

Nuclear safety expert talks about the crisis in Japan



Theo Theofanous

Engineering professor [Theo Theofanous](#), an authority on nuclear reactor safety, spoke to Miller-McCune about the situation at the crippled Fukushima nuclear plant in Japan and about the implications for the future of nuclear power.

In the [first](#) of three podcasts, Theofanous, director of UC Santa Barbara's [Center for Risk Studies and Safety](#), explains how the reactors at the Fukushima plant operated and what went wrong after the devastating earthquake and tsunami on March 11.

In the [second podcast](#), Theofanous talks about what's being done to try to prevent further problems and minimize the dangers posed by the damaged plant.

In the third and [final podcast](#), Theofanous discusses the health impacts of the radiation leaking from the crippled power plant and what this crisis means for the future of nuclear power.

Theofanous was one of several experts from UC Santa Barbara who held a public meeting on March 16 to offer an overview of radiation health and safety, nuclear energy and reactor safety, and to address public concerns about the situation in Japan.

The other speakers were physicist [Benjamin Monreal](#), who organized the meeting, and science and technology historian [Patrick McCray](#).

[Video of the March 16 presentations and the Q & A is online](#)



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