

## Lecture for the Tohoku University STEM Summer Program (June 23, 2026)

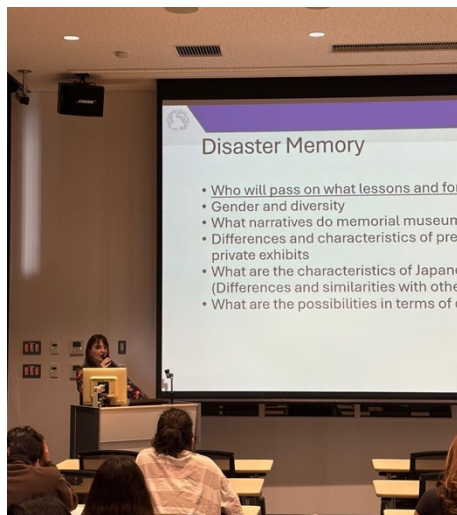
Theme : Disaster science, Education, International exchange  
Venue : International Research Institute of Disaster Science

On Tuesday, June 23, 2026, a class was held at the International Research Institute of Disaster Science (IRIDeS) as part of the Tohoku University STEM Summer Program (TSSP). This program is held annually at Tohoku University to welcome students from universities in the United States and the United Kingdom. This year, 19 students participated from the University of Washington, Pennsylvania State University, and University of York.

In the first half of the class, Professor Yo Fukushima (Communication Science for Disaster Risk Reduction Lab) gave a lecture titled "How earthquakes and tsunamis occur." He explained the mechanisms behind earthquakes and tsunamis, presented observational data from the 2011 Great East Japan Earthquake and Tsunami, and discussed the findings derived from data analysis.

In the latter half, Professor Fukushima gave an overview of IRIDeS, followed by presentations by Associate Professor Julia Gerster (Disaster Memory Studies Lab) and Professor Sébastien Penmellen Boret (Inclusive Disaster Risk Reduction Lab), who each shared their professional experiences and introduced their current research themes.

The class and research presentations were followed by an active Q&A session, demonstrating the high level of interest among the participants. The event provided a valuable opportunity for deepening understanding of the institute's work and of disaster science in Japan.



Assoc. Prof. Gerster



Prof. Boret

Report by: Yo Fukushima (Communication Science for Disaster Risk Reduction Lab)