

Society for the Humanities Annual Lecture on Sustainable Futures presented with the David R. Atkinson Center for a Sustainable Future

Sightlines & Flightlines:

Visualizing Uncertainty & Anticipating Avian Flu Pandemics

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In this talk, Dr. Gloria Chan-Sook Kim examines the use of migratory birds as data visualization technologies developed to foresee and forestall possible avian flu pandemics. She analyzes the discourses through which these visualizations are endowed with their evidentiary force. Drawing on theories of risk, uncertainty, visualization, and mediation, Kim tracks a shift in the making of scientific evidence in 21st century cultures of risk – one that loosens the customary bind between sight and knowledge, establishing instead a relation between sight and foresight. What can uncovering the nature of this shift reveal about the epistemological stakes of our contemporary moment?

Wednesday, April 26 4:30 p.m. Guerlac Room A.D. White House

free & open to all with reception to follow