

Thursday, March 21, 2013

Workshop Session 3

Time of Session: 1:30-3:00PM

Session Title: Community-Based Recovery Planning—The Role of a University

A. Hoffman Triangle Neighborhood Planning from the Inside Out

Speaker: **Michelle M. Thompson**, UNO-PLUS

Speaker: **Brittany N. Argeneaux**, WhoData.org

B. The Role of Universities in Post-Disaster Community-Based
Recovery Planning after the Great East Japan Earthquake

Speaker: **Tamiyo Kondo**, Kobe University

Room: 256

Head Count: 12

Note Taker: Kyle Tveten

Community Based Recovery Planning

The Role of Universities in Post-Disaster Community-Based Recovery Planning After the Great East Japan Earthquake – Tamiyo Kondo

- 1995 Kobe earthquake spurred Kondo's interest in disaster information.
- Housing insurance industry not as strong in Japan. This is a problem for homeowners in the country.
- In Otsuchi, during the 2011 Earthquake, 25% of the city's government officials died in a poorly-maintained collapse building.
- 2 years after the Earthquake, Otsuchi has seen very few changes in the way of reconstruction, comparable to New Orleans.
- Some citizens want to leave the destroyed community because of the negative memories. Some want to stay because of an advantage, such as in the case of fishermen, so data about public opinion is difficult to determine.
- Community meetings set up to coordinate disaster relief action develop projects, but it is ultimately the citizens who decide what is done. Often times, these two interests conflict.

- Questions
 - Do you find yourself at a conflict of interest with the government?
 - Yes. The local governments rely on national government approval to take action. The national government's plan is generally to relocate coastal communities to the mountainside, completely uprooting a community and disrupting their lifestyles, careers, etc. If local governments do not comply with these plans the national government will withhold funding.
 - Through collecting research, has cooperation with the government opened up?
 - No. The government sticks with mountainside relocation plan despite what new research is collected or attempts are taken to cooperate with them. And no disaster relief programs want to move further with these plans.
 - Is the neighborhood physical model used for therapy or actual recovery?
 - It is used for both. Community members get relief from planning the rebuilding of their neighborhood, and relief planners get information about how members of the community want the neighborhood to be rebuilt.
 - Are high school students creative in planning?
 - Yes. Students have great ideas.
 - In Otsuchi, high school students do not generally leave for college. Historically they have tried to stay and get a job in the local community. So if the recovery plan is not created with them in mind, or with their participation, the culture will change to the economic detriment of the community, and the youth will leave for school.