

Center for Anthropocene Studies

Inaugural Ceremony

- Date & Time: December 18, 2018 (Tue) 15:00-18:00
- Venue : Chung Kunmo Conference Hall, 5th Floor,
Academic Cultural Complex (E9), KAIST
- Program

Time	Event	Remarks
14:30~15:00	Registration	At the entrance of Chung Kunmo Conference Hall
15:00~15:05	Opening Remark & Introduction	Chihyung Jeon (전치형) Prof., Graduate School of Science and Technology Policy, KAIST
15:05~15:15	Congratulatory Address	Hee-Yoon Lee (이희윤) Director for Basic Research in Science & Engineering National Research Foundation
15:15~15:20	Award Ceremony	Jong-Suk Ahn (안종석) Division Head of ICT·Convergence Research National Research Foundation
15:20~15:30	Welcoming Speech	Hee-Kyung Park (박희경) Vice President of Research, KAIST
15:30~15:40	Intermission	(Photo Session)
15:40~16:40	Inaugural Lecture	Scott Knowles Prof., Drexel University, USA
16:40~17:10	Special Talk	Katrin Klingan Department Head of Literature and Humanities Haus der Kulturen der Welt (HKW), Germany Christoph Rosol Research Scholar, Max Planck Institute for the History of Science Research Associate, Anthropocene Curriculum, HKW, Germany
17:10~17:40	Director's Talk	Buhm Soon Park (박범순) Director, Center for Anthropocene Studies, KAIST Prof., Graduate School of Science and Technology Policy, KAIST
17:40~18:00	General Discussion	Chihyung Jeon (전치형)
18:00~20:00	Reception	Sky Lounge - in front of the Conference Hall

○ **Inaugural Lecture: “Global Change and Local Knowledge: The Anthropocene in Korea”**

Anthropocene, once fully realized, will be missing us, the Anthropos. There is only one place in the world where a person can see this Anthropocenic future in its full revelation: the DMZ. Beginning with this experiment station, I'd like to reflect on three themes as ways to think about the necessity of the Center for Anthropocene we are here to inaugurate today: 1) discovering the Anthropocene at the DMZ; 2) living in “slow disaster”; and 3) the memories we have and the futures we make, as exemplified by the 2014 sinking of the Sewol Ferry.

○ **Special Talk: “Earthbound Knowledge: The Anthropocene Curriculum”**

The Anthropocene Curriculum is a long-term project developed by Haus der Kulturen der Welt (HKW) and Max Planck Institute for the History of Science, Germany. Since its inception in 2013, the project has aimed to incubate, foster, and test cross-disciplinary engagement through composing an experimental model space and self-reflective framework for co-learning and co-producing Anthropocene-competent forms of knowledge. These experiments were put into practice during two intensive Anthropocene Campus events at HKW in 2014 and 2016. Currently, the worldwide network of similar initiatives that sprung from these efforts tie the curriculum experiment to the research and teaching contexts of other geographic, cultural, and institutional settings. By productively entangling the plurality of locally situated forms of knowledge, the project now pursues a comparative, field-work oriented framework. Thereby it seeks to develop a comprehensive “topology” of Anthropocene knowledge out of vernacular “topographies” of awareness and comprehension, reflecting on new forms of being on the terrain of altered world relations.

○ **Director’s Talk: “Reshaping Natureculture: Anthropocene, Robotocene, Capitalocene”**

The Center for Anthropocene Studies at KAIST is established to investigate material and societal evidence of the Anthropocene, explore its multiple meanings from the transdisciplinary perspective, and find ways to share, disseminate, and live with the desperate, urgent message embedded in this new word. Therefore, the Center’s activities include not only research but education and engagement in the form of public lectures, museum displays, policy issue papers, and participatory events. We want to reshape us and the Earth together. Hence *reshaping Natureculture*.

This talk presents three unique aspects of the Center. First, it understands *reshaping Natureculture* as a process, which can be a very slow one, and an activism, which may require reflexivity about us as much as other conditions. Second, by emphasizing human actions, the Center does not intend to elevate “Anthropos” over other species and machines; instead, it seeks to remedy anthropogenic problems by confronting the hybridity of humans beings as *Natureculture*. For this reason, the Center places “Robotocene” on a par with “Anthropocene.” Third, the Center hopes to contribute to the study of the Anthropocene by providing a non-Western perspective. This is not meant to merely add one more local, peculiar voice to the Eurocentric narrative; rather, the Center pays attention to the significance of the sociopolitical institutions in perpetuating the anthropogenic problems. “Capitalocene” is thus employed to stress this point. Welcome to the Anthropocene, and let’s reshape *Natureculture!*