

Curriculum Vitae for Andy Rotman

Smith College
Religion Department
Pierce Hall 203
Northampton, MA 01063

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EDUCATION

DEGREES

University of Chicago

Ph.D., Department of South Asian Languages and Civilizations, 1990–2003
Dissertation: “Monks, Merchants, and a Moral Economy: Visual Culture and the Practice of Faith in the *Divyāvadāna*”

Columbia University

B.A., *cum laude*, Department of Religion, 1984–1988
Thesis: “Buddhist Soteriology Reconsidered: The Theory and Practice of Abhidhamma”

RESEARCH AFFILIATIONS

Central Institute of Higher Tibetan Studies (Sarnath, India)

Research scholar, 1996–1998
Read and translated Sanskrit and Tibetan texts.

National Film Archive of India (Pune, India)

Visiting fellow, 1996
Studied Indian film and film theory.

Tilak Maharashtra Vidyapeeth (Pune, India)

Research scholar, 1994–1996
Studied Pali literature, Sanskrit poetics, spoken Sanskrit, and Indian historiography.

Pune University (Pune, India)

Research scholar, 1994–1996
Studied Buddhist Hybrid Sanskrit literature as well as Persian and Urdu poetry.

Landour Language School (Mussoorie, India)

Visiting student, summer 1993
Read and translated medieval Hindi texts.

University of California at Los Angeles

Visiting student, summer 1991
Studied Persian language and literature.

GRANTS AND AWARDS

PROFESSIONAL

Awarded the Sydenham Clark Parsons Chair, 2021
Elected to the American Society for the Study of Religion, 2018
Khyentse Foundation Prize for Outstanding Translation, 2018
(Award for *Divine Stories: Translations from the Divyāvādāna, part 2*)
American Institute of Indian Studies Senior Long-Term Research Fellowship, 2015
Fulbright-Nehru Senior Research Fellowship, 2014
American Institute of Indian Studies/National Endowment for the Humanities
Senior Long-Term Research Fellowship, 2014 (declined)
National Endowment for the Humanities Grant, Scholarly Editions and Translations,
(principal investigator), 2011–2013
Presidential Seminar Development, Smith College, 2009
National Endowment for the Humanities Fellowship, summer 2006
Committee on Educational Technology, Smith College, fall 2005
Picker Fellowship, Smith College, spring 2005
Rappaport Fellowship, Smith College, summer 2004
Faculty Research Grant, Smith College, 2003, 2004, 2005, 2006, 2008, 2010, 2011, 2012,
2013, 2015, 2016
Best male parent dancer, Vikhe Patil Memorial School Raslila Celebration, 2002

GRADUATE

Committee on Southern Asian Studies Fellowship, University of Chicago, 1998, 1999
Rocky Foundation Fellowship, 1996, 1997, 1998
Fulbright-Hays Doctoral Dissertation Research Grant, 1994–1995
Title VI Fellowship, U. S. Department of Education:
Hindi, Summer 1993
Persian, Summer 1991
Century Fellowship, University of Chicago, 1990–1995

ACADEMIC APPOINTMENTS

PRINCIPAL

Smith College

Instructor, 2000–2003; Assistant Professor, 2003–2008; Associate Professor, 2008–2014;
Professor, 2014–present; Sydenham Clark Parsons Chair, 2021–present

*Courses: Approaches to the Study of Religion; Buddhist Studies Gateway Course;
Introduction to Contemporary Hinduism; Introduction to World Religions; Morals vs.
Markets; Religion of the Marketplace: A Demystification; Religious History of South Asia
I: Ancient to Medieval; Religious History of South Asia II: Medieval to Modern; South
Asian Masculinities; South Asian Studies Gateway Course; South Asian Visual Culture;
Spiritual But Not Religious; The Meaning of Life; Violence and Non-Violence in South
Asia Religions; Violence, Nonviolence, Revolution; South Asia Capstone*

Special Studies: *Aging Women in India; Aural Religion; Buddhism, Dalits, and Conversion; Buddhist Narrative Literature; Changing Investing; Indian Buddhist History and Historiography; Insurance Challenges in India; Marketing the Marketplace; Multifaithism; Philosophy of Economics; Secularism in South Asia; Third World Feminisms; Trauma and Healing in South Asia; Women and the Taliban in Pakistan; Introductory Sanskrit II; Intermediate Sanskrit I; Intermediate Sanskrit II; Advanced Readings in Sanskrit;*

VISITING

Pune University (Pune, India)

Khyentse Foundation India Visiting Professor, Department of Pali, fall 2018

Course: *Buddhist Narrative Literature*

Banaras Hindu University (Varanasi, India)

Senior Research Scholar, History Department, spring 2014, spring 2015

Antioch University, Buddhist Studies in India Program (Bodh Gaya, India)

Lecturer, fall 1996

Courses: *History of Buddhist Meditation; South Asian Buddhist History; Intensive Introductory Hindi; Advanced Hindi; Supervised Research (Dalit Buddhist Literature; Hindu/Buddhist Pilgrimage Sites; Tibetan Medicine; Tibetan Purification Practices)*

PUBLICATIONS

BOOKS

Hungry Ghosts. Somerville: Wisdom Publications, 2021.

Divine Stories: Translations from the Divyāvadāna, part 2. Classics of Indian Buddhism Series. Boston: Wisdom Publications, 2017.

Amar Akbar Anthony: Bollywood, Brotherhood, and the Nation. Co-written with William Elison and Christian Novetzke. Cambridge: Harvard University Press, 2015.

SELECT INTERVIEWS

- Abidi, Shahkar. “[AAA’s Message: We Can’t Build a Modern India Until We Move Out of Communally Bounded Spaces.](#)” *Daily News and Analysis*, April 24, 2016.
- Sharma, Sudhirendra. “[The Original Champions of Secularism.](#)” *The Hindu–Business Line*, March 18, 2016.
- Fernandez, Fiona. “[Why did three scholars from the US write a book on Amar Akbar Anthony?](#)” *Mid-Day*, February 19, 2016.
- Nandgaonkar, Satish. “[Straight As for Secularism.](#)” *The Hindu*, February 6, 2016.

SELECT REVIEWS

- Bachchan, Amitabh. [Twitter Post](#). April 18, 2017, 11:29 AM
- Hardy, Kathryn. [Review](#). *Journal of Religion and Film* (2017) 21/1, article 29.

- Vallely, Anne. [Review](#). *Reading Religion: A Publication of the American Academy of Religion*. September 29, 2016.
- Venkiteswaran, C.S. “[Deconstructing a Potboiler](#).” *Frontline*, September 16, 2016.
- Singh, Jai Arjun. “[The Awesome Threesome](#).” *The Hindu*, March 11, 2016.
- Bhaumik, Kaushik. “[An Insightful Reading of Our Many Indian Identities](#).” *The Wire*, March 12, 2016.

Thus Have I Seen: Visualizing Faith in Early Indian Buddhism. New York: Oxford University Press, 2009.

Divine Stories: Translations from the Divyāvadāna, part 1. Classics of Indian Buddhism Series, inaugural volume. Boston: Wisdom Publications, 2008.

EDITED VOLUMES

Institute for Culture and Consciousness: Occasional Papers 1. Edited with Susanne H. Rudolph and Leela Fernandez. Committee on Southern Asian Studies, University of Chicago, 1993.

ARTICLES

“Bargaining Justice: Negotiating Law in an Indian Bazaar.” *Seattle University Law Review*, forthcoming.

“[Unravelling the Encoded Cultural Messages of a Much Loved Entertainer](#).” Co-written with William Elison and Christian Novetzke. *The Wire*, January 13, 2016.

“In Varanasi We Trust.” In *The City and South Asia*, 53–55. Cambridge: Harvard South Asia Institute, 2014.

“[White African Masks: Representing Africa in a Johannesburg Hotel](#).” Co-written with April Strickland. *Material World*, October 2007.

“The Erotics of Practice: Objects and Agency in Buddhist Avadāna Literature.” *Journal of the American Academy of Religion* 71.3 (2003): 555–578.

“The Midnight Buffet.” Co-written with Elizabeth Pérez. *Public Culture* 13.2 (2001): 329–332.

BOOK CHAPTERS

“Are We All Merchants? Buddhists, Merchants, and Mercantilism in Early India.” In *Jewels, Jewelry, and Other Shiny Things in the Buddhist Imaginary*, edited by Vanessa Sasson, 86–111. University of Hawai’i Press, 2021.

“Brandism vs. Bazaarism: Mediating Divinity in Banaras.” In *Rethinking Markets in Modern India: Embedded Exchange and Contested Jurisdiction*, edited by Ajay Gandhi, Barbara Harriss-White, Douglas E. Haynes, and Sebastian Schwecke, 234–268. Cambridge University Press, 2020.

“Buddhism and Hospitality: Expecting the Unexpected and Acting Virtuously.” In *Hosting the Stranger: Between Religions*, edited by Richard Kearney and James Taylor, 115–122. New York: Continuum, 2011.

“[Baba’s Got a Brand New Bag: Indian Jute Bags and Exotic Others.](#)” In *5 Year Plan: Literary Supplement*, edited by Aaron Sinift, 31–55. Jaipur: Krishna Printers, 2010.

“Marketing Morality: The Economy of Faith in Early Indian Buddhism.” In *Śrīnidhiḥ: Professor Shrikant Shankar Bahulkar’s Gratitude Volume*, edited by Shripad G. Bhat, Shilpa Sumant, and Ambarish Vasant Khare, 253–290. Pune: Samvidyā Institute of Cultural Studies, 2009.

“The Power of Proximity: Creating and Venerating Shrines in Indian Buddhist Narratives.” In *Buddhist Stūpas in South Asia: Recent Archaeological, Art-Historical, and Historical Perspectives*, edited by Jason Hawkes and Akira Shimada, 51–62. Delhi: Oxford University Press, 2009.

TRANSLATIONS

“The Story of One Who Relishes the Dharma.” In *The Longman Anthology of World Literature: Volume B, The Medieval World*, edited by David Damrosch et al., 16–19. New York: Longman Publishers, 2004.

INTERVIEWS

“[Bringing Hungry Ghosts Out of Hiding.](#)” In conversation with Julia Hirsch. *Tricycle: The Buddhist Review*. Summer 2021.

ESSAYS

“Know Your Audience.” In Lucy Gent Foma, *Funded! How I Leveraged My Passion to Live a Fulfilling Life and How You Can Too!*, 140–143. New York: Morgan James Publishing, 2016.

PODCASTS

“[Spiritual But Not Religious.](#)” *Rebel Spirit Radio*, episode 7. August 5, 2021. Also available with video on [YouTube](#).

“[The Hungry Ghosts Among Us.](#)” With James Shaheen. *Tricycle: The Buddhist Review*. July 14, 2021.

“[Amar Akbar Anthony: Bollywood, Brotherhood, and the Nation.](#)” With Kristian Petersen, William Elison, and Christian Novetzke. *New Books in Religion*. Podcast audio, June 20, 2017.

“[The Divine Stories of Early Buddhism.](#)” With Daniel Aitken. *The Wisdom Podcast*. April 10, 2017.

BOOK REVIEWS

Review of Michael S. Dodson, ed. *Banaras: Urban Forms and Cultural Histories* (New Delhi: Routledge, 2012) in *Religious Studies Review* 39.3 (2013): 192.

Review of Timothy Lenz, *Gandhāran Avadānas: British Library Kharoṣṭhī Fragments 1–3 and 21 and Supplementary Fragments A–C* (Gandhāran Buddhist Text Series, vol. 6. Seattle and London: University of Washington Press, 2010) for *Religious Studies Review* 37.2 (2011): 153.

Review of Jonathan Silk, *Incest and Schism in Indian Buddhist Legend and Historiography* (Honolulu: University of Hawai'i Press, 2008) in *Indo-Iranian Journal* 54.1 (2011): 46–48.

[Review](#) of Timothy Lenz, *A New Version of the Gāndhārī Dharmapada and a Collection of Previous-Birth Stories: British Library Kharoṣṭhī Fragments 16 + 25* (Contributions by Andrew Glass and Bhikshu Dharmamitra. Gandhāran Buddhist Texts Series, vol. 3. Seattle and London: University of Washington Press, 2003) in *H-Buddhist Discussion Network*, May 2006.

Review of Ratna Handurukande, *Three Sanskrit Texts on Caitya Worship: In Relation to the Ahorātravrata* (Tokyo: International Institute for Buddhist Studies of The International College for Advanced Buddhist Studies, 2000) in *Religious Studies Review* 29.1 (2003): 113–114.

Review of Sunil Gupta, *An Economy of Signs: Contemporary Indian Photographs* (London and Boston: Rivers Oram Press, 1990) in *Chicago South Asia Newsletter*, spring/summer 2002.

WORKS IN PROGRESS

BOOKS

Bazaar Religion: Marketing and Moral Economics in Modern India.

Saving the World through Commerce? Buddhists, Merchants, and Mercantilism in Early India.

EXHIBITIONS

“Rotman Collection of Vintage Stereographs of India.” Contains ninety-nine 19th-century stereographic photographs available [online](#) in both two-dimensional and three-dimensional form.

See too [“Tales of the Third Dimension: Bringing 19th-Century India into Wondrous Focus.”](#) *Smith College: Insight*, April 15, 2013.

“Baba’s Got a Brand New Bag: Jute Shopping Bags from North India.” Exhibited at Foster Hall, University of Chicago, January–March 2005.

PRESENTATIONS

“Bargaining Justice: Negotiating Law in an Indian Bazaar.” Berle XII Symposium: Corporate Capitalism and the City of God, Seattle University Law School, May 2021.

“Life Lessons from Hungry Ghosts: An Ethical Reading of Buddhist Stories and Images.” Smith College, Reunion Lecture, May 2021.

“Hungry Ghosts.” Sant Jordi in New York Literature Festival, April 2021.

“Life Lessons from Hungry Ghosts: An Ethical Reading of Buddhist Narratives.” Barre Center for Buddhist Studies, Online Course, November 2020.

“Why Study Buddhist Stories?” Roundtable with Naomi Appleton and Reiko Ohnuma. University of Edinburgh, September 2020.

“Brandism, Bazaarism, and the Politics of Divinity in Banaras.” Carlos Museum, Emory University, March 2020.

“Ravi Varma and the Politics of Transcendence.” Gallery Talk at “Transcendent Deities of India.” Carlos Museum, Emory University, February 2020.

“*Amar Akbar Anthony* and its Legacy.” Panel Discussion, with William Elison and Christian Novetzke. University of California at Davis, May 2019.

“In the Realm of Hungry Ghosts.” Faculty and Graduate Student Seminar, Cornell University, November 2018.

“Branding Gods? Mediating Divinity in Banaras.” South Asia Program Seminar, Cornell University, November 2018.

“Life Lessons from the Hungry Ghost Realm.” *Buddhism, Thought, and Civilization: A Memorial Symposium for Steven Collins*. University of Chicago, November 2018.

“Making Sense of One’s Self in Buddhist Narrative Literature.” *Ātmā and Anātmā in Indian Philosophy: A Thematic Lecture Series*. Pune University, October 2018.

“Teaching Buddhism in the Monastery and University: Lessons from the Vinaya.” Dzongsar Khyentse Chökyi Lodrö College of Dialectics, Chauntra, India, October 2018.

“Jazz Ballads and Hindustani Thumri.” Deer Park Institute, Bir, India, October 2018.

“*Amar Akbar Anthony* and Models of Masculinity.” Deer Park Institute, Bir, India, October 2018.

“Ethnography in Pune.” Contemporary India, IFSA Study Abroad Program, Pune, India, October 2018.

“The Malignancy of Meanness (*mātsarya*).” Michael Hahn Memorial Lecture. Department of Pali, Pune University, October 2018.

“[Making Sense of Amar Akbar Anthony](#).” Panel Discussion, with William Elison and Christian Novetzke. University of California at Santa Barbara, May 2018.

“Social Cohesion and the Struggles of Modernity: Lessons from an Indian Bazaar.” Keynote address. *Religion, Social Conflict, and Social Cohesion*. Union College, November 2017.

“Who Moved My Cheez: Brandism, Bazaarism, and the Future of Indian Markets.” Annual Conference on South Asia at the University of Wisconsin–Madison, October 2017.

“Rebirth Narratives and the Odd Logic of Transformation.” *Where the Buddha was Previously Born, Seen, and Heard: Transmission and Transformation of Rebirth Narratives in Art and Text within and beyond Gandhara*. Royal Ontario Museum, Toronto, August 2017.

“Hungry Ghostbusters: Lessons on Ethics in the *Avadānaśataka*.” International Association of Buddhist Studies Conference, Toronto, Canada, July 2017.

Narrative and Philosophy in Buddhism. Chair. Annual Meeting of the American Academy of Religion, San Antonio, TX, November 2016.

The Textures of Buddhaghosa’s Writing and the Contours of His Thought: A Workshop on Reading Practices. Amherst College, September 2016.

“Suffering as Practice, Suffering as Path.” *Dunhuang Sutra Transmission and Translation*. Dunhuang, China, June 2016.

“An Introduction to the Exhibition: *Dislocation/Negotiating Identity: Contemporary Photographs from South and Southeast Asia*.” Lecture for Smith Alumnae, Reunion Weekend, Smith College Museum of Art, May 2016

“Affect and the Creation of the New Indian Consumer.” *Affective Turn in Religious Studies: A Conversation*. Amherst College, April 2016.

“The Gospel of Oprah: Confessions of an Academic Consultant for Oprah Winfrey’s TV Series *Belief*.” Liberal Arts Luncheon, Smith College, March 2016.

“In Praise of a Fool: Reflections on the Spiritual Path in the *Divyāvadāna*.” *International Seminar on Buddhist Narratives: In Loving Memory of the Late Professor Michael Hahn*. Department of Pali, Pune University, February 2016.

Panel conversation with Jay Garfield about his book, *Engaging Buddhism: Why it Matters to Philosophy*. Smith College, Lewis Global Studies Center, February 2016.

“Are We All Merchants? Buddhism, Mercantilism, and Moral Economics in Early India.” Bard College, November 2015.

“*Amar Akbar Anthony* Revisited: Amar and the Righteous Mother.” Annual Conference on South Asia at the University of Wisconsin–Madison, October 2015.

“Life and Ritual in Banaras.” The City, The River, The Sacred: Alliance for Global Education Study Abroad Program, Banaras, India, April 2015.

“Public Culture in Banaras.” Princeton University, Bridge Year in India Program, Banaras, India, March 2015.

“*Amar Akbar Anthony* and the Politics of Secularism.” University of Wisconsin College Year in India Program, Banaras, India, March 2015.

“Ethnography in Banaras.” University of Wisconsin College Year in India Program, Banaras, India, March 2015.

“Introducing the *Dīvyāvādāna*.” Five College Buddhist Studies Faculty Seminar, Smith College, December 2014.

“Markets and Morality: An Update from Banaras.” Religion Department, Smith College, December 2014.

“Narendra Modi—A Unifying Factor in South Asia.” Panelist. Smith College, November 2014.

“Well-being in Banaras.” Where There Be Dragons Program, Banaras, India, April 2014.

“Ethnography in Banaras.” The City, The River, The Sacred: Alliance for Global Education Study Abroad Program, Banaras, India, March 2014.

“Bazaar Religion.” South and Central Asia Fulbright Conference, Chennai, India, March 2014.

“Logic, Practice, and Ritual in Banaras.” Princeton University, Bridge Year in India Program, Banaras, India, February 2014.

“Inspector Amar and the Making of Masculinity: Muscular Hinduism and the Construction of the New Indian Family.” University of Vermont, April 2013.

Violence Against Women and Political Change in South Asia: Debating the Delhi Rape Case. Moderator. Smith College, February 2013.

Buddhism and Psychotherapy: Methodological and Critical Analyses. Chair. Annual Meeting of the American Academy of Religion, Chicago, IL, November 2012.

“The Place of Literature in Teaching South Asia.” Smith College, Comparative Literature Department, October 2012.

“Reading the *Rūpāvatī Avadāna*.” Bard College, May 2012.

“Bollywood in the 1970s: Masculinity, Politics, and the Nation.” Brandeis University, October 2011.

“Politics and Protest in Contemporary Indian Film.” Princeton University, Bridge Year in India Program, Banaras, India, March 2011.

“Ethnography in Pune.” Contemporary India: Development, Environment, Public Health, Alliance for Global Education Study Abroad Program, Pune, India, January 2011.

“The Making of a New Masculinity in a Landmark Indian Film: *Amar Akbar Anthony* and the Politics of Muscular Hinduism.” Liberal Arts Luncheon, Smith College, December 2010.

“Saving the World through Commerce? Buddhists, Merchants, and Mercantilism in Early India.” University of Chicago, December 2010. Also delivered at University of Washington–Seattle, December 2010.

“[Liberation through Images: Seeing the Buddha in Indian Art and Architecture](#).” Boston College, in conjunction with the McMullen Museum of Art, April 2010. Also presented to the Smith Alumnae Association, Rubin Museum, New York, April 2010.

“Banaras as Anthropological Subject.” University of Wisconsin College Year in India Program, Banaras, India, March 2010.

“Well-being in Banaras.” Where There Be Dragons Program, Banaras, India, February 2010.

“Rites and Rituals in Banaras.” Princeton University, Bridge Year in India Program, Banaras, India, February 2010.

“Ethnography in Pune.” Contemporary India: Development, Environment, Public Health, Alliance for Global Education Study Abroad Program, Pune, India, January 2010.

“Brandscendence in the Bazaar: Jute Bags and the Making of the Indian Consumer.” Annual Meeting of the American Academy of Religion, Montreal, Canada, November 2009.

“Are We All Merchants? Buddhism, Merchants, and Mercantilism in Early India.” Five College Inter-Asia Political Cultures Faculty Seminar, Smith College, October 2009.

“Branding the Consumer in Contemporary North India.” Holy Cross College, October 2009.

“Samsara and Soteriology and Hinduism, Buddhism, and Jainism.” Deerfield Academy, October 2009.

“Saving the World through Commerce: Buddhism, Merchants, and Mercantilism in the Early Centuries of the Common Era.” University of California at Berkeley, October 2009.

“Buddhist Economics in Early India.” Professor P. V. Bapat Memorial Lecture. Bhandarkar Institute, Pune University, July 2009.

“Branding and the Bazaar.” Contemporary India: Development, Environment, Public Health, Alliance for Global Education Study Abroad Program, Pune, India, July 2009.

“Buddhism and Hospitality: Expecting the Unexpected and Acting Virtuously.” *Inter-religious Hospitality in Five Wisdom Traditions*. Boston College, March 2009.

“Marketing Morality: The Economy of Faith in Early Indian Buddhism.” Stanford University, February 2009.

“The Logic of Banaras and the Practice of Ethnography.” University of Wisconsin College Year in India Program, Banaras, India, January 2009.

“Image and Identity in the North Indian Bazaar.” Union College, September 2008.

“Marketing Morality: The Economy of Faith in Early Indian Buddhism.” Panel Organizer. International Association of Buddhist Studies Conference, Atlanta, GA, June 2008.

“Recyclable Images: Affect, Imagination, and North Indian Jute Bags.” Annual Conference on South Asia at the University of Wisconsin–Madison, October 2007.

Making Buddhist Worlds. Panel Respondent. Annual Conference on South Asia at the University of Wisconsin–Madison, October 2007.

“Commodity Image, Consumerism, and the Changing Politics of Affect in Contemporary North India.” Holy Cross College, September 2007.

“Bhutanese Buddhism in Theory and Practice.” A series of four lectures for Smith Travel delivered in Bhutan, May 2007.

“Market Moralities and Moral Economies in Early Indian Buddhism.” University of Pennsylvania, February 2007.

“Negotiating Place and Space in a Banaras Neighborhood.” University of Wisconsin College Year in India Program, Banaras, India, January 2007.

“*Main hoon Inspector Amar*: Big Brother is a Hindu with a Gun.” In a panel entitled *Amar Akbar Anthony: Community, Nation, and Urban Cosmopolitanism in a Landmark Hindi Film*. Annual Conference on South Asia at the University of Wisconsin–Madison, October 2006.

“Baba’s Got a Brand New Bag: Image, Affect, and Indian Jute Bags.” Liberal Arts Luncheon, Smith College, September 2005.

“Baba’s Got a Brand New Bag: The Visual Economy of Indian Jute Bags.” Panel Organizer. Annual Conference on South Asia at the University of Wisconsin–Madison, October 2004.

“Religious Life in the Indian Public Sphere.” Public lecture in Datia, India, January 2004.

“Ethnographic Research Methods.” University of Wisconsin College Year in India Program, Banaras, India, December 2003.

“Visibly Moved: Faith and Arousal in Buddhist Sanskrit Narratives.” Panel Organizer. Annual Conference on South Asia at the University of Wisconsin–Madison, October 2003.

“Duty and Dharma in the *Bhagavad Gītā*.” University of Wisconsin–Madison, October 2003.

“The Power of Proximity: Creating and Venerating Shrines in Indian Buddhist Narratives.” *Sufis, Shrines, and South Asia: South Asia Forum in Honor of Simon Digby*. University of Pennsylvania, October 2003.

“Seeing, Faith, and Giving: Issues of Mechanics and Agency.” Five College Buddhist Studies Faculty Seminar, Smith College, September 2003.

“The Erotics of Practice: Objects, Agency, and Ethics.” Harvard University, February 2002.

“Love and Violence among Khalistani Sikhs.” Panel Discussant on just war theory. Smith College, November 2001.

“*Prasāda*, Practice, and Agency: Thoughts on an Object-Oriented Ethics.” Association of Asian Studies Conference, Chicago, IL, March 2001.

“The Buddha and the Money Shot.” Annual Meeting of the American Academy of Religion, Nashville, TN, November 2000.

“Confidence in Uncertainties: Belief and Community in Avadāna Literature.” Annual Meeting of the American Academy of Religion, Boston, MA, November 1999.

“Low Interest, High Yield: Some Thoughts on Giving and Exchange in the *Divyāvadāna*.” International Association of Buddhist Studies Conference, Lausanne, Switzerland, August 1999.

“Seeing, *śraddhā*, and Giving: Cultivating Belief in *karma* and *dakṣiṇā*.” Buddhist Studies Workshop, University of Chicago, May 1999.

“Early Buddhist Narratives: Stories about Telling Stories.” Central Institute of Higher Tibetan Studies, Sarnath, India, June 1998.

“Buddhism and Mercantilism in the Kuṣāṇa Period.” Central Institute of Higher Tibetan Studies, Sarnath, India, April 1997.

“Preliminary Research on the *Divyāvadāna*.” Tilak Maharashtra Vidyapeeth, Pune, India, February 1995.

“Mūlasarvāstivādin Cultural Imagination in Northwest India.” Buddhist Studies Workshop, University of Chicago, October 1994.

“A Prolegomenon to Reading the *Buddhavaṃsa*.” South Asian Studies Workshop, University of Chicago, May 1993.

“Darius’s ‘New Introduction’ at Behistun.” Religion and Social Theory Workshop, University of Chicago, May 1993.

“Tales about Tales about Time.” *Temporality in Buddhism Conference*. University of Chicago, January 1992.

OTHER PROFESSIONAL ACTIVITIES

FILM COLLABORATIONS

Rabindra Goswami: A Life of Music. Directed by Kevin Anderson. Northampton, MA, 2016.

“Too Young: Snake Charming Children.” *Taboo*, season 10. National Geographic, 2012.

In Search of the Bene Israel. Directed by Sadia Shepard. New York, NY, 2008

Shiva in the City. Directed by April Strickland. New York, NY, 2005.

India: Caste is a Word. Directed by Karl Knapp. Northampton, MA, 2004.

Teaching for Today—and Tomorrow: Faculty and Students Talk about Learning at Smith. Filmed and produced by Searchlight Films, 2004.

Cricket and Bollywood. Directed by Adam Chasen. Amherst, MA, 2003.

MANUSCRIPT REVIEWS

American Academy of Religion, Religion in Translation Series

Archives of Asian Art

Asian Journal of Social Science

City and Society

Critical Review for Buddhist Studies

History of Religions

International Journal of Hindu Studies

Journal of Ethnobiology

Journal of Hindu Studies
Journal of Religion
Korea Journal of Buddhist Studies
Metamorphoses
Pakistan Journal of Historical Studies

ANB Publishers
Bloomsbury
Central University of Tibetan Studies Press
Equinox
Harvard University Press
New York University Press
Oneworld Publications
Oxford Bibliographies
Oxford University Press
Princeton University Press
University of California Press
University of Hawai'i Press
University of Washington Press
Westview Press
Wisdom Publications

BOOK BLURBS

Wendy Garling, *The Woman Who Raised the Buddha: The Extraordinary Life of Mahaprajapati*. Boulder: Shambhala Publications, 2021.

Vanessa Sasson, *Yasodhara: A Novel about the Buddha's Wife*. Bloomsbury Publishing, 2021.

Jamal Elias, *Alef is for Allah: Childhood, Emotion, and Visual Culture in Islamic Societies*. Oakland: University of California Press, 2018.

Catherine Cornille and Glenn Willis, *The World Market and Interreligious Dialogue*. Eugene: Cascade Books, 2011.

Jamal Elias, *On Wings of Diesel: Trucks, Identity and Culture in Pakistan*. Oxford: Oneworld Publications, 2011.

Johannes Bronkhorst, *Buddhist Teaching in India*. Studies in Indian and Tibetan Buddhism. Boston: Wisdom Publications, 2009.

EDITORIAL WORK

Editor, *Religions*, 2020–present

Chief Editor (founding), [Classics of Indian Buddhism](#), Wisdom Publications, 2007–present
The series publishes accessible translations, primarily from Sanskrit, of important texts from the Buddhist traditions of South Asia.

CONFERENCES

Organizer, *Madhyamaka and Methodology: A Symposium on Buddhist Theory and Method*, April 2010

Twenty-one Buddhologists from America and Europe gathered together for three days at Smith College to discuss the interpretation of Buddhist Madhyamaka texts. The symposium was filmed and is available [online](#).

STUDY ABROAD

I am the founding board member for the Alliance for Global Education's (now IFSA/Alliance's) study abroad programs in India (2007–present). Our first program, *Contemporary India: Development, Environment, Public Health*, is located in Pune and began in 2009. Our second program, *Public Health and Indian Studies*, is located in Manipal and began in 2011. Our third program, *Banaras: The City, The River, The Sacred*, began in 2012. I am a special advisor to the program and very involved in on-site planning. I have also assisted other study abroad programs in Banaras: *Princeton University's Bridge Year in India Program*, *Where There Be Dragons Program*, and the *University of Wisconsin's College Year in India Program*, for which I sat on the Faculty Advisory Committee. In addition, I was a board member for the *South India Term Abroad Program* (SITA) from 2007 to 2009.

MUSIC PRODUCTION

Music Programmer, Amherst Coffee, Greenfield Coffee, Northampton Coffee, Barrington Coffee–Fort Point, Barrington Coffee–Boston, 2003–2020

I selected all the recorded music that was played at these shops. Playlists emphasized jazz but also included Indian classical music, dub, blues, and soul.

Organizer and Producer, *Spirit of Banaras Music Tour*, 2001, 2005, 2008, 2011, 2014, 2017

I have arranged extended tours throughout the United States for sitarist Rabindra Goswami and tabla player Ramchandra Pandit, renowned Hindustani Classical musicians and educators from Banaras. I have produced numerous recordings of these and other musicians, including *Banaras Soul Music, volume 1* (2005); *Banaras Soul Music, volume 2* (2006); *Live in New York: Pt. Rabindra N. Goswami and Shri A. Ramchandra Pandit* (2008); *Nishā Dhyāna* (2008); *Live at Wellesley College* (2010); *Live at Bay Path College* (2011); *Live at Bay Path College* (2014); and *Christian Ragas* (2017).

Jazz Director, WKCR-FM NY, 1986–1987

Select interviews:

Don Cherry, [part 1](#) and [part 2](#), June 1987

Milford Graves (with Mitch Goldman), [part 1](#) and [part 2](#), July 1987

Archie Shepp (with Mitch Goldman), [complete](#), July 1987

Henry Threadgill, *WKCR Program Guide 5.2* (October 1988): 3–9.

OTHER PROFESSIONAL SERVICE (SELECT)

American Council of Learned Societies Frederick Burkhardt Residential Fellowship Selection Committee, 2020

National Endowment for the Humanities Scholarly Edition and Scholarly Translations Selection Committee, 2020

External Reviewer, Religion Program, Bard College, 2013
Planning Committee Member, Lavasa School of Classical Studies, 2011
Steering Committee Member, Religions in South Asia Section, American Academy of Religion, 2010–2012
Planning Committee Member, 15th International Association of Buddhist Studies Conference, 2007–2009
Wedding Officiant, 2006, 2009, 2011, 2015
Outside Dissertation Reader
 Shanti Pillai, Performance Studies, New York University, 2005
 Robert Chang, Anthropology Department, New York University, 2013
 Jon Rosen, Philosophy Department, University of Massachusetts-Amherst, 2017
Tenure and Promotion Reviewer, 2005, 2012, 2013, 2015 (2), 2016, 2017 (2), 2018 (2), 2019 (2), 2020, 2021 (4)
Judge, Seventh Annual Asian American Literary Awards (Fiction), 2004
Assistant Treasurer, Kuroda Institute, 2002–2015

PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS

American Academy of Religion
American Society for the Study of Religion
Association of Asian Studies
International Association of Buddhist Studies
The Asian American Writers' Workshop

CONSULTING

Advisor, Minneapolis Institute of Art, 2017, 2019
Advisor, The American Women's College, Bay Path University, 2015
Advisor, *The Story of God*, a series produced by National Geographic, 2015
Chief Academic Advisor, *Belief*, a seven-episode series, produced by Part 2 Pictures for the Oprah Winfrey Network, 2013–2015
Advisor, House of Bliss, 2010–present
Advisor, *5 Year Plan*, 2009–present
Advisor, A Fine Café, Inc., 2008–present

SERVICE

SELECT DEPARTMENTAL SERVICE

Chair, Religion Department, 2020–present
Member, Curriculum Committee, 2003–2005, 2007–2009, 2011–2019
Member, Senior Theses Committees: chaired, 2; reader 9; 2003–present
Frequent guest lecturer in REL 105 and REL 200, 2003–present
Praxis advisor, approximately 35 students, 2003–present

SELECT PROGRAM SERVICE

[Buddhist Studies](#)

Director, 2018–present
Guest lecturer in BUX 120, 2012–present

Advisory Board Member, Teacher, and Academic Advisor, 2011–present

[Global Financial Institutions Concentration](#)

Advisory Board Member, 2012–present

[South Asian Studies](#)

Director, 2015–2020

Co-director, 2012–2013

Facilitated the creation of the [S. Mona Ghosh Sinha Prize](#), 2013

Guest lecturer in SAX 120, 2012–2018

Advisory Board Member, Teacher, and Academic Advisor, 2011–present

SELECT COLLEGE SERVICE

Smith Reads

Selection Committee, 2019–present

Discussion leader for faculty, 2016, 2020

Discussion leader for students, 2016, 2018–present

Director, Ada Howe Kent Program, 2014–present

Participant, Kahn Institute Short-Term Research Projects:

Curriculum: Protest and Process, April 2021

Robed Warriors, 2016–2017

Reinventing Eurasian Identities: Ghengis Khan Revisited, March 2009

The Meaning of Matter: Materiality and its Representations, June 2007

Pierre Bourdieu in Algeria, February 2007

Who Is Buddha? Understanding Buddhahood Past and Present, June 2003

Member, Kahn Institute Advisory Committee, 2007–2010

Tour Leader for Smith Travel, *Bhutan: Inside the Dragon Kingdom*, May 2007

Contributor, “For Classroom Use Also: Video in the Libraries,” *New from the Libraries*, fall 2005

Speaker, “The Value of a Liberal Arts Education,” Summer Preview, 2005

Reader, American Studies Masters Thesis, 2005

Co-organizer, Reading the News Weekly Study Group, 2005

Curator, Buddhist Studies reference section for the library, 2005–2006

Curator, Indian film catalogue for the library, 2004–present

Admissions Reviewer, Smith College, 2004

Participant, Kahn Institute Long-Term Research Project:

TransBuddhism: Transmission, Translation, Transformation, 2003–2004

Fulbright IIE Fellowship Mentor, Smith College, 2003–present

Faculty Advisor, EKTA (South Asian Students Organization), 2002–present

Faculty Advisor, International Students Organization, 2002–present

SELECT FIVE COLLEGE SERVICE

Member, Five College Inter-Asian Political Cultures Group, 2012–present

Co-director, Five College Religion Faculty Seminar, 2010–2013, 2016–present

Director, [Five College Buddhist Studies Faculty Seminar](#), 2008–present

[Five College Tibetan Studies in India Program](#)

Member of Selection Committee, 2002–2008, 2012–present

Co-director, 2002, 2012

LANGUAGES

Hindi: Very good reading, writing, and speaking ability

Sanskrit: Very good reading knowledge

Pali: Very good reading knowledge

Spanish: Very good reading knowledge, fair writing and speaking ability

French: Very good reading knowledge

Urdu: Good reading, writing, and speaking ability

Tibetan: Good reading knowledge

Medieval Hindi dialects: Good reading knowledge

Persian: Good reading knowledge