

Communities, Resource Management, and Health in Modern Japan

Presented by the Triangle Center for Japanese Studies

Friday, November 18, 3:30pm

210 Gardner Hall, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill

PART ONE, 3:30-4:30: New Scholarship on Communities and Resource Commons in Japan



Tomohiko Ohno (Economics, Hannan University)

Rises and Falls in Watershed Governance in Japan: changes in river policy and community reactions

Ohno did his graduate work in Global Environmental Studies at Kyoto University, and is interested in environmental governance, commons, and social capital. His recent articles concern individual and community participation in watershed management.



Hitoshi Kominami (Rural Studies, Kyoto University)

A Community-based Set-net Fishing Enterprise in Japan: demographic change and organizational response in the Niizaki Fisheries Cooperative from 1949 to the present

Kominami is a graduate student in Economics at Kyoto University, interested in depopulation of rural areas occurring even when fisheries are economically successful.



Gaku Mitsumata (Economics, Hyogo University)

Preservation of Commons, Innovation of Institutions, and Environmental Education in the Secret History of Japan's School Forests since Meiji

Mitsumata did his graduate work in Economics at Doshisha University and in Forestry at Kyoto University. He has studied contemporary commons management in Japan, Britain, The Isle of Man, and Scandinavia. He is co-editor or co-author of three books on the Commons. His field work ranges from the study of property law to hot springs, forests, and fisheries.

PART TWO, 4:30-5:30: Waste Management and Public Health



Alex Bay (Chapman University)

Nation from the Bottom Up: Disease, Toilets and Waste Management in Modern Japan

Bay works on the history of science, technology, and medicine in Japan, and is currently completing a project on nutrition and beriberi – vitamin B1 deficiency, which killed many members of the 19th century elite, including a few shoguns and imperial princesses, due to their fixation on white rice. Today's talk will focus on the other end of the alimentary canal.