following these crises, communities, governments, aid agencies and NGOs have banded together to assist in the relief and recovery process. As a result, questions arise as to the efficacy and frequency of the fiscal, environmental and social responses to these disasters. As the world’s population continues to grow exponentially, the instances of natural and man-made disasters are increasing in both size and scope. The goal of this conference is to explore the myriad of historical responses, as well as the potential theoretical solutions, to future crises. The impacts of these crises are broad, as are the disciplines that explore their consequences.

For questions regarding the conference, call Nora Hartmann at 06.45.94.56.25 or Rachel Brophy at 06.01.71.63.14.
Thursday, May 26

10:00—Traditional French breakfast served
10:30—Conference registration
11:30—Opening remarks by Dr. Ruchi Anand
12:00—Remarks by Nora Hartmann
12:30-14:00—Catered lunch served
14:00-17:30—Panel I:
   DISASTER MEDIATION
   Moderator: Patrick Clairzier
   Yogi Hendlin (UCLA)—
   Terra Nullius and the Backlash Against Private Foreign Conservation Investment in South America
   Jeff Schuhrze (Clark University)—
   Radical Risk Reduction & Revolutionary Adaptation: Climate Disasters, Agriculture, & Capitalist Modernity
   Evan Axelrad (U.S. Dept. of Agriculture)—
   Disaster Entrepreneurs: Policy Entrepreneurs and Crisis Exploitation as Catalysts for Political Change in Authoritarian Countries
   Sylvia Corona-Palacios (UK New Citizen)—
   Emergency Politics: Environmental Disasters as Political Events and the Reconstruction of the Political System in Humanitarian Relief Operations

17:30- Evening plans to be announced

Friday, May 27

10:00—Traditional French breakfast served
10:30—Global Discussion Initiative speaker
11:00-13:00—Panel II:
   EXTERNAL INFLUENCES AND CHALLENGES
   Moderator: AJ Morgen
   Lisa Albright (AGS)—
   Population Growth and Overpopulation in Central America
   Stephen Goss (AGS)—
   Nuclear Power and Austrian Energy Policy
   Kelly Archambeault (AGS)—
   The Role of Nuclear Safety in International Law

13:00-14:00—Catered lunch served
14:00-17:30—Panel III:
   INTERNATIONAL INTERVENTION
   Moderator: Evan Musolino
   Silver Wang (Syracuse University)—
   Mekong River Conflict: Analysis and Intervention Strategies
   Saira Orakzai (University of New England)—
   The Role of Non-state Actors in Earthquake and Flood Relief Work in Pakistan for Regaining Ground in the War Against Terror
   John Kreienkamp & Christopher Boylan (Trinity College)—
   Donor Regime Type and Disaster Aid Donation: Evidence from the 2010 Haiti Earthquake

17:30—Picnic at Champ de Mars