

**PUBLIC LECTURES,
DECEMBER 4, 2016**

**Environment of Northeast Asia:
Cultural Perception and Policy
Engagement**

The annual public lectures of the Center for Northeast Asian Studies (CNEAS) were held on Saturday, December 4, 2016, in the large hall located on the sixth floor of the Multimedia Education and Research Complex at Kawauchi-kita Campus, Tohoku University. This year's theme for the public lectures was "Environment of Northeast Asia: Cultural Perception and Policy Engagement." Professors Shinko Ogihara, Emeritus Professor at Chiba University, and Seita Emori, Head of the Climate Risk Assessment Section, Center for Global Environmental Research, National Institute for Environmental Studies, were invited for the lectures. Professor Ogihara spoke on "Message from a Hunter's World: Human Beings in Nature," and Professor Emori spoke on "Climate Change and Our Future."

Professor Ogihara gave a lecture on the relationship between human beings and their

surrounding environment, presenting the life-style of the hunting race in the Amur River Basin of Russian Far East and the Ainu people as examples. In particular, she spoke on the formation of various ways of thinking about nature through examples of the narrative traditions and customs concerning the relationship between humans and bears.

Professor Emori talked about the current situation, future forecasts, and risks of global warming by clearly explaining the steady progression of the condition of global warming using video simulations of future news programs and detailed data. He also suggested the ways in which we need to address environmental issues such as global warming based on recent progress in the current approaches to address international environmental issues.

Although each of the professors discussed issues regarding humans and the environment using different approaches, they both helped the audience realize the severity of the environmental problems threatening humanity, reassessing the concept of how human beings have related to nature so far.

A large number of people attended the lectures despite the cold weather. Since many

of the audience visited the venue to also attend the international symposium jointly held by the National Institutes for the Humanities (NIHU) at the Center the previous day, both professors' lectures as well as the question and answer sessions were conducted in a lively manner with great excitement.



**SYMPOSIUM,
FEBRUARY 12, 2017**

**Study of Historical Documents and
Local History Research**

The Center for Northeast Asian Studies (CNEAS) Symposium was held on February 11 and 12, 2017, to commemorate the fifth anniversary of the establishment of the Department of Uehiro Tohoku Historical Materials Research. During the first half of the second day, Arata Hirakawa (President of Miyagi Gakuin Women's University, Head of the Center's Department of Uehiro Tohoku Historical Materials Research), Philip C. Brown (Professor, The Ohio State University), David L. Howell (Professor, Harvard University), Hidemichi Kawanishi (Professor, Hiroshima University), and Machiko Kamiyama (Professor, Yamagata University) delivered lectures based on the theme of "Study of Historical Documents and Local History Research." All the lecturers were experts in humanities and social sciences, active in diverse fields, and in the process of presenting the results of their recent research. They provided new perspectives

and highlighted major issues for the participants based on their keen awareness of how historical materials are introduced to a community and how they are utilized and inherited in the future. Of course, it is important to discuss facts in detail when studying history, but the usefulness of historical materials goes beyond that. For example, the land system in the Edo era that developed independently in Kaga Province (now Ishikawa Prefecture) was discovered by Professor Brown. The issue of the conservation of historical materials and the local community discussed by Professor Kamiyama from the perspective of a psychologist may seem to belong to different specialized areas. However, if you broaden your horizons, you will see that they are closely intertwined with the keywords of "local community" and "lifestyle," which allow you to imagine the lives of the people on the Japanese islands irrespective of whether it is during ancient or modern times.

During the panel discussion in the second half, a question and answer session was held with Professor Daisuke Sato (Associate Professor of the International Research Institute of Disaster Science), where frank opin-

ions were exchanged regarding issues that need to be addressed in studies of historical documents in the future. A total of 300 people attended this two-day event, and I believe that, apart from their academic value, the Center's activities were widely introduced to the public at large.



Director's Message

2016 marked the twentieth anniversary of the founding of the Center for Northeast Asian Studies (CNEAS). As a research institute-style organization operating inside Tohoku University, CNEAS hosts researchers in the humanities and sciences sharing a common regional perspective as they conduct their own original research.

We have recently been engaged in a wide range of initiatives. Examples of challenges in the humanities and social sciences include the undertaking of a comparative history of the great powers in the twentieth century as well as a study of cross-border environmental pollution and human migration. From an interdisciplinary perspective, we have engaged with indigenous peoples in the context of circumpolar global warming and the biological-ecological history of human adaptation to cold environments. Further examples may also be pointed out in applied fields such as archaeometric engineering, the digitization of cultural heritage. These are all issues that have been overlooked in conventional area studies, and their elucidation is gradually reinventing the methodological conventions of area studies itself.

Our full-time faculty include members from a variety of specialized disciplines, including linguistics, history, socio-cultural anthropology, environmental policy, ecology, geology, resource engineering, and environmental information studies. As researchers from different disciplines work alongside each other on a daily basis within the same organization, CNEAS has become a site where new challenges and methods for area sciences are brought to light.

Faculty at the Center is also engaged in undergraduate and

graduate teaching at Tohoku University in their respective fields of specialization. We actively welcome special researchers nominated by the Japan Society for the Promotion of Science and are dedicated to the training of junior researchers. In addition, by providing linguistic training in the languages of the countries of Northeast Asia, which constitutes the foundation of area studies, as part of our general curriculum, we are involved in the training of personnel who will have a broad-based interest in the Asian region.

I believe that our core concern at CNEAS can be summed up in the key terms "environment and movement." While the interests of faculty attached to the Center are naturally diverse, I believe that, broadly speaking, they are coalescing into two major areas of inquiry. The first of these spans environmental history and disaster history against the implicit backdrop of natural and human history. The second is an intermingling of culture, society, and statehood that has been engendered by the contemporary international order. We have undertaken several major research projects associated with these areas of inquiry. One such is our participation as a partner organization in the National Institutes for the Humanities (NIHU) Northeast Asia Area Studies Project, launched in April 2016.

I hope to continue striving to deepen our research and disseminate our findings to fulfill an even greater role by delivering research on Asia from a northern perspective to provide Japanese society with a crucial understanding of the Asian region.

Hiroki Takakura, CNEAS Director

Faculty

**Division of Russian and
Siberian Studies
Kyosuke Terayama**

Professor
Soviet-Russian history, Japanese-Russo/Soviet relations
In order to gain an in-depth understanding of the development of Stalin's regime, I study and investigate Soviet border areas (the Far East, Mongolia, Sinkiang, Finland and Poland) in the interwar period (1918-1939), especially from the point of view of mobilization of human and natural resources by Soviet government, so as to prepare for prospective future war against Japan. I am also engaged in research on censorship policy in the former Soviet Union.
J-GLOBAL ID: [200901070306910856](https://global.id/200901070306910856)

Hiroki Takakura

Professor
Social anthropology, Siberian and Arctic studies, disaster studies
My research in progress concerns the cultural adaptation of Siberian local communities to climate change, focusing on indigenous knowledge of the river ice ecology. Another topic is related to applied visual anthropology and exhibition, bridging people at home with people at field sites. After the 3.11 Tohoku Earthquake, I began documentation projects on the intangible cultural heritage of local communities based on applied disaster anthropology.
ORCID ID: [0000-0002-1470-6173](https://orcid.org/0000-0002-1470-6173)
J-GLOBAL ID: [201501018786770477](https://global.id/201501018786770477)

Masachika Shiotani
Assistant Professor
Russian economic History, modern Russian economy

In the 19th century, Europe introduced a statistical system to improve the administration of governments. Imperial Russia established a central statistical committee in the Ministry of Internal Affairs in 1858, following the experiences of other European countries. I compare the Russian statistical system with those in other countries, and examine the degree of governance in Russia at that time.
ORCID ID: [0000-0002-9252-0067](https://orcid.org/0000-0002-9252-0067)
J-GLOBAL ID: [200901013720285005](https://global.id/200901013720285005)

**Division of Mongolian and
Central Asian Studies**

Hiroki Oka
Professor
Mongolian history, Asian history
My research explores the social and administrative structures estab-

lished in Mongolia during the Qing dynasty (seventeenth to early twentieth centuries). The recent focus of my work is on re-examining the historiography of Mongolian scholars in and after the socialist era and also on Qing dynasty policy on Mongolia in the seventeenth century.
J-GLOBAL ID: [200901097635224047](https://global.id/200901097635224047)

Kenji Yanagida
Associate Professor
Russian linguistics, sociolinguistics
New language varieties may appear due to use of multiple languages and language contact. I am engaged in observation of the changes taking place in the Russian language in this region, along with its decreased status in the multilingual society of Central Asia.
J-GLOBAL ID: [200901067636472315](https://global.id/200901067636472315)

Division of Chinese Studies Masahisa Segawa

Professor
Cultural anthropology, South China study

My recent research topics are: (i) the process through which Chinese lineages (*zongzu*) have been restored and how they have changed with the advent of the twenty-first century; (ii) changes in the academic, as well as popular discourse concerning Hakka Chinese; (iii) recorded genealogies of the She, Yao, Lee and other Chinese minorities, and their ethnic identity.

J-GLOBAL ID: [200901085011202652](#)

Jusen Asuka

Professor
Environmental and energy policy, international cooperation

The design of policies and measures in Japan and other countries for tackling global environmental issues such as climate change and air pollution is the focus of my research. This work is intended to contribute to energy and environmental policy formulation directly based on qualitative and quantitative analysis.

J-GLOBAL ID: [200901022313452559](#)

Toshihiro Ueno

Associate Professor
Modern Chinese history, Chinese ethnology

My research mainly focuses on the Chinese frontier area inhabited by various non-Han ethnic

groups, and on the historical process of the area's integration into mainland China (the Han-Chinese area) and reorganization in the early and mid-twentieth century toward the multiethnic state. By studying related documents that are increasingly being made available, I aim to clarify the historical background of ethnic problems in modern China.

J-GLOBAL ID: [200901058049007317](#)

Division of Japanese and Korean Studies Atsushi Ishii

Associate Professor
International relations, science and technology studies

My current research focuses on science-politics relationships, science and technology studies, international relations, and transdisciplinary studies. Research issues involve international fisheries, geo-engineering (climate engineering), transboundary air pollution, and whaling. I am participating in a comparative research project on international fisheries policy focusing on explaining state behavior and negotiation outcomes.

ORCID ID: [0000-0002-3111-6626](#)

J-GLOBAL ID: [200901035840433133](#)

Tsuyoshi Miyamoto

Assistant Professor
Geology of volcanoes, petrology of volcanic rocks

The history of the volcanic eruptions of active Quaternary volcanoes (i.e. Mt. Paektu and Towada

volcano) in Northeast Asia has been the subject of my research for several years. My particular interest is in the relationship between volcanic eruptions and historical events.

ORCID ID: [0000-0003-4340-9116](#)

J-GLOBAL ID: [200901086699393851](#)

Division of Regional Ecosystem Studies Satoshi Chiba

Professor
Ecology and evolution, conservation biology

The research in my laboratory is focused on understanding the mechanisms that regulate biological diversity on various spatial and temporal scales. I use insect, amphibian, crustacean, land and marine mollusk, and trematode parasite, and other organism model systems to clarify the evolutionary origins of biological diversity in Northeastern Asia.

ORCID ID: [0000-0001-9273-0307](#)

J-GLOBAL ID: [200901099098503778](#)

Shuich Shikano

Associate Professor
Microbial ecology, system ecology

Molecular phylogenetic analysis of the composition and changes of microorganism communities in lakes, wetlands, and other aquatic ecosystems is the main subject of my research. I also analyze the structure of the food web supporting higher consumers in the lakes and wetlands of western Siberia.

ORCID ID: [0000-0001-9450-870X](#)

J-GLOBAL ID: [200901074920988310](#)

Division of Geochemistry Tatsuki Tsujimori

Professor
Geological sciences, metamorphic petrology

The strength of my research lies in combining detailed fieldwork and geological observations with quantitative petrological and geochronological approaches aimed at understanding the geodynamic processes at convergent plate boundaries—from mineral equilibrium/kinetics scale to plate-tectonic scale. Currently, my research focuses on petrotectonic studies of fossilized subduction zones in Southwest Japan, Far East Russia, Central America, and East Africa, and integrated petrologic/geochemical investigation of jadeite “jadeite jade”.

ORCID ID: [0000-0001-9202-7312](#)

J-GLOBAL ID: [200901018882492235](#)

Naoto Hirano

Associate Professor
Petrology and volcanology, tectonics

“Petit-spot” volcanoes — unknown volcanoes until recently — can be found throughout the Far Eastern region and on the sea floor of the Pacific Ocean. Little is known about how they were formed. My research focuses on the relationship between the origin of these volcanoes and plate-tectonic movements.

ORCID ID: [0000-0003-0980-3929](#)

J-GLOBAL ID: [200901073369508933](#)

Akio Goto

Assistant Professor
Physical volcanology, physical properties of magma

Volcanic eruptions differ greatly from one volcano to another, and their controlling factors are not clearly known. To clarify these factors, I measure the physical properties of magma, conduct experimental simulations of volcanic eruptions, and observe actual eruptions.

ORCID ID: [0000-0001-8398-7100](#)

J-GLOBAL ID: [200901039820745770](#)

Division of Environmental Information Science Jun-ichi Kudoh

Professor
Environmental informatics, digital image recognition

Research at the Kudoh Laboratory focuses on solutions for the environmental problems of Far Eastern Russia and Siberia using data obtained by satellite. We have been cooperating internationally with the Russian Academy of Sciences and Moscow State University on research into forest fire problems, which are closely related to carbon dioxide emissions, and on the development of visualization methods for air pollution and Asian dust.

ORCID ID: [0000-0003-2817-0880](#)

J-GLOBAL ID: [200901094071989502](#)

Division of Geoscience and Remote Sensing Motoyuki Sato

Professor
Ground Penetrating Radar (GPR), microwave remote sensing

By applying electromagnetic waves to measurement-making, I developed the advanced landmine imaging system (ALIS) for use in humanitarian demining projects. In tests performed in the minefields of Cambodia, ALIS detected more than 80 mines since 2009 and we have shown its high performance. I am also developing microwave remote sensing methodologies using GPR, space-borne, airborne, and ground-based Polarimetric Synthetic Aperture Radar (Pol-SAR) for environmental observations, as well as for detection, mitigation, and prevention of natural disasters.

ORCID ID: [0000-0003-3888-2523](#)

J-GLOBAL ID: [200901076271360279](#)

Lilong Zou

Assistant Professor
Ground based synthetic aperture radar (GB-SAR), Ground penetrating radar (GPR)

My research interest lies in developing and applying remote sensing techniques of GB-SAR and GPR, including system design, innovative monitoring techniques, imaging algorithm and signal processing, to monitor the environmental changes of Northeast Asian areas.

J-GLOBAL ID: [201601018317936567](#)

Kazutaka Kikuta

Assistant Professor
Radar remote sensing

My research topic is earth observation by means of ground penetrating radar (GPR) to detect subsurface targets. In order to obtain accurate information, my research seeks the development of antennas for radar and the improvement of position recognition accuracy. By applying these methods to the measurements, a high-precision imaging method can be achieved.

ORCID ID: [0000-0001-8054-9738](#)

J-GLOBAL ID: [201701004674520340](#)

Department of the Uehiro Tohoku Historical Materials Research Kenichiro Aratake

Associate Professor
Japanese history

My main area of research is the economic history of Japan in the eighteenth and nineteenth centuries. This includes not only study of old documents (*komonjo*), but extensive fieldwork and interviews across Japan to reconstruct a substantive image of early modern Japanese Society.

J-GLOBAL ID: [201201056410639911](#)

Yoichi Takahashi

Assistant Professor
History of travel in early modern Japan

In early modern Japan (from the seventeenth through the nineteenth century), people of every class were able to travel everywhere, though movement was by foot, and might take several months. The purpose of my study

is to clarify the historic characteristics of travel by analyzing old travel journals and diaries.

ORCID ID: [0000-0002-6055-6508](#)

J-GLOBAL ID: [201301039422676109](#)

Masahiro Tomoda

Assistant Professor
Modern political history of Japan

My main area of research is the modern history of Japan with a focus on the study of the politician Seichiro Miyajima (1838–1911) of Yonezawa Domain. In recent years, I have extended the scope of my study to the modern period for Tohoku, the modern era for losers of the Boshin War, and the external perspective on the people of Tohoku, with Miyajima as the point of reference.

J-GLOBAL ID: [201301003839073097](#)

Department of Research Coordination Hiroko Naito

Assistant Professor
Contemporary Chinese Politics, Comparative Politics

How does the Chinese Communist Party function in the People's Court? How did their relationship transform after the 1980's? My study aims to explain the Party-Judicial relationship and understand the political function that the judicial branch has under authoritarianism by focusing on the case in China. Also, it tries to reveal the mechanism of authoritarian regime resilience.

J-GLOBAL ID: [201601021166688745](#)

Publications

CNEAS MONOGRAPH SERIES

Research results of CNEAS joint research projects and individual projects, irregular publication.

58. Production, Distribution and Consumption in Mongolian Pastoral Society, eds. Mari Kazato, Takahiro Ozaki and Hiroki Takakura, 2016.



59. Monguor-Chinese Integrated Dictionary, ed. Hitoshi Kuribayashi, 2016.
60. Written Mongolian Incises to The Dungsang Vocabulary and The New Shera-Yögur Vocabulary, ed. Hitoshi Kuribayashi, 2017.
61. Integrated Dictionary of Written Oirat, ed. Hitoshi Kuribayashi, 2017.

CNEAS REPORT

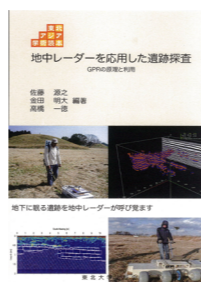
A series for such purposes as timely reports from symposiums, cataloging references, and promotion of exchange with national and international researcher communities (since 2010).

21. Phags-pa Mongolian Documents in “A Collection of Historical Archives of Tibet”, eds. Hitoshi Kuribayashi and Takashi Matsukawa, 2016.
22. EURASIAN NOMADIC PASTORALISM-History, Culture, Environment, eds. Sampildondov Chuluun, Hurcha, Andrian Borisov and Hiroki Oka, 2016.

CNEAS BOOKS

A new series published for the purpose of sharing the results of our research with general public, published by Tohoku University Press since 2011.

5. Let's learn a world heritage: World cultural heritage of Japan, Nobuo Irumada, Yoshifumi Nakano and Kenichiro Aratake, 2015.
6. Archaeological survey by ground penetrating radar: principle of GPR and its applications, Motoyuki Sato, Akihiro Kaneda and Kazunori Takahashi, 2016.



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eds. Yukihiro Kawaguchi and Tsutomu Inazawa, Ohtsu: kohrosha, 2016.

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