

For immediate news release



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UTSA East Asia Institute hosts “Environmental Challenges and Opportunities in Contemporary Asia: A visitor’s Perspective” lecture by Dr. Scott Slovic

(Oct 15, 2010)- UTSA’s East Asia Institute (EAI) and the English Department will co-host a lecture by Dr. Scott Slovic from 12:30-1:30 p.m., Thursday, October 21 in the Main Building Room 0.326 at the UTSA Main Campus.

A frequent research visitor to various parts of East Asia, English professor and environmental scholar Dr. Scott Slovic will offer his impressions of current environmental issues and deeper cultural perspectives that may support or hinder responses to these issues, which range from deforestation to the artificial straightening of rivers. Dr. Slovic will reflect upon such philosophical notions as “mono no aware” in Japan and “tian ren he yi” in China as they bear upon environmental thought and behavior. This talk will focus on Japan, Mainland China, Taiwan, and South Korea.



Rehabilitated Chinese wetland (lotus flowers)

Dr. Scott Slovic is a professor of literature and environment at the University of Nevada, Reno, where he has taught since 1995. Dr. Slovic received his bachelor’s degree from Stanford University in English and both his master’s and doctoral degree in English from Brown University. Dr. Slovic has been a Fulbright Scholar in Germany, Japan and China and he has also been a visiting professor at Rice University, the University of Queensland (Australia), National Taiwan Normal University, Central China Normal University, Tsinghua University (China), Rikkyo University (Japan), the École Normale Supérieure-Lyon (France), and Shandong University (China).

As the founding president of the Association for the Study of Literature and Environment in the United States (ASLE-US) from 1992 to 1995, Dr. Slovic has published more than 150 articles concerning American, German, Japanese, and Australian environmental literature and ecocritical theory. He has also written, edited, or co-edited fifteen books, including most recently the book *Going Away to Think: Engagement, Retreat, and Ecocritical Responsibility* (2008), which appeared in Chinese translation from Peking University Press in May 2010. Dr. Slovic has been actively involved in establishing branches of ASLE in Japan, Australia/New Zealand, India, Malaysia, South Korea, Taiwan, and Cameroon, and he frequently travels to various parts of the world to support communities of scholars and writers interested in the intersections of nature and culture.

The UTSA East Asia Institute's mission is to promote appreciation and understanding of East Asian societies and cultures both on campus and in the community through research, outreach, networking, education, student/faculty exchange, and business development and cooperation. The East Asia Institute organizes seminars, workshops, lectures, conferences, film festivals, visual art exhibitions as well as bringing in performing art groups from China, Japan, Korea, and other Asian nations. It also encourages faculty research collaborations both within UTSA and with participating East Asian university researchers.

For more information regarding Dr. Scott Slovic's lecture, please contact EAI at eai@utsa.edu or check the East Asia Institute's homepage at <http://www.utsa.edu/eai>.