



DUPONT SUMMIT 2013

..... Pressing Issues, Economic Realities

December 6, 2013 * Historic Whittemore House, Washington, DC

The Policy Studies Organization

Speakers

Shirley Fiske – *University of Maryland*

Edward Liebow – *American Anthropological Association*

Christine Miller Hesed – *University of Maryland*

Satsuki Takahashi – *George Mason University*

Susan Crate – *George Mason University*

“Anthropological Engagements with Climate & Environmental Change: Whither Policy?”

The AAA has authorized a Task Force on Global Climate Change (GCCTF), in response to members’ increasing concerns about the widespread impact of climate change, particularly on the communities and people with whom they work. Anthropologists have been encountering and documenting climate change and environmental changes for decades, through archaeological, historical ecology sub disciplines and through contemporary ethnographic investigations. We have a uniquely “deep memory” time-frame to understand human interactions with climate change; and we also have the breadth of hundreds of studies world-wide on the effects and challenges of climate change at all difference scales and levels of development. Yet we have underexposed our research and views and particularly its application to policy.

The roundtable will start with the preliminary findings of the GCCTF and how we see climate change from a policy viewpoint. From this broad disciplinary background, each participant will describe and comment on their ethnographic work--what that means for communities and people. We will describe our work in the field (ethnographic fieldwork) with a number of communities, setting the stage for our inquiry into policy to deal with “wicked problems” associated with climate change and environmental change in general, and opening it to audience input.



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Biographies

Susan Crate is an interdisciplinary scholar and applied anthropologist who focuses on the complex issues of human-environment interactions. She received her PhD and MA from the University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill, and is the author of numerous peer-reviewed articles, one monograph, *Cows, Kin and Globalization: An Ethnography of Sustainability*, 2006, Alta Mira Press and senior editor of the 2009 volume, *Anthropology and Climate Change: From Encounters to Actions*, Left Coast Press. She is an Associate Professor in Anthropology in the Department of Environmental Science & Policy at George Mason University, Fairfax, Virginia. She is a member of the AAA's Task Force on Global Climate Change (2011-2014).

Shirley J. Fiske is an anthropologist specializing in environmental and policy issues including marine fisheries, natural resources and public lands, ocean policy, and global climate change. She has held faculty positions at the University of Southern California's School of Public Administration, and with the University of Maryland's Anthropology Department where she is currently a Research Professor. She is the author and co-author of books, chapters and articles on applied anthropology and natural resources management. She is currently working on an NSF-funded research project on perceptions of climate change on the Eastern Shore of Maryland, a book on carbon offsets and social equity, and lectures and actively mentors graduate students and young professionals. She is Chair of the AAA's Task Force on Global Climate Change (2011-2014).

Christine Miller Hesel received a Bachelor's of Arts in Biology from Goshen College in 2007 and a Master's of Science in Sustainable Development & Conservation Biology from the University of Maryland in 2010. She is currently pursuing a Ph.D. in Anthropology at the University of Maryland. Her research interests include adaptation to climate change and social-ecological systems. Her dissertation research, supported by an EPA Science to Achieve Results Fellowship, is investigating environmental justice and resilience among African American communities on Maryland's Eastern Shore.



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Biographies (Continued)

Edward Liebow has been Executive Director of the American Anthropological Association since January 2013. In this role, Ed is responsible for leadership and management of the Association, including the publishing program, conferences, public education, and policy/advocacy. Ed came to the Association after a long career with the Battelle Memorial Institute, the world's largest not-for-profit research and development organization. Ed first joined Battelle in 1986, the year he received his PhD in cultural anthropology from Arizona State University. He has conducted research and public policy analysis on a variety of energy, public health, and social policy issues concerning disadvantaged communities. While at Battelle, he rose from the rank of research scientist to project leader to director of research operations in the Seattle office. He maintains a position as affiliate associate professor of anthropology and interdisciplinary studies at the University of Washington. He has been a visiting professor of Applied Anthropology and Comparative Economics at Università Carlo Cattaneo Castellanza, VA, Italy, a Senior Fellow of the Fulbright Commission, and has served on the faculty of the CDC-sponsored Summer Evaluation Institute. He has also served on the executive boards of the AAA, the Society for Applied Anthropology, the Ethnographic Praxis in Industry Conference, and the Jack Straw Media Arts Foundation.

Satsuki Takahashi is an assistant professor at George Mason University. She received her Ph.D. in Anthropology at Rutgers University in 2010. Before joining to George Mason, she was a postdoctoral research fellow in the Department of East Asian Studies at Princeton University after spending three years as a research fellow at the University of Tokyo's Institute of Social Science. Trained as a cultural and environmental anthropologist, she has pursued a research agenda that critically analyzes ideas of nature, development, environmental politics, as well as the discourses of survival among Japanese coastal communities before and after the March 2011 tsunami and the Fukushima nuclear disaster. Both her dissertation and post-disaster research projects are supported by the National Science Foundation.