



WESTERN MICHIGAN UNIVERSITY

More Disasters or a More Sustainable Future? Challenges and Opportunities of Climate Change

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Dramatic environmental changes demonstrate that the future we have thought of as distant is approaching more rapidly than expected. In particular, extreme events continue to surprise us and cost us dearly. I will examine several recent "natural" disasters through a lens of natural hazards geography and, building on the concept of non-stationarity, consider ways in which the challenges of disaster reduction may differ in the future. A major challenge is the initial one: accepting the need to prepare for a future that differs from the past. Responding to, and anticipating, changing climates presents opportunities to fix other problems, too. By integrating natural and social science, and through our many forms of geospatial and geographical analysis, geographers have much to contribute to new visions of and pathways toward a more sustainable future.

Friday, March 16, 2018

2119 Wood Hall

3:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m.

Department of Geography, 3219 Wood Hall, 387-3415



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College of Arts and Sciences