

## **Scott Gabriel Knowles, Ph.D.**

Senior Director of Research, Defense Industrial Base Institute  
Research Professor, Department of History  
Northeastern University

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### PROFESSIONAL

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#### Academic Positions

2025- Northeastern University, Senior Director of Research, Defense Industrial Base Institute; Research Professor, Department of History  
2023-2025 Korea Advanced Institute of Science and Technology (KAIST), Endowed Chair Professor  
2021- Professor, Graduate School of Science & Technology Policy, KAIST  
2005-2021 Professor, Department of History, Drexel University  
2004-2005 Visiting Assistant Professor, Department of History, John Jay College of Criminal Justice, City University of New York  
2000-2004 Teaching Professor, Drexel University

#### Administrative and Service Positions

##### University

2022-2025 Deputy Director, Center for Anthropocene Studies, KAIST  
2021-2024 Associate Vice President, International Office, KAIST  
2013-2021 Head, Department of History, Drexel University  
2011-2013 Associate Dean, Pennoni Honors College, Drexel University  
2005-2013 Founding Director, Center for Interdisciplinary Inquiry;  
Director, The Custom-Designed Major; Associate/Director, The Great Works Symposium, Drexel University

##### Editorial

2022- Founding Co-Editor, Journal of Disaster Studies  
2022- Associate Editor, East Asian Science, Technology, and Society  
2017- Associate Editor, History and Technology  
2014- Series Co-editor, Critical Studies in Risk and Disaster, University of Pennsylvania Press  
2008-2017 Associate Editor, Engineering Studies: Journal of the International Network for Engineering Studies (INES)

#### Professional Boards, Committees, and Commissions

2024-2025 Nuclear Energy Association, Working Group on Human Factors, Project Member: “Enduring Safety in the Context of Prolonged Disruption”

2024- Independent Scientific Advisory Board Member, Democratic Party of the Republic of Korea

2024- International Scientific Board Member, PEPR Risques, France

2024-2026 Nominations Committee, Society for the History of Technology

2022- Co-founder, Disaster Researchers for Justice

2018- North American Alliance of Hazards and Disaster Research Institutes, Steering Committee Member

2017-2018 The Alliance for Integrative Approaches to Extreme Environmental Events—Steering Committee Member

2015 Member, Advisory Board, Teach 3.11

2014-2017 Member, Executive Council, Society for the History of Technology

2013-2014 Philadelphia Mayor Michael A. Nutter’s Special Advisory Commission on Licenses and Inspections, Best Practices Subcommittee Chair

Research Positions and Affiliations

2019 Interuniversity Centre for the History of Science and Technology (CIUHCT), Nova University of Lisbon, Visiting Researcher

2018 Centro de Investigacion para la Gestion Integrada del Riesgo de Desastres (CIGIDEN), Pontificia Universidad Católica de Chile, Visiting Researcher

2017 Korea Advanced Institute for Science and Technology (KAIST), Visiting Faculty

2016 Anthropocene Fellow, Max Planck Institute for the History of Science, Berlin (DAAD Grant—Visiting Scholar, July-August)

2016 Rachel Carson Center for Environment and Society, Munich (DAAD Grant—Visiting Scholar, July)

2015 Japan Society for the Promotion of Science, Tokyo (JSPS Grant—Visiting Scholar, June-August)

2013-2021 University of Pennsylvania Institute for Urban Research (Penn IUR), Faculty Fellow

2012-2019 University of Delaware, Disaster Research Center, Research Fellow

2006 Robert J. Lifton Fellow, John Jay College of Criminal Justice, Center on Terrorism

EDUCATION

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- 2003 Ph.D.      The Johns Hopkins University  
Department of the History of Science, Medicine, and Technology  
Dissertation: "Inventing Safety: Fire, Technology, and Trust in Modern  
America," Dr. Stuart W. Leslie, Advisor
- 1997 M.A.      The University of Texas at Austin  
Department of History  
Thesis: "Corporation and Community: Goose Creek, Texas and the  
Humble Oil and Refining Company, 1916-1926," Dr. Bruce J. Hunt,  
Advisor
- 1995 B.A.      The University of Texas at Austin  
Double Major: History and Philosophy

PUBLICATIONS (\*peer-reviewed, +work in progress)

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Books

- \*+Knowles, Scott Gabriel, *The United States of Disaster* (Philadelphia: University of Pennsylvania Press, in progress for publication in 2026).
- \*+Knowles, Scott Gabriel, *Slow Disaster* (Philadelphia: University of Pennsylvania Press, in progress for publication in 2026).
- +Knowles, Scott Gabriel, Hardy, Penelope, Hunt, Bruce, and Bix, Amy., eds., *Spaces of Inquiry* (Routledge, in press, 2026).
- \*+Knowles, Scott Gabriel, Dietrich, Alexa, and Ugarte, Rodrigo, eds., *COVID Studies: New Social Science Approaches to Disaster* (Philadelphia: University of Pennsylvania Press, in press, 2026).
- \*Knowles, Scott Gabriel, Cleveland, Kyle, and Shineha, Ryuma, eds., *Legacies of Fukushima: 3.11 in Perspective* (Philadelphia: University of Pennsylvania Press, 2021).
- \*Knowles, Scott Gabriel and Molella, Art, eds. *World's Fairs in the Era of the Cold War* (Pittsburgh: Pittsburgh University Press, 2019).
- \*Kendra, James, Knowles, Scott Gabriel, and Wachtendorf, Tricia, eds. *The Second Environmental Crisis* (New York: Springer, 2019).
- Knowles, Scott Gabriel and Dilworth, Richardson, eds., *Building Drexel: A University and Its City, 1891-2016* (Philadelphia: Temple University Press, 2016).
- \*Knowles, Scott Gabriel, *The Disaster Experts: Mastering Risk in Modern America* (Philadelphia: University of Pennsylvania Press, 2011).
- \*Knowles, Scott Gabriel, ed., *Imagining Philadelphia: Edmund Bacon and the Future of the City* (Philadelphia: University of Pennsylvania Press, 2009).

Articles

- \*+Knowles, Scott Gabriel, Cho, Seung Hee, and Kang, Miryang, "Slow Disaster and the Jeju Crow," *East Asian Science, Technology, and Society* (2025).
- \*Champalet, Joelle, Keum, Hyunah, Knowles, Scott Gabriel, Lee, Seulgi, Park, Hyeonbin, "Education for Disaster Justice: The Disaster Haggyo in South Korea," *Science and Education* (10 January, 2025).  
<https://link.springer.com/article/10.1007/s11191-024-00603-2>
- \*Knowles, Scott Gabriel, "In COVID Times: Scholars of Health and Medicine Meet Disaster Studies," *Journal of the History of Medicine and Allied Sciences* 79: 4 (2024): 423-435.
- \*Lee, Seulgi, Kim, Heewon, and Knowles, Scott Gabriel, "Beyond the Accident Republic: Making Life and Safety with Disaster Memorials in Korea," *Korean Journal for the History of Science*, 45:2 (2023): 365-395.
- \*Knowles, Scott Gabriel and Older, Malka, "Coronalag: Time, Place, and Power in Pandemic Year One," *History and Technology* (October, 2023).
- \*Knowles, Scott Gabriel, "Death, Life, and Longing in the Pandemicene," *Journal of History of Science and Technology* 16: 2 (December, 2022).
- Knowles, Scott Gabriel and Steere-Williams, Jacob, "A Slow Disaster Historical

- Experiment," *Current History* 128: 838 (November 2022): 322-325.
- \*Jeon, Chihyung, Knowles, Scott Gabriel, Park, Sang-Eun, "Disaster (continued): The Sewol Ferry Investigations, State Violence, and Political History in South Korea," *History and Technology*, 38:1 (2022).
- \*Knowles, Scott Gabriel, Pearl, Sharrona, and Ray, Rashawn, "COVID Mask Wearing: Identity and Materiality," *East Asian Science, Technology, and Society* 16:1 (2022): 117-123.
- Soden, Robert, Wernimont, Jacqueline, and Knowles, Scott Gabriel, "Accounting for Care in Times of Crisis," Social Science Research Council, 24 February 2022. <https://items.ssrc.org/covid-19-and-the-social-sciences/disaster-studies/accounting-for-care-in-times-of-crisis/>
- Lifton, Robert and Knowles, Scott Gabriel, "Commemoration and Meaning: The Case of Fukushima," *Japan Focus* 19 (17:2), 1 September 2021.
- \*Fortun, Kim, Adams, James, Schutz, Tim, and Knowles, Scott Gabriel, "Knowledge Infrastructure and Research Agendas for Quotidian Anthropocenes: Critical Localism with Planetary Scope," *Anthropocene Review*, 14 August 2021.
- Knowles, Scott Gabriel and Stanton, Bucky, "History in the Making: COVIDCalls and the COVID-19 Pandemic," *History Now* 58 (Fall 2020). <https://www.gilderlehrman.org/history-now>
- Dietrich, Alexa S. and Knowles, Scott Gabriel, "Beyond Simply 'Lessons Learned': Pandemic Through the Disaster Lens, Social Science Research Council, 21 May 2020. <https://items.ssrc.org/covid-19-and-the-social-sciences/disaster-studies/accounting-for-care-in-times-of-crisis/>
- \*Knowles, Scott Gabriel, "Slow Disaster in the Anthropocene: A Historian Witnesses Climate Change on the Korean Peninsula," *Daedalus* (Fall 2020).
- Knowles, Scott Gabriel, "The Other Uncertainty: The View from Disaster History," Social Science Research Council, July, 2019.
- Tironi, Manuel, Bacigalupe, Gonzalo, Knowles, Scott Gabriel et. al., "Figuring Disasters: An Experiment on Thinking Disruptions as Methods," *Resilience* (12 February 2019): 1-20.
- Kuo Chun-Chih, Khaerun Nisa, Atma Jaya Yogyakarta, Masami Suigura, Emmanuel M. Luna, Scott Gabriel Knowles, and Dang Thi Thanh Huyen, "Casebook of Infrastructure Build Back Better from Natural Disasters: Enhancing Rural Disaster Resilience through Effective Infrastructure Investment," Asian Disaster Reduction Center, Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation Secretariat, (2018).
- \*Knowles, Scott Gabriel, "Underwriters Laboratories, the Voluntary Standards System, and American Safety Engineering," *Historia Scientiarum* 27-1 (July 2017).
- \*Gardebo, Johan, Knowles, Scott Gabriel, and Marzecova, Agata, "The Orbital Technosphere: The Provision of Meaning and Matter by Satellites," *Anthropocene Review* 4:1 (2017): 44-52.
- Knowles, Scott Gabriel, "Learning from Disaster? New Directions in Disaster

- Investigations," *Natural Hazards Observer* 39:5 (2015): 16-20.
- \*Knowles, Scott Gabriel, "Engineering Risk and Disaster: Disaster-STS and the American History of Technology," *Engineering Studies* 6:3 (2014): 227-248.
- Knowles, Scott Gabriel, "Learning from Disaster? The History of Technology and the Future of Disaster Research," *Technology and Culture* 55:4 (October, 2014): 773-784.
- \*Knowles, Scott Gabriel and Kunreuther, Howard C., "Troubled Waters: The National Flood Insurance Program in Historical Perspective," *Journal of Policy History* 26:3 (2014): 327-353.
- \*Knowles, Scott Gabriel, "Defending Philadelphia: A Historical Case Study of Civil Defense in the Early Cold War," *Public Works Management and Policy* (January, 2007): 1-16.
- Knowles, Scott Gabriel, "Lessons in the Rubble: The World Trade Center and the History of Disaster Investigations in the United States," *History and Technology* (Spring, 2003): 9-28.
- \*Kargon, Robert H. and Knowles, Scott Gabriel, "Knowledge for Use: Science, Higher Education, and America's New Industrial Heartland, 1880-1915," *Annals of Science* (January, 2002): 1-20.
- \*Knowles, Scott Gabriel and Leslie, Stuart W., "Industrial Versailles: Eero Saarinen's Corporate Campuses for GM, IBM, and AT&T," *Isis* (March, 2001): 1-33.

### Book Chapters

- \*Knowles, Scott Gabriel and Rogers, Ashley, "Layers of Violence: Slow Disaster in the Cancer Alley Anthropocene," in Cynthia Kierner, Matthew Mulcahy, and Liz Skilton, eds., *Rethinking American Disasters* (LSU Press, 2023).
- Dey, Tridibesh, Keum, Hyunah, Knowles, Scott Gabriel, and Pearl, Sharrona, "Re-Ordering COVID Experiences to the Face Mask," in Hyun, Jaehwan, ed. *Mask Panorama: From the Black Death to COVID-19, The Science and Politics of Masks* (Seoul: Munji Publishing, 2022).
- \*Knowles, Scott Gabriel, "Slow Disaster and the Challenge of Nuclear Memory," in Bensaude Vincent, Bernadette, Boudia, Soraya, and Sato, Kyoko, eds., *Living in a Nuclear World: From Fukushima to Hiroshima* (Routledge, 2022).
- \*Knowles, Scott Gabriel Knowles and Loeb, Zachary, "The Voyage of the Paragon: Disaster as Method," in Horowitz, Andy, and Remes, Jacob, eds., *Disaster Studies: New Perspectives on Disaster Risk, Vulnerability, and Resilience* (University of Pennsylvania Press, 2021).
- \*Knowles, Scott Gabriel, "What Was learned from 3.11?" in Knowles, Scott Gabriel, Cleveland, Kyle, and Shineha, Ryuma, eds., *Legacies of Fukushima: 3.11 in Perspective* (Philadelphia: University of Pennsylvania Press, 2021).
- \*Knowles, Scott Gabriel and Torero, Jose, "Plyscrapers, Gluescrapers, and Mother Nature's Fingerprints," in *New Materials: Towards a History of Consistency* (Amherst: Lever Press, 2020).
- \*Kendra, James, Knowles, Scott Gabriel, and Wachtendorf, Tricia, "Introduction: The

New Environmental Crisis,” in Kendra, James, Knowles, Scott Gabriel, and Wachtendorf, Tricia, eds. *The Second Environmental Crisis* (New York: Springer, 2019).

\*Knowles, Scott Gabriel, “Does the World’s Fair Still Matter? Discovering New Worlds After 1989,” in Knowles, Scott Gabriel and Molella, Art, eds. *Worlds Fairs in the Era of the Cold War* (Pittsburgh: Pittsburgh University Press, 2019).

Knowles, Scott Gabriel, Cutler, Jennifer, Madrigal, Maegan, and Sangaline, Isabella, “Italian-American Leaders in Business and Politics,” in Canepari, Andrea and Goode, Judith, eds., *The Italian Legacy in Philadelphia* (Philadelphia: Temple University Press, 2019), in press.

\*Knowles, Scott Gabriel and Torero, Jose, “Plyscrapers, Gluescrapers, and Mother Nature’s Fingerprints,” in Slaton, Amy ed., *New Materials: A History of Consistency*, (Lever Press, 2020).

\*Fortun, Kim and Knowles, Scott Gabriel, et. al., “Researching Disaster from an STS Perspective,” in *Handbook of Science and Technology Studies* (Cambridge: MIT Press, 2016).

\*Knowles, Scott Gabriel and Leslie, Stuart W., “Industrial Versailles: Eero Saarinen’s Corporate Campuses for GM, IBM, and AT&T,” in David Kaiser and Sally Kohlstedt, eds., *Science and the American Century: Readings from Isis* (Chicago: University of Chicago Press, 2013).

#### Op-Eds//Essays//Media Projects

Knowles, Scott Gabriel, “Female Candidates’ Double Standards: Will Kamala Harris Overcome It?” *The Hankyoreh*, 2 October 2024.

<https://www.hani.co.kr/arti/opinion/because/1160760.html>

Knowles, Scott Gabriel, “A COVIDCalls Discussion with Howard Kunreuther,” *The Regulatory Review*, 12 September 2024.

<https://www.theregreview.org/2024/09/12/knowles-a-covidcalls-discussion-with-howard-kunreuther/>

Knowles, Scott Gabriel, Montano, Samantha, and Mwarumba, Njoki, “Hurricane Ian is Proof: The United States Needs a National Disaster Safety Board,” *The Hill*, 24 October 2022.

<https://thehill.com/opinion/congress-blog/3702450-hurricane-ian-is-proof-the-us-needs-a-national-disaster-safety-board/>

COVIDCalls, Daily Podcast about the COVID-19 Pandemic, (March 2020-March 2022)

COVIDCalls Digital Archive: <https://covid-calls.com>

Podcast: <https://podcasts.apple.com/us/podcast/covidcalls/id1516341147>

Live Video on:

YouTube [https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCgxa\\_-w98BhAliwbw2dxKIQ/featured](https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCgxa_-w98BhAliwbw2dxKIQ/featured)

Facebook Live <https://www.facebook.com/covidcalls1>

Featured here:

<https://www.phillymag.com/news/2020/08/15/scott-gabriel-knowles-covid-calls/>

Fry, John, and Knowles, Scott Gabriel, “As College Campuses Return to Normal, Will

- College Administrators Heed the Lessons of COVID?" Philadelphia Inquirer, 1 December 2021.  
<https://www.inquirer.com/opinion/commentary/how-did-higher-education-perform-in-the-pandemic-20211201.html>
- "For the COVID-19 Era, a United States Disaster Investigation Board," Issues in Science and Technology, 21 August 2020 (with Glenn Corbett).  
<https://issues.org/disaster-investigation-board-for-covid-19-failures/>
- "Risk and Equity in the Louisiana Anthropocene," HKW Anthropocene Curriculum 4 September 2020 (with Fallon Samuels Aidoo, Myung Ae Choi, and Christopher Oliver).  
<https://www.anthropocene-curriculum.org/contribution/risk-equity-in-the-louisiana-anthropocene>
- "Layers of Violence: The Cancer Alley Anthropocene," HKW Anthropocene Curriculum, 28 July 2020 (with Ashley Rogers).  
<https://www.anthropocene-curriculum.org/contribution/layers-of-violence>
- "Beyond Simply 'Lessons Learned': Pandemic through the Disaster Lens," SSRC Items, 21 May 2020 (with Alexa Dietrich).  
<https://items.ssrc.org/covid-19-and-the-social-sciences/disaster-studies/beyond-simply-lessons-learned-pandemic-through-the-disaster-lens/>
- "What Will the COVID-19 Memorial Look Like?" The Washington Post, 28 April 2020 (with Jay D. Aronson).  
<https://www.washingtonpost.com/outlook/2020/04/28/what-will-covid-19-memorial-look-like/>
- "Tactics for Quotidian Anthropocenes: A Field Campus Report," Society for Social Studies of Science, Backchannels, 29 July 2019 (with Jason Ludwig, Tim Schutz, and Kim Fortun)/  
[https://www.4sonline.org/blog/post/tactics\\_for\\_quotidian\\_anthropocenes](https://www.4sonline.org/blog/post/tactics_for_quotidian_anthropocenes)
- "What Trump Doesn't Get About Disasters," New York Times, 13 September 2018.  
<https://www.nytimes.com/2018/09/13/opinion/trump-hurricane-maria-puerto-rico-disaster.html>
- "What Should the Second Sewol Commission Do?" (with Chihyung Jeon), Hankyoreh 25 April 2018.  
[http://english.hani.co.kr/arti/english\\_edition/e\\_editorial/842021.html](http://english.hani.co.kr/arti/english_edition/e_editorial/842021.html)
- "Why Hurricanes Harvey and Irma Won't Lead to Action on Climate Change," The Conversation, 17 September 2017.  
<https://theconversation.com/profiles/scott-gabriel-knowles-407031/articles>
- "Coexisting with Wildfire," (with Max Moritz), American Scientist 104:4 (July-August, 2016): 220-227.
- "What Candidate You Gonna' Call When Disaster Strikes?" Philadelphia Inquirer, 17 October 2016.  
[http://www.philly.com/philly/opinion/commentary/20161017\\_Commentary\\_What\\_candidate\\_you\\_gonna\\_call\\_when\\_disaster\\_strikes.html](http://www.philly.com/philly/opinion/commentary/20161017_Commentary_What_candidate_you_gonna_call_when_disaster_strikes.html)

- “Deferred Maintenance: The American Disaster Multiplier,” *Technology’s Stories*, June, 2016.  
<http://www.technologystories.org/>
- “(Why) Does the World’s Fair Still Matter?” with Jason Ludwig, et. al., *Georgetown Journal of International Affairs*, 27 April 2016.  
<http://journal.georgetown.edu/why-does-the-worlds-fair-still-matter/>
- “How to Reform a Disastrous Disaster Policy,” *Conservation Magazine*, 20 July 2014.  
<http://conservationmagazine.org/2014/07/politics-of-risk/>
- “How to Honor the Dead We Cannot Name,” with Charles B. Strozier, *Slate*, 12 May 2014.  
[http://www.slate.com/articles/health\\_and\\_science/science/2014/05/september\\_11\\_memorial\\_museum\\_controversy\\_unidentified\\_remains\\_and\\_lessons.html](http://www.slate.com/articles/health_and_science/science/2014/05/september_11_memorial_museum_controversy_unidentified_remains_and_lessons.html)
- “Flood Zone Foolishness,” *Slate*, 23 March 2014.  
[http://www.slate.com/articles/health\\_and\\_science/science/2014/03/biggett\\_waters\\_and\\_nfip\\_flood\\_insurance\\_should\\_be\\_strengthened.html](http://www.slate.com/articles/health_and_science/science/2014/03/biggett_waters_and_nfip_flood_insurance_should_be_strengthened.html)
- “The Politics of Disaster Management,” (with James Bergey), *Oxford Bibliographies*, 2013.  
<http://www.oxfordbibliographies.com/view/document/obo-9780199756223/obo-9780199756223-0074.xml>
- “FEMA Needs to Refocus,” (with Patrick S. Roberts) *The Hill*, 27 November 2012.  
<http://thehill.com/opinion/op-ed/269713-fema-needs-to-refocus>
- “Exposed to Disaster,” *The Philadelphia Inquirer*, 21 November 2012.  
[http://articles.philly.com/2012-11-21/news/35258881\\_1\\_hazard-mitigation-disasters-fema](http://articles.philly.com/2012-11-21/news/35258881_1_hazard-mitigation-disasters-fema)
- “We Should Put More, Not Less, Into FEMA’s Disaster Relief Fund,” (with James M. Kendra), *US News and World Report* (online), 1 November 2012.  
<http://www.usnews.com/debate-club/should-femas-responsibilities-be-handed-over-to-the-states/we-should-put-more-not-less-into-femas-disaster-relief-fund>
- “9/11: A Lapse of Memory,” (with Charles B. Strozier), *The Philadelphia Inquirer*, 11 September 2012.  
[http://articles.philly.com/2012-09-12/news/33764292\\_1\\_memory-world-war-ii-vietnam-war](http://articles.philly.com/2012-09-12/news/33764292_1_memory-world-war-ii-vietnam-war)
- “The Best Sport You’ve Never Seen,” (with Stephen Gambescia and Ariel Pollak), *The Smart Set*, September 28, 2012.  
<http://www.thesmartset.com/article/article09281201.aspx>
- “Chicago, IL, 1877-1896,” Richardson Dilworth, ed., *Cities in American Political History* (Thousand Oaks, CA: CQ Press: 2011), 292-298.
- “Chicago, IL, 1896-1929,” Richardson Dilworth, ed., *Cities in American Political History* (Thousand Oaks, CA: CQ Press: 2011), 358-364.
- “Philadelphia, 1952-1989,” Richardson Dilworth, ed., *Cities in American Political History* (Thousand Oaks, CA: CQ Press: 2011), 577-583.
- “The Code War,” *The Smart Set*, September 2, 2011.  
<http://www.thesmartset.com/article/article09021101.aspx>

- "The Phantom of the Fair," *The Smart Set*, October 4, 2010.  
<http://www.thesmartset.com/article/article10051001.aspx>
- "Ask an Urban Historian," *The Next American City*, (Spring, 2009).
- "Building Under Peril," *The Next American City* (Spring, 2008): 38-41, 53.
- "Next American City Exclusive Interview with Domenic Vitiello," *The Next American City*, May 20, 2008.
- "Urban Policy and the Presidency," *The Next American City*, April 24, 2008.
- "The Phantom Urban Debate," *The Next American City*, November 22, 2007.
- "Disaster 2.0: Using GIS to Cover Misfortune-in-Motion," *The Next American City*, November 8, 2007.
- "Urban Hazards and Disasters: Southern California Wildfires," *The Next American City*, October 26, 2007.

### Book Reviews

- Review of Kalmbach, Karena, *The Meanings of a Disaster: Chernobyl and Its Afterlives in Britain and France*, *Technology and Culture* 63 (3, 2022): 906-907.
- Review of Remes, Jacob A.C., *Disaster Citizenship: Survivors, Solidarity, and Power in the Progressive Era* (Urbana: University of Illinois Press, 2016), *American Historical Review* 123:1 (2018).
- Review of Deborah R. Coen, *The Earthquake Observers: Disaster Science from Lisbon to Richter* (Chicago: University of Chicago Press, 2013), *American Historical Review* 119:2 (2014).
- Review of Gregory Bankoff, Uwe Lubken, and Jordan Sand, eds., *Flammable Cities: Urban Fire and the Making of the Modern World* (Madison: University of Wisconsin Press, 2012), *Journal of the American Planning Association* 79: 2 (Spring, 2013).
- Review of James J. Connolly, *An Elusive Unity: Urban Democracy and Machine Politics in Industrializing America* (Ithaca: Cornell University Press, 2010), *Journal of American History*, (December, 2011).
- Review of Rachel Maines, *Asbestos and Fire: Technological Trade-Offs and the Body at Risk* (New Brunswick: Rutgers Press, 2005), *Technology and Culture* (January, 2007): 175-177.
- Review of David E. Nye, *America As Second Creation: Technology and Narratives of New Beginnings* (Cambridge: MIT Press, 2003), *Business History Review* (Autmun, 2005).
- Review of James Glanz and Eric Lipton, *City in the Sky: The Rise and Fall of the World Trade Center* (New York: Times Books, 2004), *Technology and Culture* (July, 2005): 670-672.
- Review of Mark Tebeau, *Eating Smoke: Fire in Urban America, 1800–1950* (Baltimore: Johns Hopkins University Press, 2003), *Enterprise and Society* (September, 2004): 554-556.
- Review of Neil deGrasse Tyson, *The Sky Is Not the Limit: Adventures of an Urban Astrophysicist* (New York: Prometheus Books, 2004), *New York Times*

Book Review (August 1, 2004): 12.  
Review of Michael Sorkin and Sharon Zukin, eds., After the World Trade Center: Rethinking New York City (New York: Routledge, 2002), History and Technology (Fall, 2002): 168-170.

## GRANTS AND AWARDS

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### Grants Funded

- 2024 National Research Foundation of Korea, "A Study of the Great Acceleration in the Anthropocene" \$3.3 million (co-PI, 6.5 years, w/Buhm Soon Park, et. al).
- 2023 KAIST, KC-30, Grant to Support the "Learning from Disaster Framework," 20,000,000 krw/year (PI, 3 years, renewable).
- 2022 Social Science Research Council, Grant to Support the Disaster Haggyo, \$25,000 (PI).
- 2020 Albert Lepage Center for History in the Public Interest, Villanova University, "COVID-19 Grant for History in the Public Interest," \$4,000 (PI).
- 2020 Drexel University Rapid Response Research and Development Fund for COVID-19 Research, "Slow Disaster: COVID-19," \$10,000 to support a science/disaster communication podcast (PI).
- 2019 DARE Award, Drexel University, "The Future of Historic Sites: Increased Access, Engaged Communities, Sustainability and Archives without Walls," (co-PI with Rosalind Remer, et. al.), \$100,000
- 2019 Haus der Kulturen der Welt, "The River School," as part of The Mississippi: An Anthropocene River Project (co-PI with Kim Fortun), \$50,000.
- 2017 Society for the History of Technology, The Anthropocene Campus Philadelphia, \$3250 (PI).
- 2014 National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST), Standards Services Curricula Development Cooperative Agreement Grant, (co-PI with Tiago Saraiva, Amy E. Slaton, and Sharon Ku). Support for 2015 Summer Institute and ongoing projects [9/2014-2/2016]. "Standards in Society: A Critical Curricular Platform," \$57,477.
- 2014 National Science Foundation, Disaster Research Center 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Workshop (co-PI) with James Kendra, \$75,000.
- 2009 National Science Foundation, \$300,000, (3-year award).  
Research Experience for Undergraduates (REU) Site: Engineering Cities, Mira Olson (PI), Patrick Gurian (Co-PI),  
Scott Knowles (Senior Investigator)
- 2007 United States Department of Education, \$511,524, (3-year award).  
Graduate Assistance in Areas of National Need (GAANN), Fellowships in Urban Hazard Mitigation: Creating Sustainability and Resilience,

- 2006 Patricia Gallagher (PI), Scott Knowles (Co-PI)  
Olin Workshop Grant, \$8,500  
"The Future of the Industrial City": conference at Drexel University  
Scott Gabriel Knowles co-organizer with Richardson Dilworth (co-PI)
- 2001 Drexel University Faculty Development Grant, 2001. Awarded to support the development of web-based instruction. (PI).

#### Awards

- 2024 KAIST, Special Contribution Award.
- 2023 KAIST, College Teaching Award.
- 2017 President's Award, Drexel University, Civic Engagement Award for Faculty and Professional Staff (one of eight members of winning team).
- 2009 Drexel University College of Arts and Sciences Distinguished Teaching Award.
- 2007 Drexel University Student Athletics "Make A Difference Award."  
Awarded to Drexel faculty "annually by the Drexel Student-Athlete Advisory Committee, recognizes professors and instructors for outstanding mentoring and teaching."
- 2004 Barbara G. Hornum Award for Teaching Excellence.  
Awarded in recognition of teaching excellence to an auxiliary professor with at least three years of teaching experience at Drexel University.
- 2004 The History of Science Society: Derek Price/Rod Webster Prize.  
Awarded in recognition of excellence in a research article published in the journal Isis. Winning article: Scott Knowles & Stuart W. Leslie, "Industrial Versailles": Eero Saarinen's Corporate Campuses for GM, IBM, and AT&T."
- 2003 The Society for the History of Technology: The Samuel Eleazar and Rose Tartakow Levinson Prize. Awarded annually for an original essay in the history of technology. Winning essay: Scott G. Knowles, "The One Place Where it Pays to Play With Fire: Underwriters Laboratories and the Invention of Fire Safety."

#### INVITED PRESENTATIONS (research conference paper titles available upon request)

- 2025 Nuclear Energy Association, Brussels, Working Group on Human Factors, "Enduring Safety in the Context of Prolonged Disruption," lectures on "The Sewol Ferry Disaster," and "The World Trade Center Collapse after (Almost) 25 Years," April 2025
- 2024 Osaka University, "Rising Waters, Raising Hopes: Technological Enthusiasm and the Role of Expertise in Disaster Management," November 2024
- Duke Kunshan University, "Commentary: Incendiary Cities," November 2024

- Global APEC Forum, Seoul, "Sustainable and Inclusive Growth," October 2024
- KTH Stockholm, "Memory Loss: COVID as a Slow Disaster," May 2024
- University of Stavanger, Norway, "Memory Loss in the Anthropocene," April 2024
- Georgetown University, "COVID Memorialization," March 2024
- 2023 NYU, Gallatin School of Individualized Study, "The Sewol Ferry Disaster and the Politics of Time," October 2023
- The East Asian Environmental History Association, "Death, Life, and Longing in the Pandemicene," June 2023
- Pusan National University, "Slow Disaster: The Politics of Time," March 2023
- 2022 Loughborough University, "Disaster Memorials," April 2022
- Art Sonje, Seoul, "The Disaster Haggyo," November 2022
- 2021 Canadian Science and Technology Historical Association, "COVID Time Zones," November 2021
- Critical Global Studies Institute, Sogang University, "COVID and Disaster Memorials," October 2021
- Max Planck Institute Symposium, "COVIDCalls and Public History in the Pandemic," May 2021
- UC Irvine Anthropology Conference, "COVIDCalls and the Life of the Pandemic," April 2021
- 2020 Studies Workshop, Drexel University, "Coronalag," April 2021
- Parallax: Anthropocene Campus Lisbon, "Wildfire Fascism," January 2020
- 2019 Rising Waters, The Penn Humanities Forum (University of Pennsylvania), "The Anthropocene Campus," May 2019
- Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute STS Seminar, "The United States of Disaster," April 2019

- American Meteorological Society Annual Meeting, "The Other Uncertainty: Disaster History," January 2019
- 2018 The KAIST Center for Anthropocene Studies, Inaugural Lecture, December 2018
- Annual Research Meeting of the Centro de Investigacion para la Gestion Integrada del Riesgo de Desastres (CIGIDEN), Pontificia Universidad Católica de Chile, "The Historical Ground of Resilience," August 2018
- The Disaster Research Center, University of Delaware, "The History of Disaster," May 2018
- 2017 The Sewol Ferry Disaster: Perspective, Analysis, and Action: A Research Workshop Hosted by KAIST, South Korea, "Disaster Translations," June 2017
- The Maintainers II Conference, "Trump the Maintainer," Stevens Institute of Technology, March 2017
- 2016 Virginia Tech, "A Dark Achievement: Chernobyl at 30" Workshop, December 2016
- Center for the Humanities at Temple University, "Encountering Crisis: Working Across the Humanities," March, 2016
- "Engaging Expertise in Disaster Governance," Keynote Address, National University of Singapore, January, 2016
- 2014 Miller Center Disaster Policy Conference, University of Virginia, October, 2014
- Commentator on "Disasters and the State: Space, Power, and Urban Policy in 20<sup>th</sup>-Century America," Urban History Association, Commentary, October, 2014
- Disaster Research Center 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Conference, Plenary Speaker, April, 2014
- "September 11 Memory," John Jay College Center on Terrorism, March, 2014
- "Risky Business: Managing Risk Across Industries in Today's Global Economy," RSA Annual Meeting, March, 2014

- “Learning from Disaster: The History of Technology and the Future of Disaster Research,” Johns Hopkins University, Department of the History of Science and Technology, February, 2014.
- 2013 “Fukushima: The View from America,” paper presented to the Governing Risk conference, University of Tokyo, December, 2013
- “Learning from Disaster?” Nuclear Issues Education Workshop, Stevens Institute, November, 2013
- “How Do Disasters End?” Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute STS, November, 2013
- Society for the History of Technology Annual Meeting, Plenary Speaker, October, 2013.
- Disaster-STS, an NSF workshop, Washington, D.C., September 2013
- “Imagining the Worst,” Cornell University, April 2013
- “Learning from Disaster?” Stevens Institute of Technology, March 2013
- 2012 “September 11, 2051,” September 11 and Historical Memory Conference, John Jay College of Criminal Justice, City University of New York, 2 April 2012.
- “Homeland Insecurities: Understanding American Disasters Since September 11,” Taubman College of Architecture and Urban Planning, University of Michigan, 30 March 2012.
- 2011 “A Philadelphia History Walking Tour: Colonial, Industrial, and The Next Philadelphia,” Drexel University Research Experiences for Undergraduates (REU) Summer Program, July-August, 2011.
- Philadelphia Area Center for the History of Science, “So Many Boundaries, Recent Ideologies of Expertise,” May, 2011
- AIA Philadelphia, Center for Architecture, “Edmund Bacon and the Future of Philadelphia,” invited presentation, May, 2011
- 2010 “A Philadelphia History Walking Tour: Colonial, Industrial, and The Next Philadelphia,” Drexel University Research Experiences for Undergraduates

(REU) Summer Program, June 30 and August 4, 2010.

"Edmund Bacon and Society Hill," Head House Books, Philadelphia, Book Talk and Walking Tour, May 25, 2010.

"Imagining Philadelphia: Edmund Bacon and the Future of the City," AIA Philadelphia Center for Architecture, May 5, 2010.

"Imagining Philadelphia's Future, An Evening at the Academy of Natural Sciences," April 26, 2010.

"Experts in Disaster," Homeland Security Philadelphia Student Chapter, Drexel University, April 14, 2010.

"Imagining Philadelphia: Edmund Bacon and the Future of the City," Society Hill Civic Association, March 17, 2010.

"Imagining Philadelphia: Edmund Bacon and the Future of the City," Penn Institute for Urban Research Series, February 17, 2010.

"Imagining Philadelphia: Edmund Bacon and the Future of the City," Philadelphia Pecha Kucha #4, January 30, 2010.

2009 "Imagining Philadelphia: Edmund Bacon and the Future of the City," December 8, 2009, Tredyffrin Public Library.

"Imagining Philadelphia: Edmund Bacon and the Future of the City," Design on the Delaware, October 28, 2009.

"Renewal and Riot," lecture and walking tour for the Pennsylvania Humanities Council, July 2009.

"Eastern State Penitentiary and the History of Philadelphia," Drexel College of Arts and Sciences Alumni Event, May 2009.

"Philadelphia and the History of Public Health," lecture to the Philadelphia Inter-University Public Health History Course, April 2009.

"The Emergency Managers," lecture to the Bates Center for the History of Nursing, March 2009.

"Experts in Disaster: Confronting the Fire Problem in Modern American Cities," Philadelphia Area Center for the History of Science, March 2009.

- 2008 "What Is a Disaster? Social Science Disaster Research in the Postwar United States," University of Texas, Colloquium in the History of Science, 2008.
- "Meet the Emergency Managers: The History of a Profession From FEMA to Katrina," University of Delaware, Disaster Research Center, 2008.
- 2007 "A Discussion of the Philadelphia 24-Hour Road Trip," Talk 20, Institute of Contemporary Art, Philadelphia, 2007.
- \*"What Is a Disaster? Social Science Disaster Research in the Postwar United States," Johns Hopkins University, Department of the History of Science, Medicine, and Technology Colloquium, 2007.
- \*"A Philadelphia History Walking Tour: Colonial, Industrial, and Post-Industrial," Drexel University Research Experiences for Undergraduates (REU) Summer Program, 2007.
- "The One Place Where It Pays to Play With Fire: Underwriter's Laboratories," Underwriters Laboratories, 25 Year Club Annual Meeting, 2007.
- 2006 "Experts in Disaster: A History of Risk and Authority in the Modern United States," Drexel University, The Dean's Speakers Series, 2006.
- "Experts in Disaster: A History of Risk and Authority in the Modern United States," John Jay College of Criminal Justice, Center on Terrorism, 2006.
- "Benjamin Franklin at 300: Do We Know Him Yet?" Drexel University, The Westphal Picture Gallery Lecture Series, 2006.
- "A Philadelphia History Walking Tour: Colonial, Industrial, and Post-Industrial," Drexel University Research Experiences for Undergraduates (REU) Summer Program, 2006.
- 2004 "The Iroquois Theater Fire and the Invention of Fire Safety," Hunter College, City University of New York, Department of History, 2004.
- 2003 "Inventing Safety: Fire, Technology, and Trust in Modern America," University of Pennsylvania, Department of the History and Sociology of Science, 2003.
- 2002 "From Coney Island to the Picture Palace: Electrification in New York City,"

Baruch College, City University of New York, 2002.

“Disasters in the Urban Realm: Urban Disaster and Public Memory in the United States,” Columbia University, Trading Places Network International Urban Studies Conference, 2002.

2001 “Representative of Safety: John Ripley Freeman and the Iroquois Theater Fire in Chicago,” Drexel University, Science, Technology, and Society Speaker Series, 2001.

2000 “Art-Deco and the American Skyscraper,” Duke University, Duke in New York Urban History Seminar, 2000.

1999 “Versailles of Industry: Eero Saarinen’s Corporate Campuses for GM, IBM, and AT&T,” Johns Hopkins University Global Economic History Seminar, 1999.

## PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS AND SERVICE

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### Professional Service: Committee

Associate Editor, East Asian Science, Technology, and Society, 2022-ongoing  
Founding Co-Editor, Journal of Disaster Studies, 2022-ongoing  
Society for the History of Technology, Executive Council, 2015-2017  
Society for the History of Technology, Levinson Prize Committee, 2013-15  
Society for the History of Technology, Conference Travel Committee, 2007-2009  
Greater Philadelphia Consortium for Emergency Preparedness, 2007  
Society for the History of Technology, Robinson Prize Committee, 2004-2007  
Social Science History Association, Urban Network Co-Chair, 2006

### Memberships

American Historical Association  
International Network for Engineering Studies  
Society for the History of Technology  
Society for Social Studies of Science

## CONFERENCES ORGANIZED

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- 2024      The Disaster Haggyo: The Sewol Haggio, March 2024
- 2023      The Disaster Haggyo: Ansan, Fukushima, Hiroshima, July-August 2023
- 2022      The Disaster Haggyo, KAIST, <https://disasterhaggyo.com/--a> two-week international disaster research school, August 2022
- 2019      Anthropocene Field Campus, New Orleans—a five day, multi-disciplinary investigation of the Anthropocene in the lower Mississippi Delta, September 2019
- Anthropocene Field Campus, St. Louis—a five day, multi-disciplinary investigation of the Anthropocene on the Mississippi River, March, 2019
- 2017      Anthropocene Campus Philadelphia—a five day, multi-disciplinary investigation of the Anthropocene in the Delaware River watershed, October, 2017
- 2016      Memory Survives: History, Psychology, and Disaster Recovery—a one-day workshop at Drexel University with visiting delegation from Tohoku University, Japan, September 7, 2016
- 2014      Disaster Research Center 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Conference

- Disaster-STS Workshop, Drexel University
- 2012 “3.11 Virtual Conference: Looking Back to Look Forward,” 11 March 2012, Sponsored by the Fukushima Forum, Co-organized with Atsushi Akera and Lisa Onaga: <http://fukushimaforum.wordpress.com/conferences/>
- 2008 “Preparedness in the Region: Confronting Vulnerability in the Delaware Valley,” Drexel University Engineering Cities Initiative, 2008. This two-day conference, co-sponsored with the City of Philadelphia’s Office of Emergency Management, brought together academics, emergency management officials, public health officials, and non-profit organizations to analyze emergency management regional research and concerns.
- 2006 “The Technological Future of the Industrial City,” Drexel University, 2006, co-organizer with Richardson Dilworth. This conference brought together government officials, members of the business community, academics, and community activists interested in determining the future of transportation, communications, water, and energy systems in Philadelphia.
- Science, Technology, and Society Student Symposium, Drexel University, Department of History and Politics, 2006, 2003. These events featured research presentations by current STS Masters students.
- 2005 “The Politics of Disaster: Considering Ethics, Engineering, and Public Health in the Aftermath of Hurricane Katrina,” 2005. This panel discussion and fundraiser provided a multi-disciplinary investigation of Hurricane Katrina.

PUBLIC PROJECTS, CONSULTING, AND VOLUNTEER WORK (media appearances/links available upon request)

Public Projects

The Anthropocene in St. Louis, Public Exhibit of Work from the Anthropocene Field Campus, St. Louis, March 2019, at Granite City Arts and Design District

Haus der Kulturen der Welt, Berlin, “The Phosphorus Apparatus,” as part of the Anthropocene Campus, October, 2016

“Remembering September 11,” New York State History Conference, June, 2014

Psychogeography Project (PgP)—This urban exploration project was founded by Scott Gabriel Knowles, Kurt Braunohler, and Calvin Johnson in 2000—PgP held

public events several times a year 2001-2007, inviting participants to explore a given theme as they map and record their interactions with urban environments.

"The Urban Disorientation Game," Enzimi's "Talents Out Festival", Rome, November, 2007.

"The Urban Disorientation Game," Glowlab's "Conflux Festival," New York, September, 2007

"24-Hour Road trip," with The Next American City Magazine, Philadelphia, August, 2007.

"24-Hour Road trip," Glowlab's "Conflux festival, New York, September, 2006

#### Historical Consulting

"Protect," Museum of the City of New York, 2004

From the exhibition description: "Explore how New Yorkers have protected themselves from fire through the years. From bucket brigades and volunteers to building codes and the city's water system, this exhibition looks at three hundred years of fire protection in New York City." Produced by Chicken & Egg Public Projects, for the Museum of the City of New York.

"Me, Myself and Infrastructure: Private Lives and Public Works in America," Opened at The New York Historical Society, 2001 (on tour until 2003)

From the exhibition description: "To commemorate its 150th anniversary, ASCE introduces Me, Myself and Infrastructure: Private Lives and Public Works in America, a project that tells the story of a thirsty, car-crazy nation. Through a series of related exhibitions and programs, Me, Myself and Infrastructure explores the relationship of the public to the civil engineering networks that define modern life." Produced by Chicken & Egg Public Projects.

Contributor to the 9-11 Digital Archive—A special collection for this online archive composed of Drexel University student responses to the events of September 11. The collection surveys the range of concerns and debates emerging from the classroom over the year after 9-11. The overall project is available at: <http://911digitalarchive.org/>

#### Volunteer Work

Board Member, Headlong Dance Theater, 2009-2017.

Audio Books Narrator, Andrew Heiskell Braille and Talking Book Library, New York Public Library, 1999-2006.

## TEACHING

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### Undergraduate Courses Taught at KAIST (2021-2024)

The American Presidency  
Conspiracy Culture  
The 1990s: Decade of Change  
Disaster Science and Policy

### Undergraduate Courses Taught at Drexel University (2000-2021)

Technology in Historical Perspective  
Themes in World Civilization II, 1200-1815  
United States History, 1815-1900  
United States History since 1900  
The United States Civil War  
Research Methods in History  
The Civil War and American Memory  
United States Urban History  
The History of Philadelphia  
The Study of History  
Junior Seminar in History  
Senior Seminar in History I  
Senior Seminar in History II  
The Global City  
Physical Philadelphia  
Media Interactivity  
The Atomic Bomb  
The Automobile  
The Next Philadelphia  
Blood and Oil  
Knowledge By Design  
September 11, 2001  
The Next President  
The World's Fair in History  
Lincoln  
Introductory Seminar in History  
The History of U.S. Elections  
Disaster in Global History  
The History of Drexel University  
1968: Year of Revolution

### Graduate Seminars Taught at KAIST (2021-2024)

Introduction to Science, Technology, and Society  
Disaster Science and Policy

## COVID Studies

### Graduate Seminars Taught in the Drexel University Science, Technology, and Society Masters Program (2001-2013) and the Urban Strategy Masters Program (2017-2020)

The History of Urban Space

Urban Systems

Risk, Disaster, and Public Policy

Technology in Historical Perspective

STS Perspectives on Risk and Disaster

Risk International

Taking Chances: Science, Technology, and Risk in Modern Society

Technology and the City

Technology and the Consumer

Boom and Bust: The History of the American City

Independent Study in History

### Mentorship (list of Ph.D. and Masters students mentored available upon request)

#### Travel-Integrated Undergraduate Courses Organized, Drexel University

The Johnstown Flood, 2017—a trip to Johnstown, PA in support of the course Disaster in Global History, 4 students

The 2015 World Expo—an experiential course with trip to Milan, 5 students

The 2012 London Paralympics—an experiential course taught on-site in London, continuing a course titled Perspectives on Disability, 9 students.

The 2010 World Expo—an experiential course with trip to Shanghai for the 2010 Shanghai World Expo, 2010, 12 students.

The Obama Inauguration—an experiential course with trip to Washington, D.C. for the Obama inauguration, 2008, 60 students.

The Mississippi River—an experiential course with trip to New Orleans in the aftermath of Hurricane Katrina, 2006, 20 students.