



## TWO DAYS VIRTUAL CONFERENCE

May 20-21, 2021

On

### UN/PREDICTABLE ENVIRONMENTS: POLITICS, ECOLOGY AND AGENCY

#### Organized By:

Prof John Barry (Professor in Politics, Queen's University Belfast, UK)

Dr Maruška Svašek (Reader in Anthropology, Queen's University Belfast, UK)

Dr Prashant Khattri (Assistant Professor of Anthropology, Department of Anthropology, University of Allahabad, India, and Charles Wallace Fellow, Queens University Belfast, UK)

Dr Tracey Heatherington (Associate Professor of Anthropology, Department of Anthropology, University of British Columbia, Canada)

#### About the Conference:

The conference aims to explore how we can predict and avoid socio-ecological harm and disasters. How do different social actors and groups frame the issue of 'un/predictability' in their narratives, solutions and practices, and how un/predictable are their intended outcomes? Aiming to discuss the results of ethnographically grounded research, we invite papers that address the following key questions:

- To what extent are specific climate and ecological disasters un/predictable?
- What are the implications of this un/predictability for human and non-human agency?
- How do specific discourses of socio-ecological un/predictability underpin competing narratives around (hyper)modernity, (over)consumption, climate change and sustainability?
- How have states, industries, environmental activists and artists used visual and other means to propagate and embody ecology-focused visions of the (un/predictable) future?
- To what extent are their own campaigns un/predictable?
- How are we to think, feel and act in an increasingly turbulent planet and associated socio ecological contexts?
- Is predictability a solution for reducing all vulnerabilities?
- Does un/predictability call for pre/caution or risk-taking and innovation? Both? Or something else?

#### Keynote Speakers:

1. Prof. P.C. Joshi, Acting Vice-Chancellor, University of Delhi, India
2. Prof. Peter Cannavo, Hamilton College, USA
3. Prof. Hilary Cunningham Sharper, University of Toronto, Canada
4. Prof. Susanne Pratt, University of Technology, Sydney, Australia.

#### Last Date for Abstract:

Interested Scholars may submit their 200 words abstract by February 28, 2021 on the following email:

[m.svasek@gub.ac.uk](mailto:m.svasek@gub.ac.uk)

#### For Further Information:

Please go to the following link for further information on the conference:

<http://unpredictable-conf-2021.sites.olt.ubc.ca/>