



**IEEE Professional Communication Society, Japan Chapter (PCSJ)
2017 1st Technical Meeting**

Guest Lecture

Mordecai G. Sheftall

Shizuoka University, Faculty of Informatics

***“Cultural Space in an Era of
Globalization”***

**Saturday, June 3, 2017 1:00 p.m.
Shinshu University, Faculty of Engineering
W1 Bldg. Room 115**

Abstract

Since the Industrial Revolution, the pace of modern history has been driven by rapid advances in humankind's ability to radically compress and shorten -- and in the case of communications technology, even to ignore -- the once formidable barrier to human movement posed by physical, geographical distance. However, the cultural software through which we human beings create meaning and "tribal" identity and within which we pursue meaningful lives has, in terms of basic structure and function, changed very little -- if at all -- since the days of our prehistoric ancestors. The greatest political, economic, and psychological stresses -- and dangers -- of our era of globalization are a direct result of the ever-widening gap forming between these two increasingly divergent human evolutionary paths. In this lecture, these topics will be discussed from both theoretical and educational/pedagogical perspectives, with emphasis on Japan's situation in the modern era.

Speaker Bio

M.G. Sheftall is a professor of Modern Japanese Cultural History and Communications at the Faculty of Informatics, Shizuoka University in Hamamatsu, Japan. His research focuses on the cultural history of the formation of Japanese national identity in the modern era. He was born in Boston, Massachusetts in 1962, but raised in New York City from the age of seven. He has lived and worked in Japan continuously since 1987. He earned his doctorate in International Studies from the Graduate School of Asia-Pacific Studies at Waseda University.

For more information, contact:
Pauline N. Kawamoto, pauline@cs.shinshu-u.ac.jp