

Department of Global & Sociocultural Studies

School of International and Public Affairs



Japan's Nuclear Crisis: A Family's Odyssey

Thursday, April 14, 2011 | 11 AM - 12:15 PM | FIU Biscayne Bay Campus, Marine Science Bldg – 150

Throughout its history, Miami has known economic and political refugees. The tragic events in Japan, beginning on March 11, 2011, have created a new kind of refugee: environmental refugees fleeing radioactive contamination.

Please join us to hear the story of one family that recently fled the disaster to protect their children from radioactivity. Ayato Kaneko, his wife, their three-year old daughter and six-month old baby arrived in Miami on April 8, after making the difficult decision to uproot their lives in Takasaki, a city located 75 miles from the Fukushima nuclear reactors, and to come to South Florida.

Upon learning of Ayato's situation, FIU students volunteered to help him find employment in the hospitality and food & beverage industry, where he has extensive experience in the United States and Japan. Ayato and his family are coming to FIU to express their thanks to these students and to tell the FIU community about their experience during the unprecedented triple catastrophe of the earthquake, tsunami and nuclear meltdown.

Moderator:

Jerry B. Brown, Ph.D., Founding Professor,
Global and Sociocultural Studies

Panelists:

Ayato B. Kaneko, B.A., University of New Hampshire

Julie Brown, M.A., Psychotherapist and Cancer
Prevention Counselor

Mark Oncavage, M.A., Energy Chair, Miami Group,
Sierra Club

Event is free and open to the public. For more
information, call (305) 993-5140.

Co-sponsored by: **Asian Studies Program** and
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