

Title: Humanities and Geo-Engineering: Critical Thought and Design

Host: Karen Pinkus

Date: October 16, 2015, 12:00-1:00 pm

Abstract: We may well be headed for some combination of SRM (Solar Radiation Management) and CCS (Carbon Capture and Sequestration) to mitigate carbon in the atmosphere. This is a job for engineers, of course, but it is also very "human-centered," and not just because of the ethical questions that might swirl around any initiatives in this area. Why not experiment in seeing if humanists (scholars of critical theory, anthropology, design, history of science, even science fiction) and engineers can speak to each other in ways that might spark further collaborations? While the discussion will focus on carbon management, we may well want to talk about other geo-engineering schemes (past, present and future) to help guide us. We will also be joined (via Skype) by Etienne Turpin, a philosopher who directs an environmental design laboratory in Jakarta.