

TOPICAL LUNCH

26 MARCH 12:00-1:00

ATKINSON CENTER FOR A SUSTAINABLE FUTURE RICE HALL RM 300

Topic:

The Risks to Mental Health Arising from Environmental Degradation: Solastalgia and Other Psycho-terratic Dis-eases

Presenters:

Glenn Albrecht, Professor of Sustainability, Murdoch University, Perth, Australia
Don Fredericksen, Professor of Film, Dept. of Performing and Media Arts and Psycho-therapist in Part-time Private Practice

We are fortunate to have on campus for a brief visit Professor Albrecht, an environmental philosopher who generated the notions of *psycho-terratic dis-eases* and *solastalgia* as a way of giving name to forms of mental distress that occur when the sustainable relationships of psyche and place—rather than psyche and soma—deteriorate and puts mental well-being at risk. He will provide a brief introduction to his work, including recent refinements in his conceptualization of dysfunctional psyche-place relationships, and their possible antidote.

As time allows, I will give brief remarks on the utility of his work for the growing field of film eco-criticism, the study of the representations of the natural and man-made environments in film.

Please join us for this discussion of the too-often overlooked mental health risks of environmental degradation.

Please note: Professor Albrecht will join me for an *open* session of my course on the moving image and environment, Wednesday, 27 March, 7:30-10:30 p.m., the Film Forum, Schwartz Center for Performing Arts. We will screen and discuss Josh Fox's documentary film about fracking, *Gasland* (2010).

For further information, contact me at <dlf10>.