Porous Boundaries: Risk and Flow across Spaces

Third Annual Anthropology Symposium, 2016
George Washington University
April 15, 2016
Gelman Library, Room B04A

9:30 a.m. - 5:00 p.m. – Panel Presentations

5:30 p.m. – 7:00 p.m. – Keynote Lecture:
Poverty and Vulnerability: Household Events and the "Drug Economy"
Dr. Clara Han, Associate Professor of Anthropology, Johns Hopkins University

‘Porous Boundaries: Risk and Flow across Spaces’ will investigate the contested meaning and politics of boundaries. In the age of globalization, where shrinking spaces and dissolving boundaries are fetishized, the friction and fiction surrounding boundaries are inescapable. From the imposition of different solutions through humanitarian, media, and military interventions in Uganda to the politics and poetics of expertise among e-waste urban scrappers in North America; from disciplining sex workers in India to the encounter between the Afghan-American community and the U.S. military in the production of cultural knowledge for the War on Terror, this symposium will explore a variety of topics in which boundaries are central. These compelling scholarships traverse the often risky, contended and uncertain terrains of materiality, identity, accountability, and social change.
Symposium Schedule:

9:30am – 9:45am – Breakfast and Welcome

9:45am – 10:00am – Opening remarks

10:00am – 11:30am – UNRULY ARCHIVES: ACCESS, CONTROL, AND IDENTITY AT THE BOUNDARIES OF TRADITION

  Moderator: Dr. Attiya Ahmad (George Washington University)

  Value and Ephemeral Materiality: Emerging Archiving Practices in Tamazulapam, Oaxaca
  Dr. Erica Wortham (George Washington University)

  Tradition and Practice of Music in Santa María Visitación
  Dana Burton (George Washington University, MA 2016)
  Research sponsored by Lewis N. Cotlow Fund

  Who May Enter: “Access” and the Danger of Opening Up the Archive
  Haley Bryant (George Washington University, MA 2015)

  Bells, Beads, and Buckles: An Artifactual Analysis of European Trade Goods at Peachtree Mound, North Carolina
  Corey Heyward (George Washington University, MA 2016)

11:30am – 12:30pm – Lunch at the Department of Anthropology Discourse Laboratory in 1922 F St., NW ("Old Main"), room 210-211.

12:30pm – 2:00pm – MATERIAL INTIMACIES: EMERGENT SUBJECTIVITIES ACROSS POROUS BOUNDARIES

  Moderator: Dr. Alex Dent (George Washington University)

  “Check out that gold plated board!”: The Performance, Poetics and Dirty Realities of Scrapping Cellphones and Electronics in North America
  Dr. Joshua A. Bell (Smithsonian Institution)

  “They know nothing of any other land to the West”: Fiji’s Connection to Melanesia
  Dr. Stéphanie Caffarel (Postdoctoral Fellow, Smithsonian Institution)

  Gardening as Resistance: Indigenous Land Rights and Territorial Boundaries in Northeast Brazil
  Dr. Theresa L. Miller (Postdoctoral Fellow, Smithsonian Institution)

  Between Spiny Forest and Coral Seas: Social Identities, Historical Traditions and Archaeology in Velondriake, Southwest Madagascar
  Dr. Kristina Douglass (Postdoctoral Fellow, Smithsonian Institution)
2:00pm – 2:15pm – Coffee and Snack Break

2:15pm – 3:45pm – IMAGINING ACCOUNTABILITY: TECHNOLOGIES OF KNOWLEDGE AND EVENTFULNESS IN AN INSECURE WORLD

Moderator: Dr. Hugh Gusterson (George Washington University)

"It's exhausting to create an event out of nothing": Slow Violence and the Manipulation of Time
Chloe Ahmann (George Washington University, PhD Candidate)

“What Does it Mean to be a Human Seismometer?”: Struggles over the Discourse of Science and Modes of “Publicness” among Activists in Quake-Prone Oklahoma
Lara Rodriguez (George Washington University, PhD Student)

COIN-operated Anthropology: The U.S. Counterinsurgency (COIN) Campaign in Afghanistan and the Rise of the Afghan-American Diaspora
Morwari Zafar (Oxford University, PhD Candidate)

Between Justice and Forgiveness: Accountability across Borders in the LRA Conflict
Scott Ross (George Washington University, PhD Student)

3:45pm – 5:00pm – SICK STATES: BODY, RISK, AND ILLNESS IN THE TIME OF PUBLIC HEALTH INCOHERENCIES

Moderator: Dr. Janell Rothenberg (Postdoctoral Research Fellow, George Washington University)

Leaky Condoms: Negotiating Risk and Disorder in Sex Work
Shweta Krishnan (George Washington University, PhD Student)

A Central American Déjà vu: Public Health Incoherences in Dengue and Zika Virus
Jorge Benavides-Rawson (George Washington University, PhD Student)

Reproducing pious babies: Embodiment, Science and the State in Turkey
Ferhan Gülöğlu (George Washington University, PhD Student)

5:00pm – 5:20pm – Coffee and Snack Break

5:20pm – 5:30pm – Closing remarks

5:30pm – 7:00pm – Keynote Lecture: “Poverty and Vulnerability: Household Events and the "Drug Economy” by Dr. Clara Han

7:00pm – 8:30pm- Reception at the Department of Anthropology Discourse Laboratory in 1922 F St., NW ("Old Main"), room 210-211.