

James Mark Shields



**Comparative Humanities
& Asian Thought
Bucknell University**

James Mark Shields is a historian and philosopher of Buddhist political thought whose work investigates the historical relationships between Buddhism and movements for social, political, and environmental transformation. Combining intellectual history, comparative philosophy, religious studies, and digital humanities, his scholarship seeks to recover neglected radical traditions while exploring their continuing significance for contemporary debates concerning democracy, capitalism, ecology, labor, and collective liberation.

At its heart, his research asks a simple question: *how have Buddhists understood, contested, justified, or transformed relations of power—and what might those histories still teach us today?*

ACADEMIC APPOINTMENTS

Bucknell University

2017–	Professor of Comparative Humanities & Asian Thought
2013–2017	Associate Professor of Comparative Humanities & Asian Thought
2010–2013	Assistant Professor of Comparative Humanities & Asian Thought
2007–2010	Assistant Professor of East Asian Religions

ACADEMIC LEADERSHIP

2026–	Faculty Fellow, Bucknell Ecology Center
2025–2026	Faculty Director, Bucknell Center for Sustainability & the Environment
2024–2025	Chair, Department of Women's and Gender Studies
2022–	Director, Comparative & Digital Humanities Program
2021	Faculty Fellow, Bucknell Teaching and Learning Center
2016–2019	Inaugural Director, Bucknell Humanities Center
2016–2020	Director, Comparative & Digital Humanities Program

RESEARCH AFFILIATIONS

2011–	Research Collaborator, International Research Center for Japanese Studies, Kyoto
2010–	Associate-in-Research, Reischauer Institute for Japanese Studies, Harvard University

EDUCATION

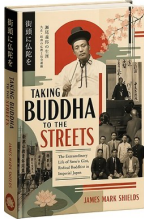
Ph.D., Religious Studies
McGill University

M.Phil., Social & Political Theory
University of Cambridge

B.A., Anthropology & Political Science
McGill University

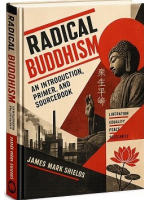
SCHOLARSHIP

CURRENT BOOK PROJECTS



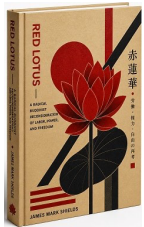
Taking Buddha to the Streets

The first scholarly biography of Seno'o Girō (1889–1961), examining the emergence of Buddhist socialism, anarchism, and anti-imperialism in modern Japan. Status: under contract with Columbia University Press, for publication in 2027.



Radical Buddhism

An introduction, primer, and sourcebook recovering radical Buddhist traditions across Asia from the early canon to contemporary engaged Buddhism. Status: advanced contract with SUNY Press; manuscript under review.



Red Lotus

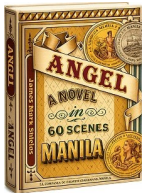
A theoretical work bringing Buddhist philosophy into sustained dialogue with Marxism, anarchism, environmental humanities, and contemporary critical theory. Status: draft manuscript nearing completion.

PUBLIC & CREATIVE SCHOLARSHIP



Radical Buddhism Project

An international digital research initiative dedicated to recovering, translating, and interpreting radical Buddhist traditions through collaborative scholarship, open-access publishing, and public engagement. Status: launched July 2026, ongoing.

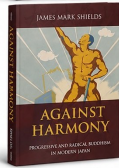


Angel: A Novel in 60 Scenes

A research-based historical novel tracing a Filipino mestizo family across seven generations (1782–1945), integrating archival, genealogical, and historical research into a work of literary public history. Status: in progress.

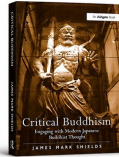
BOOKS

MONOGRAPHS



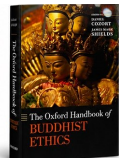
Against Harmony: Progressive and Radical Buddhism in Modern Japan (Oxford University Press, 2017)

Russian translation: *Гармонии вопреки: Прогрессивный и радикальный буддизм в Японии эпохи модерна* (Academic Studies Press, 2026)



Critical Buddhism: Engaging with Modern Japanese Thought (Ashgate Publishing, 2011)

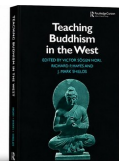
EDITED VOLUMES



The Oxford Handbook of Buddhist Ethics, co-edited with Dan Cozort (Oxford University Press, 2018)



Buddhist Responses to Globalization, co-edited with Leah Kalmanson (Lexington Books, 2014)



Teaching Buddhism in the West: From the Wheel to the Web, co-edited with Victor Sogen Hori and Richard P. Hayes (RoutledgeCurzon, 2003)

PEER-REVIEWED JOURNAL ARTICLES

“Right Livelihood in an Age of Bullshit Jobs.” *Journal of Buddhist Ethics* 33 (2026): 43–85.

“Creative Nothingness: Dada as Art, Politics and Religion in Interwar Japan.” *Anarchism*, a special issue of *Modernism/Modernity* 27, 3: 447–466, 2020.

“Osvození jako revoluční praxe: opětovné promyšlení buddhistického materialismu.” *Kontradikce: Časopis pro kritické myšlení / Contradictions: A Journal for Critical Thought* 3, 2: 37–61. [Czech translation by Max Ščur of “A Blueprint for Buddhist Revolution”]

“After the Fall; Tsuji Zennosuke and the Creation of Bukkyōshugi kokushi.” *Journal of Religion in Japan* 7, 2 (2018): 145–165.

“Future Perfect: Tolstoy and the Structures of Agrarian Buddhist Utopianism in Taishō Japan.”

Engaging Violence: Case Studies from the Japanese Religious Traditions, a special issue of *Religions* 9, 161 (2018): 1–12.

“Immanent Frames: Meiji New Buddhism and the ‘Religious Secular’.” *Japan Review: Journal of the International Research Center for Japanese Studies* 30 (2017): 79–96.

“Peasant Revolts as Anti-authoritarian Archetypes for Radical Buddhism in Modern Japan.”

Journal of Religion in Japan 5, 1 (2016): 3–21.

“Introduction” to *Against Harmony: Radical Buddhism in Thought and Practice*, co-authored with Patrice Ladwig. A special issue of *Politics, Religion & Ideology* 15, 2 (2014): 187–204.

“Zen and the Art of Treason: Radical Buddhism in Meiji Era (1868–1912) Japan.” *Against Harmony:*

Radical Buddhism in Thought and Practice, a special issue of *Politics, Religion & Ideology* 15, 2 (2014): 205–223.

“Revisioning a Japanese Spiritual Recovery Through Manga: Kobayashi Yoshinori’s ‘Gomanism’ as Aesthetics and Ideology.” *Japan Focus: The Asia-Pacific Journal* 11, 47/2 (2013).

“Liberation as Revolutionary Praxis: Rethinking Buddhism Materialism.” *Journal of Buddhist Ethics, Special 20th Anniversary Edition* (2013): 461–499.

“A Blueprint for Buddhist Revolution: The Radical Buddhism of Seno’o Girō (1889–1961) and the Youth League for Revitalizing Buddhism.” *Japanese Journal of Religious Studies* 39, 2 (2012): 333–351.

“Smashing the Mirror of Yamato: Sakaguchi Ango, Decadence and a Post-metaphysical Buddhist Critique of Culture.” *Japan Review: Journal of the International Research Center for Japanese Studies* 23 (2011): 225–246.

“Radical Buddhism, Then and Now: Prospects of a Paradox.” *Silvia Iaponicarum, Special Edition: Japan: Challenges in the 21st Century* 23–26 (2010): 15–34.

“Beyond Belief: Japanese Approaches to the Meaning of Religion.” *Studies in Religion / Sciences religieuses* 39, 2 (2010): 133–149.

“The Pursuit of Tangible Happiness: Religion and Politics in a Japanese New, New Religion.” *Culture and Politics* 6, *Special Edition on Religion and Politics* (2009): 45–64.

“The Art of Aidagara: Ethics, Aesthetics, and the Quest for an Ontology of Social Existence in Watsuji Tetsurō’s Rinrigaku.” *Asian Philosophy* 19, 3 (2009): 265–283.

“Marx and the Bible: José Miranda’s Critique of the Philosophy of Oppression.” *Journal of Religion & Society* 10 (2008): 1–19.

“The Social Principles of Jesus: A Critical Re-examination of Walter Rauschenbusch’s Social Gospel.” *Journal of Liberal Religion* 8, 1 (2008): 1–8.

“Faith and the Sublation of Modernity: Kierkegaard and the Transformation of Fideism.” *Philosophy, Culture, and Traditions* 4 (2007): 231–247.

“Parameters of Reform and Unification in Modern Japanese Buddhist Thought: Murakami Senshō and Critical Buddhism.” *The Eastern Buddhist* 37, 1–2 (2005): 106–134.

“Eros and Transgression in an Age of Immanence: Georges Bataille’s (Religious) Critique of Kinsey.” *Journal of Religion and Culture* 13 (1999): 175–186.

“Córdoban Discourses: A Drama of Interreligious Dialogue.” *ARC: The Journal of the Faculty of Religious Studies, McGill University* 27 (1999): 137–159.

BOOK CHAPTERS

“A Buddhist Critique of Harmony.” In *Considering, Questioning, and Reimagining Harmony: Multicultural, Multihistorical, and Multidisciplinary Reflections*, eds Karyn Lai, Rick Benitez, and Chenyang Li, 151–168. Bloomsbury Academic, 2025.

“Mahāyāna Mind-Bending: Buddhist Visions of Outer/Inner Worlds.” In *Religion and Outer Space*, eds Eric M. Mazur and Sarah M. Taylor, 34–53. Routledge, 2023.

“A Century of Critical Buddhism in Japan.” In *An Introduction to Buddhist East Asia*, eds Robert Scott and James McRae, 281–304. SUNY Press, 2023.

“Zen Internationalism, Zen Revolution: Inoue Shūten, Uchiyama Gudō and the Crisis of (Zen) Buddhist Modernity in Late Meiji Japan.” In *Approaches to Chan, Sōn and Zen Studies: Chinese Chan Buddhism and its Spread throughout East Asia*, eds Albert Welter, Steven Heine, and Jin Y. Park, 319–343. SUNY Press, 2022.

“From Post-Pantheism to Trans-materialism: D. T. Suzuki and New Buddhism.” In *Beyond Zen: D. T. Suzuki and the Modern Transformation of Buddhism*, eds John Breen, Fumihiko Sueki and Shōji Yamada, 15–32. University of Hawai‘i Press, 2022.

“Prolegomena to a Buddhist(ic) Critique of Capitalism.” In *Buddhism Under Capitalism*, eds Richard K. Payne and Fabio Rambelli, 197–214. Bloomsbury Academic, 2022.

“Buddhist Socialism in China, 1900–1930: A History and Appraisal.” In *Marxism, Religion, and Emancipatory Politics*, eds Graeme Kirkpatrick, Peter McMylor, and Simin Fadaee, 81–102. Palgrave Macmillan, 2022.

“Zen and the Art of Resistance: Some Preliminary Notes.” In *The Theory and Practice of Zen Buddhism: A Festschrift in Honor of Steven Heine*, eds Charles S. Prebish and On-cho Ng, 207–228. Chinese Culture Series, Volume 6. Springer, 2022.

“Case Study: Religion, Socialism and Secularization in Modern Japan: The New Buddhist Fellowship.” In *The Bloomsbury Handbook of Japanese Religions*, eds Erica Baffelli and Fabio Rambelli, 189–192. Bloomsbury, 2021.

“Skeptical Buddhism as Provenance and Project.” In *Buddhism and Scepticism: Historical, Philosophical, and Comparative Perspectives*, ed. Oren Hanner, 161–177. Hamburg Buddhist Studies, vol. 11. Numata Center for Buddhist Studies, 2020.

「ポスト汎神論から超物質主義へ——鈴木大拙と新仏教——」。山田奨治、ジョン・ブリン編『鈴木大拙：禅を超えて』, 57–81. 京都：思文閣出版, 2020. [Japanese translation of “From Post-Pantheism to Trans-materialism: D. T. Suzuki and New Buddhism”].

“Carrying Buddha into the Streets: Buddhist Socialist Thought in Modern Japan.” In *Dao Companion to Japanese Buddhist Philosophy*, ed. G. Kopf, 255–285. Springer, 2019.

“Buddhist Economics: Problems and Possibilities.” In *The Oxford Handbook of Buddhist Ethics*, eds Daniel Cozort and James Mark Shields, 407–431. Oxford University Press, 2018.

- “The Scope and Limits of Secular Buddhism: Watanabe Kaikyoku (1868–1912) and the Japanese New Buddhist ‘Discovery of Society.’”** In *Buddhist Modernities: Re-inventing Tradition in the Globalizing Modern World*, eds H. Havnevik, et al., 15–32. Routledge, 2017.
- “Opium Eaters: Buddhism as Revolutionary Politics.”** In *Buddhism and the Political Process*, ed. Hiroko Kawanami, 213–234. Palgrave Macmillan, 2016.
- “Buddhism” (The Conversion of Captain America: Buddhism and Postwar US Popular Culture).** In *The Routledge Companion to Religion and Popular Culture*, eds John C. Lyden and Eric M. Mazur, 401–418. Routledge, 2015.
- “From Topos to Utopia: Critical Buddhism, Globalization, and Ideology Criticism.”** In *Buddhist Responses to Globalization*, eds Leah Kalmanson and James Mark Shields, 51–80. Lexington, 2014.
- “Seno'o Girō: Life and Thought of a Radical Buddhist.”** In *Buddhists: Understanding Buddhism through the Lives of Practitioners*, ed. Todd Lewis, 280–288. Wiley-Blackwell, 2014.
- “Political Interpretations of the Lotus Sutra.”** In *A Companion to Buddhist Philosophy*, ed. Steven M. Emmanuel, 512–523. Wiley & Sons, 2013.
- “Zange and Sorge: Two Models of ‘Concern’ in Comparative Philosophy of Religion.”** In *Polyphonic Thinking and the Divine*, ed. Jim Kanaris, 89–99. Rodopi, 2013.
- “‘Land of Kami, Land of the Dead’: Paligenesis and the Aesthetics of Religious Revisionism in Kobayashi Yoshinori's On Yasukuni.”** In *Manga and the Representation of Japanese History*, ed. Roman Rosenbaum, 189–216. Routledge, 2012.
- “Awakening between Science, Art & Ethics: Variations on Japanese Buddhist Modernism, 1890–1945.”** In *Rethinking Japanese Modernism*, ed. R. Starrs, 105–124. Brill, 2012.
- “Sexuality, Exoticism, and Iconoclasm in the Media Age: The Strange Case of the Buddha Bikini.”** In *God in the Details: American Religion in Popular Culture*, revised 2nd ed., eds Eric M. Mazur and Kate McCarthy, 80–101. Routledge, 2010.

TRANSLATIONS

Radical Buddhism Project: Scholarly Translations and Critical Editions

Open-access Japanese–English translations with critical annotations and editorial apparatus. Translated and edited by James Mark Shields unless otherwise noted. Radical Buddhism Project, 2026.

Ichikawa Hakugen 市川白弦

“Buddhism and the Development of Communist Thought” (1949), by Ichikawa Hakugen. [RBP edition](#).

“Zen and Communism” (ca. 1955), by Ichikawa Hakugen. [RBP edition](#).

“Zen and Marxism” (1956), by Ichikawa Hakugen. [RBP edition](#).

“Zen, Kegon, and Anarchism” (1961), by Ichikawa Hakugen. [RBP edition](#).

Seno'o Girō 妹尾義郎 and the Youth League for Revitalizing Buddhism

“Confronting the Communist Party Incident: Reading a Passage from the *Sutra for Humane Kings Protecting the Nation*” (1928), by Seno'o Girō. [RBP edition](#).

“Founding Proclamation and Mission Statement” (1931) of the Youth League for Revitalizing Buddhism. [RBP edition](#).

“The Course of the Revitalized Buddhism Movement: Return Together beneath the Buddha's Great Banner!” (1931), by Seno'o Girō. [RBP edition](#).

“Conversion to Revitalized Buddhism” (1931), by Seno'o Girō. [RBP edition](#).

“A Critique of the Anti-Religious Movement” (1931), by Seno'o Girō. [RBP edition](#).

“Rural Distress and Rural Temple Activism” (1932), by Seno'o Girō. [RBP edition](#).

“Buddhism and the Peace Movement” (1934), by Seno'o Girō. [RBP edition](#).

Uchiyama Gudō 内山愚童

“Letter to Itō Shōshin” (1905), by Uchiyama Gudō. [RBP edition](#).

“Memorandum” (1906), by Uchiyama Gudō. [RBP edition](#).

“Postcard to Ishikawa Sanshirō” (1907), by Uchiyama Gudō. [RBP edition](#).

“Lieutenant General Itō and the Question of Adultery” (1908), by Uchiyama Gudō. Co-translated with Lajos (co-translation with Lajos Brons). [RBP edition](#).

“Anarchist Communism: Commemorating the Imprisoned—Why Do Tenant Farmers Suffer?” (1908), by Uchiyama Gudō. [RBP edition](#).

“The Self-Awakening of the Ordinary Person” (ca. 1909–1911), by Uchiyama Gudō. [RBP edition](#).

Other Published Translations

“CHINOIS, Philosophie des,” by Denis Diderot. *The Encyclopedia of Diderot and D'Alembert: Collaborative Translation Project*, <https://encyclopediaofdiderot.org/s/diderot/item/169563>, 2026 [French and Chinese to English; co-translated with Minjung Noh].

Revitalized Buddhism on the Road to Social Reform, by Seno'o Girō. *The Eastern Buddhist, Third Series* 4, 2 (2024): 1–80 [Japanese to English].

“Publishing Goals of *Hanseikai zasshi* (1887) and “Living the Pure Life” (1887). Translations with introduction and commentary. In *Buddhism and Modernity: Sources from Nineteenth-Century Japan*, eds Orion Klautau and Hans-Martin Kramer, 192–199. University of Hawai'i, 2021 [Japanese to English].

“Building a Platform for Academic Buddhist Studies: Murakami Senshō,” by Sueki Fumihiko. *The Eastern Buddhist, New Series* 37, 1–2 (2005): 8–27 [Japanese to English].

“Kiyozawa Manshi and Nishida Kitarō,” by Fujita Masakatsu. *The Eastern Buddhist, New Series* 35, 1–2 (2003): 42–56 [Japanese to English].

“Shin Buddhism and Economic Ethics,” by Ama Toshimaro. *The Eastern Buddhist, New Series* 34 (2002): 25–50 [Japanese to English].

ENCYCLOPEDIA ARTICLES & REFERENCE WORKS

“The Lotus Sutra.” In *Milestone Documents of World Religions*, ed. David M. Fahey, 372–389. Schlager Group, 2011.

- “Kurosawa, Akira (1910–1988).”** In *The Encyclopedia of Religion and Film*, ed. Eric M. Mazur, 279–283. ABC-CLIO, 2011.
- “Miyazaki, Hayao (1941–).”** In *The Encyclopedia of Religion and Film*, ed. Eric M. Mazur, 320–324. ABC-CLIO, 2011.
- “Mizoguchi, Kenji (1898–1956).”** In *The Encyclopedia of Religion and Film*, ed. Eric M. Mazur, 325–327. ABC-CLIO, 2011.
- “Ozu, Yasujiro (1903–1963).”** In *The Encyclopedia of Religion and Film*, ed. Eric M. Mazur, 343–345. ABC-CLIO, 2011.
- “Gyōgi Bosatsu.”** In *Holy People of the World: A Cross-Cultural Encyclopedia*, Volume 1, ed. Phyllis G. Jestice, 335. ABC-CLIO, 2004.
- “Ikkyū.”** In *Holy People of the World: A Cross-Cultural Encyclopedia*, Volume 1, ed. Phyllis G. Jestice, 391. ABC-CLIO, 2004.
- “Musō Soseki (1275–1351).”** In *Holy People of the World: A Cross-Cultural Encyclopedia*, Volume 1, ed. Phyllis G. Jestice, 615–616. ABC-CLIO, 2004.

REVIEWS, ESSAYS & COMMENTARIES

- “2004 Asian Floral Tankini by Victoria’s Secret,”** *Fashioning Faith*, <https://fashioningfaith.wfu.edu/2004-buddha-bikini/>, 2025.
- “Equity, State, and Utopia: Critical Reflections from Japanese Radical Buddhism.”** *Australasian Philosophical Review* 8, 4 (2024): 379–385; DOI: 10.1080/24740500.2024.2562924
- Foreword to Martin Kovan, *A Buddhist Theory of Killing: A Philosophical Exposition*.** Springer, 2022 [co-authored with Dan Cozort].
- Review of André van der Braak, *Reimagining Zen in a Secular Age: Charles Taylor and Zen Buddhism in the West*.** *H-Buddhism* listserv, 24 June 2021; republished on *Secular Buddhist Network* website, 29 June 2021.
- Foreword to Brian Victoria, *Zen Terror: Portrait of an Assassin*.** Rowman & Littlefield, 2020.
- Review of Jürgen Osterhammel, *Unfabling the East: The Enlightenment’s Encounter with Asia*.** *The Historian* 81, 2 (2019): 285–287.
- Review of Melissa Anne-Marie Curley, *Pure Land, Real World: Modern Buddhism, Japanese Leftists, and the Utopian Imagination*,** *H-Japan* listserv, 28 February 2019.
- “My Life in Buddhist Studies.”** Generations of Buddhist Studies Project, *H-Buddhism*, <https://networks.h-net.org/node/6060/pages/3571753/shields-james-mark>, 2019.
- Review of Oleg Benesch, *Inventing the Way of the Samurai: Nationalism, Internationalism, and Bushidō in Modern Japan*.** *The Journal of Japanese Studies* 43, 2 (2017): 448–451.
- Commentary on *Against Harmony: Progressive and Radical Buddhism in Modern Japan*,** The Page 99 Test, tinyurl.com/y7tjazgs, 2017.
- Review of Ikuho Amano, *Decadent Literature in Twentieth-Century Japan: Spectacles of Idle Labor*.** *Comparative Literature Studies* 54, 2 (2017): 478–481.

- Review of Hwansoo Ilmee Kim, *Empire of the Dharma: Korean and Japanese Buddhism, 1877–1912*.** *Monumenta Nipponica* 70, 2 (2016): 326–328, doi: 10.1353/mni.2015.0017.
- “Never the ‘Twain Shall Meet: Disorienting East and West in Teaching and Scholarship.”** *Bulletin for the Study of Religion* 44, 2, doi: 10.1558/bsor.v44i2.26070.
- Review of Ōtani Eiichi, *Kindai Bukkyō to iu shizō: senso, Ajia, shakiaishugi* 近代仏教という視座——戦争・アジア・社会主義 (A Perspective on Modern Buddhism: War, Asia, Socialism).** *Japanese Religion* 39 (2015), 1–2.
- “Category Formation and ‘Eastern Traditions’,”** Critical Questions Series 3, *Bulletin for the Study of Religion*, <https://tinyurl.com/yb58eyk4>, 2013.
- Review of Barbara R. Ambros, *Bones of Contention: Animals and Religion in Contemporary Japan*.** CHOICE: Current Reviews for Academic Libraries, 2013.
- Review of Steven Heine, *Sacred High City, Sacred Low City: A Tale of Religious Sites in Two Tokyo Neighborhoods*.** *Journal of Ecumenical Studies* 48, 1 (2013): 141–142.
- Review: Hank Glassman, *The Face of Jizō: Image and Cult in Medieval Japanese Buddhism*.** CHOICE: Current Reviews for Academic Libraries, 2012.
- Review of James W. Heisig, Thomas P. Kasulis, and John C. Maraldo (eds), *Japanese Philosophy: A Sourcebook*.** CHOICE: Current Reviews for Academic Libraries, 2012.
- Review of Christopher Ives, *Imperial-Way Zen: Ichikawa Hakugen’s Critique and Lingering Questions for Buddhist Ethics*.** *Philosophy East & West* 62, 1 (2012): 128–130.
- “Stepping into the Same River Twice.”** *This I Believe: A Public Dialogue about Belief*, <http://thisibelieve.org/essay/102516/>, 2011.
- Review of Robert E. Carter, *Encounter with Enlightenment: A Study of Japanese Ethics*.** *The Eastern Buddhist: New Series* 34, 2 (2002): 171–176.
- “Blowing up of the Buddhas by the Taliban.”** *Peace Research: The Canadian Journal of Peace Studies* 33, 2 (2001): 99–101.
- Review of David Lyle Jeffrey, *People of the Book: Christian Identity and Literary Culture*.** *ARC: The Journal of the Faculty of Religious Studies, McGill University* 25 (1997): 151–153.
- Review of Carl Braaten and Robert Jenson (eds), *Either/Or: The Gospel or Neopaganism*.** *ARC: The Journal of the Faculty of Religious Studies, McGill University* 24 (1996): 162–164.
- Review of Colin Manlove, *Christian Fantasy: From 1200 to the Present*.** *ARC: The Journal of the Faculty of Religious Studies, McGill University* 24 (1996): 176–178.
- Review of Jaroslav Pelikan, *Faust the Theologian*.** *ARC: The Journal of the Faculty of Religious Studies, McGill University* 24 (1996): 179–181.

KEYNOTE ADDRESSES

- “Buddhist Politics as Revolutionary Praxis: A Case Study from Japan,”** *Iaponica Brunensia 2023 Brno Conference on Japanese Studies*, Tomas Masaryk University, Brno, Czechia (Sep 15, 2023)

“Radical Buddhism Then and Now: Prospects of a Paradox,” *Polish Association of Japanese Studies International Conference*, Adam Mickiewicz University, Poznań, Poland (Nov 25, 2010)

INVITED TALKS

“Dreaming Otherwise: Buddhist Awakening and the Politics of Utopia,” *Buddhist Dreaming Symposium*, University of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia, PA (Oct 17, 2026)

“All is Burning: Thích Quảng Đức, Self-Immolation, & Violence in Buddhist Activism,” *Bureau of Lost Culture Podcast*; <https://bureauoflostculture.podbean.com/> (Jul 17, 2026)

“The Moral Sensorium: Perception and Practice in the Radical Buddhism of Seno’o Girō,” *TUJ Philosophy Lecture Series*, Temple University, Japan (Jun 15, 2026)

“Writing Against Erasure: Historical Fiction and Mestizo Memory in Colonial Philippines,” Kyoto Asian Studies Group, Kyoto, Japan (Jun 5, 2026)

“Radical Buddhism: Social Suffering, Structural Critique, and Collective Liberation.” *Philosophy Department Lecture Series*. Colorado University, Denver, CO (Apr 15, 2026)

“Radical Buddhism: Defining and Defending the Concept.” *Philadelphia Area Buddhist Studies Workshop*. University of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia, PA (Mar 20, 2026)

“Decolonizing ‘Radical Buddhism’: Rethinking Religion and Politics in Early 20th Century Japan,” *Decolonizing Buddhist Studies: Reimagining Knowledge and Practice – A Workshop and Lecture Series*. Center for Buddhist Studies, University of Toronto, Toronto, Canada (Jan 8, 2026)

“Taking Buddha to the Streets! The Life and Thought of Seno’o Giro, Radical Buddhist in Imperial Japan,” Department of Religion, Culture and Society, Asian and Asian American Studies Program, Lehigh Humanities Center, Lehigh University, Bethlehem, PA (Sep 18, 2025)

“Right Livelihood: A Buddhist Critique of Labor in an Age of Bullshit Jobs,” Philosophy Student Association Series, Kennesaw State University, Marietta, GA (Apr 10, 2025)

“Beyond Engaged, or How to Meditate with a Hammer: Radical Buddhism as History, Concept and Provocation,” Center for the Study of Japanese Religion / Center for Buddhist Studies Lecture Series, School of Oriental and African Studies (Mar 21, 2024)

“Q&A on Radical Buddhism: Power, Freedom, Labor,” *Moksha Critical Buddhism Study Group* (Nov 4, 2023) – virtual

“Anarchy as Philosophy, Religion and Politics: A Reconsideration,” Philosophy Student Association Series, Kennesaw State University, Marietta, GA (Oct 5, 2023)

“From Buddhadharma to Buddhanarchy: Reflections on Buddhism, Politics, and Law,” *Seminar on Bioethics and Religion*, Centro Interuniversitario di Ricerca Bioetica, Università di Napoli L’Orientale, Naples, Italy (Sep 25, 2023)

“Dharma as Counter-Fantasy: Critical Reflections on Socially Engaged Buddhism, Capitalism, and the Problem of Non-Violence,” *Uberoi Foundation Conference on Buddhism and Non-Violence*, American University, Washington, DC (Oct 6–7, 2022)

- Discussant: “Animals in Buddhist Ethics,” “Gender in Buddhist Ethics,” “What is Buddhist Ethics?”** *3rd Biennial Buddhist Ethics Conference*, University of British Columbia, Vancouver, BC (Sep 30–Oct 2, 2022)
- “Dissing Thay: Socially Engaged Buddhism and the Problem of Nonviolence,”** *The Robert H. N. Ho Family Foundation Program in Buddhism and Contemporary Society*, University of British Columbia, Vancouver, BC (Jun 8, 2022) – hybrid
- “Radical Buddhism: Prospects of a Paradox,”** Center for Buddhist Studies, University of Naples L’Orientale Spring 2022 Lecture Series (May 10) – virtual
- “Shōwa Buddhist Socialism (1930s),”** Part #4 in *Associated Kyoto Program (AKP) lecture series on Japanese Experiments in Progressive & Radical Buddhism* (Apr 27) – virtual
- “Radical Buddhism?”** *Democratic Socialists of America (DSA) lecture series on The Individual, the Collective, and the Common Good: Religion and the Left* (Apr 26) – virtual
- “Zen and the Art of Resistance: Some Remarks on the Work and Legacy of Prof. Steven Heine,”** Book Launch Discussion for *Theory and Practice of Zen Buddhism: A Festschrift in Honor of Steven Heine*, Florida International University, Miami, FL (Apr 8, 2022) – hybrid
- “Taishō Buddhist Utopians (1920s),”** Part #3 of *Associated Kyoto Program (AKP) lecture series on Japanese Experiments in Progressive & Radical Buddhism* (Mar 26, 2022) – virtual
- “The New Buddhist Fellowship (1900–1916),”** Part #2 of *Associated Kyoto Program (AKP) lecture series on Japanese Experiments in Progressive & Radical Buddhism* (Feb 23, 2022) – virtual
- “The Many Faces of Meiji Buddhist Enlightenment (1885–1899),”** Part #1 of *Associated Kyoto Program (AKP) lecture series on Japanese Experiments in Progressive & Radical Buddhism* (Jan 26, 2022) – virtual
- “Liberation as Revolutionary Praxis,”** Critical Buddhist Study Group (Jul 21, 2021) – virtual
- “Reflections on Translating the *Hanseikai zasshi*,”** *University of Hawai’i Press Book Launch: Buddhism & Modernity: Sources from Nineteenth-Century Japan* (Apr 23, 2021) – virtual
- “Against Harmony: Japanese Experiments in Progressive and Radical Buddhism,”** *Europe-Japan Research Center Seminar Series*, Oxford Brookes University (Mar 4, 2021) – virtual
- “Research in Japan in the Age of Covid19,”** Florida International University, online (Feb 24, 2021)
- “Shinto and Society: A Critical Historical Appraisal,”** *Faiths in Conversation Series*, Dallas Institute of Humanities and Culture / SMU School of Theology (Sep 14, 2020) – virtual
- “Buddhist Socialism in China, 1900–1930: A History and Appraisal,”** *Marxism and Religion International Symposium* (Jul 16, 2020) – virtual
- “Rethinking Buddhist Politics in the 21st Century,”** *Southern Japan Seminar*, Florida International University, Miami, FL (Mar 27, 2020) [prepared but cancelled due to covid-19]
- “Altermodernities in Taishō Buddhism: From Anarchism to Agrarianism,”** *Multiplicities of Asian Buddhist Modernities* – 2019 Sheng Yen Conference, UC-Berkeley, CA (Feb 15–17, 2019)
- “Zen Thorns: Modern Japanese (Zen) Buddhism and Progressive Politics,”** *Zen Buddhism: Roots and Branches*, Center for Body, Mind, & Culture, Florida Atlantic University, Boca Raton, FL (Nov 2–3, 2018)

- “The Globalization of East Asian Buddhism in the 21st Century: A Conversation with Peter Hershock, Jin Park and James Shields,”** NEH Summer Institute: “Buddhist East Asia: The Interplay of Religion, the Arts, Politics,” East-West Center, University of Hawai‘i, HI (Jun 19, 2018)
- “Japanese Buddhism: Traditions and Transformations in the 20th Century,”** NEH Summer Institute: “Buddhist East Asia: The Interplay of Religion, the Arts, Politics,” East-West Center, University of Hawai‘i, HI (Jun 17, 2018)
- “Right Speech and Social Activism,”** *2nd Biennial Buddhist Ethics Conference*, University of Southern California, Los Angeles, CA (Jun 8–10, 2018)
- “Chan Influence on Japanese Buddhist Progressives of Late Meiji: Is there any there, there?”** *Creating the World of Chan/Sōn/Zen: Chinese Chan Buddhism and its spread throughout East Asia*, 2018 Conference, University of Arizona, Tucson, AZ (Mar 28–31, 2018)
- “Skeptical Buddhism as Provenance and Prospect,”** *Workshop on Buddhism and Scepticism: Historical, Philosophical and Comparative Perspectives*, Maimonides Center for Advanced Studies, Universität Hamburg, Hamburg, Germany (Nov 14–16, 2017)
- “D. T. Suzuki as New Buddhist: The Promise of Pantheism,”** *Reflections on D. T. Suzuki, Commemorating the 50th Anniversary of his Death*, International Symposium, International Research Center for Japanese Studies (Nichibunken), Kyoto, Japan (Dec 5–6, 2016)
- “Progressive and Radical Buddhism in Modern Japan,”** *Tanaka Lecture Series*, Hobart and William Smith Colleges, Geneva, NY (Apr 18, 2016)
- “Rude Awakenings: Radical Buddhism and Comparative Philosophy,”** Religious Studies Colloquium, University of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia, PA (Nov 19, 2015)
- “Japanese Buddhism: Traditions and Transformations in the 20th Century,”** NEH Summer Institute on “Buddhist Asia: Traditions, Transmissions, and Transformations,” East-West Center, University of Hawai‘i, HI (Jun 24, 2015)
- “To be (New) Buddhist is to be ‘Secular’: Meiji New Buddhist Reconfiguring of Religion,”** Workshop on *Formations of the Secular in Japan*, University of Oslo (Jun 18, 2015)
- “Why Study Asian Thought?”** *Asian Studies Symposium 2014: Why Bother with Confucianism? A Contemporary Dialogue with an Ancient Tradition*, Susquehanna U, Selinsgrove, PA (Oct 28, 2014)
- “Religion and Politics in Modern and Contemporary East Asia,”** *Studies Development Program Summer Infusion Institute*, East-West Center, University of Hawai‘i, HI (Aug 5, 2014)
- 「仏教社会主義について —— 妹尾義郎と新興仏教青年同盟」 (Buddhist Socialism in Japan: Seno’o Girō and the Youth League for Revitalizing Buddhism),** 第280回日文研フォーラム「昭和前期の政治と宗教」 (Nichibunken Forum: Politics and Religion in Early Shōwa Japan), Heart Pier Kyoto, Kyoto, Japan (Jul 8, 2014; in Japanese)
- 「仏教と唯物論の再考」 (Considering Buddhist Materialism),** 日文研シンポジウム「日本仏教批判」 (Nichibunken Symposium on Critical Buddhism), International Research Center for Japanese Studies, Kyoto, Japan; Jun 14, 2014; in Japanese)
- “This Polished Rice is Life Itself: Nichiren, Marx, Seno’o Girō, and ‘Dharmic Materialism’,”** *International Lotus Sutra Seminar*, Tokyo, Japan (May 29, 2014)

“Dharmic Materialism: History and Prospects,” *International Workshop on Comparative Philosophy*, New Perspectives Series, Kobe University, Kobe, Japan (Feb 27, 2014)

“Spring and Asura: Naturalism and Humanism in Taishō (Buddhist) Utopian Thought,” *Nichibunken Evening Seminar Series*, International Research Center for Japanese Studies, Kyoto, Japan (Feb 6, 2014)

“Warp and Woof: Meiji New Buddhism as a Response to Globalization,” 大谷大学真宗総合研究所 国際仏教研究公開講演会 (Institute for the Study of Shin Buddhism, Public Lecture Series on Intl Buddhism), Ōtani University, Kyoto (Jan 20, 2014)

“Watsuji Tetsurō: Betweenness in Aesthetics and Social Theory,” Art of Betweenness Conference, Royal Holloway, University of London (Nov 13, 2013 – virtual)

“Waymaking: The Daodejing as Practical Wisdom,” *Intellectual Heritage Program Lecture Series*, Temple University, Philadelphia, PA (Apr 5, 2012)

“The ‘Problem’ of Materialism for (Radical) Buddhist Ethics,” *Columbia Society for Comparative Philosophy Speaker Series*, Columbia University, New York, NY (Oct 28, 2011)

“Hokkekyō to Shakaiteki Kindai Bukkyō” 法華経と社会的近代仏教 (The Lotus Sutra and Modern Socialistic Buddhism), International Research Center for Japanese Studies, History of Japanese Religions Seminar Series, Kyoto, Japan (Jul 8, 2011) (Japanese and English)

“Zange and Sorge: Two Models of Care in Comparative Philosophy/Religion,” *Polyphonic: Thinking about the Divine*, A Symposium in Tribute to Dr. Maurice Boutin, McGill University, Montréal, QC (Nov 13, 2010)

“Carrying Buddha on our Backs: Seno’o Girō and Buddhist Socialism in Modern Japan,” Kyoto Asian Studies Group, Lecture Series, Doshisha University, Kyoto (May 24, 2010)

“Seno’o Girō: Radical Buddhist in Fascist Japan,” Global Studies Lecture Series, Pusan National University, Pusan, South Korea (Apr 16, 2010)

“Pornography and Sexual Assault: A Clear and Present Connection?” Panel Discussion on Sexual Assault, International Women’s Week, McGill University, Montreal, QC (Mar 9, 1999)

“The Postmodern Believer: The Changing Face of Faith,” Anglican Church of Canada, Diocesan Synod, Diocesan College, Montréal, QC (Oct 1, 1997)

CONFERENCE LEADERSHIP

2nd Biennial Buddhist Ethics Conference, University of Southern California, Los Angeles, CA (Jun 8–10, 2018)

Inaugural Buddhist Ethics Conference, Dickinson College, Carlisle, PA (Jun 14–16, 2016)

CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

“An Ecology of Liberation: Buddhist Anti-Capitalism and the Politics of Flow.” *Life After Capitalism: 17th Biennial Conference of Radical Philosophy Association (RPA)*, Pomona College, Claremont, CA (Oct 15–17, 2026)

- “The Left Hand of the Dao: Ursula K. Le Guin’s Radical Reception of Daoist and Buddhist Themes.”** *Mid-Atlantic Regional Meeting of the Association for Asian Studies (MAR-AAS)*, Lehigh University, Bethlehem, PA (Oct 9–11, 2026)
- “Making Noise Against Erasure: Reclaiming a Mestizo Family Narrative through Historical Fiction.”** Poster session at the *Filipino American National Historical Society (FANHS) 21st Biennial National Conference*, Arlington, VA (July 22–25, 2026)
- “The Violence of Nonviolence: Anti-Capitalist Buddhism and the Limits of Liberal Interfaith Discourse.”** European Academy of Religion Annual Meetings, Libera Università Internazionale degli Studi Sociali Guido Carli, Rome, Italy (June 30–July 3, 2026)
- “Useful Work versus Useless Toil: William Morris on Craft, Leisure, and the Common Good,”** *Comparative & Continental Philosophy Circle (CCPC) 19th Annual Meeting*, Nagoya, Japan (May 28–31, 2026)
- “Bondage and Freedom across ‘Buddhist’ realms: A Response to Peter Chen and Jessica Xu.”** *American Academy of Religion (AAR) Annual Meeting*, Boston, MA (Nov 20–23, 2025)
- “Interpreting Diderot’s ‘Philosophie de Chinois’: Challenges and Insights in Translating Chinese Philosophy in the Enlightenment,”** co-presented with Minjung Noh. *American Academy of Religion (AAR) Annual Meeting*, Boston, MA (Nov 20–23, 2025)
- “An Ecology of Liberation: Buddhism, Capitalism, and the Reimagining of the Political in the Work of Tanaka Shōzō and Seno’o Girō.”** *XXth Congress of the International Association of Buddhist Studies*, Leipzig, Germany (Aug 10–15, 2025)
- “A Critical Reconsideration of Causality through the Lens of ‘Radical Zen’.”** Society for Asian and Comparative Philosophy (SACP) 56th Annual Meeting, Prague, Czechia (Sep 16–18, 2024)
- “Irony, Contingency, Solidarity: Three Jewels for Radical Buddhism.”** *Comparative & Continental Philosophy Circle (CCPC) 17th Annual Meeting*, Volcano, HI (Jun 4–6, 2024)
- “Mottainai! A Critical Buddhist Reflection on ‘Waste’ as Rhetoric and Reality.”** *12th East-West Philosophers’ Conference (EWPC)*, Honolulu, HI (May 24–31, 2024)
- “Work, Power, Play: A Critical Buddhist Investigation of Right Livelihood.”** Comparative & Continental Philosophy Circle 16th Annual Meeting, Bogotá, Colombia (May 24–27, 2023)
- “Seeking Solace in a Torn World: Reading the Hōjōki in the Age of Covid-19,”** *Association of Core Texts and Courses Annual Conference* (Apr 12–16, 2021) – virtual
- “The Study of Meiji Religion at 150” (Commentator),** Meiji Religions Panel, *American Academy of Religion (AAR) Annual Meeting*, Denver, CO (Nov 17–20)
- “Buddhism between Ideology and Utopia: A Preliminary Investigation,”** Buddhism and Capitalism Panel, *American Academy of Religion Annual Meeting*, Denver, CO (Nov 17–20)
- “Ontological Relations of Stand-up Comedy, Buddhist Texts & Religious Ritual” (Commentator),** Ethics & Aesthetics of Stand-up Comedy, Lewisburg, PA (Apr 5–9, 2017)
- “A Century of Critical Buddhism,”** Association of Asian Studies, Mid-Atlantic Regional Meeting, Pittsburg, PA (Oct 9–11, 2015)

- “Re-envisioning Self, Society, World: Reflections on Comparative Philosophy as Critical-Constructive Engagement,”** *Society for Asian and Comparative Philosophy (SACP) Annual Conference*, Monterey, CA (Oct 1–4, 2015)
- “Dreaming Buddhism and Awakening,” (Respondent),** *XXI World Congress of the International Association for the History of Religions (IAHR)*, Erfurt, Germany (Aug 23–29, 2015)
- “Society is Awakening: Japanese Experiments in Radical Buddhism,”** *XXI World Congress of the International Association for the History of Religions (IAHR)*, Erfurt, Germany (Aug 23–29, 2015)
- “Toward the Creative Nothing: Revisiting Japanese Buddhist-Anarchist Thought,”** *American Philosophical Association Eastern Division Meeting*, Philadelphia, PA (Dec 27–30, 2014)
- “Rethinking Buddhist Economics: Foundations for a Post-socialist Critique of Capitalism,”** *American Academy of Religion (AAR) Annual Meeting*, San Diego, CA (Nov 22–25, 2014)
- “To be (New) Buddhist is to be “Secular”: Japanese Experiments in Progressive and Radical Buddhism, 1900–1935,”** *14th Annual European Association of Japanese Studies (EAS) International Conference*, Ljubljana, Slovenia (Aug 27–30, 2014)
- “Past and Future Perfect? History and Utopia in Japanese Buddhist Reform, 1885–1945” (Respondent),** *Asian Studies Conference Japan*, Sophia University, Tokyo (Jun 21–22, 2014)
- “One Village, One Mind? Eto Tekirei, Tolstoy and the Structure of Agrarian Buddhist Utopia in Taishō Japan,”** *Numata Buddhist Studies Conference*, University of Hawai‘i, Honolulu, HI (Mar 19–21, 2014)
- “Warp and Woof: Japanese New Buddhist Reconfiguring of Buddhism and/as Religion,”** *Oslo Buddhist Studies Conference: “Buddhist Modernities,”* Univ of Oslo, (Dec 3–4, 2013)
- “Liberation as Revolutionary Praxis: Problems and Possibilities of Buddhist Materialism,”** *American Academy of Religion (AAR) Eastern International Regional Meeting*, Toronto, ON (May 10–12, 2013)
- “From Laozi to Tolstoy to Marx: Japanese Experiments in Radical Buddhist Politics: 1882–1936,”** *Tung Lin Kok Yuen Conference: Buddhism and the Political Process*, University of Toronto, Scarborough, ON (April 13–14, 2012)
- “Marginalized Bodies and Social Justice in Modern and Contemporary Japanese Buddhism” (Respondent),** *Association of Asian Studies Annual Conference*, Toronto, ON (Mar 15–18, 2012)
- “Buddhist Cosmopolitanism: History and Prospects,”** *American Philosophical Association (APA) Eastern Division Annual Meeting*, Washington, DC (Dec 27–30, 2011)
- “The Lotus Sutra & Modern Socialistic Buddhism in 1930s Japan,”** *XVIth Quadrennial Congress of the International Association of Buddhist Studies*, Taipei, Taiwan (Jun 20–25, 2011)
- “Sustainability, Simplicity & Impermanence: A Philosophical Critique of Buddhist Approaches to Well-being,”** *Society for Asian and Comparative Philosophy (SACP) Annual Conference*, Honolulu, HI (May 25–28, 2011)
- “Dharmic Materialism (and Anti-materialism): Japanese Buddhist Radicals and the Search for Socio-economic Justice,”** *Tenth East-West Philosophers’ Conference (EWPC)*, Honolulu, HI (May 16–24, 2011)

- “After the Fall: Tsuji Zennosuke and the Construction of Buddhist(ic) National History,”** *125th Annual Meeting of the American Historical Association*, Boston, MA (Jan 6–9, 2011)
- “Confessions of a Japanese Opiate-Eater: Seno’o Girō & Buddhist Socialism in Japan,”** *International Institute for Social History Workshop on Socialism*, Amsterdam, Netherlands (Nov 18–19, 2010)
- “Taking the Lotus Sutra to the Streets: Nichiren Buddhist Radicalism in Imperial Japan,”** *XXth Quinquennial World Congress of the International Association for the History of Religions (IAHR)*, Toronto, ON (Aug 14–21, 2010)
- “Decadence as (Buddhist) Humanism: Sakaguchi Ango and the Transvaluation of Values in Postwar Japan,”** *Hawaii International Conference on Arts and Humanities*, Honolulu (Jan 13–16)
- “Carrying Buddha on our Backs’: Seno’o Girō and Radical Buddhism in Fascist Japan,”** *Japan Studies Association (JSA) Annual Conference*, Honolulu, HI (Jan 7–9, 2010)
- “Against Harmony: The Youth League for Revitalizing Buddhism, 1931–1937.”** *American Philosophical Association (APA) Annual Meeting*, New York, NY (Dec 27–30, 2009)
- “Between Science, Art & Ethics: Variations of Japanese Buddhist Modernism,”** Otago Conference on Japanese Modernism, Otago University, Dunedin, NZ (Aug 14–16, 2009)
- “What’s so Funny About Mu? Irony, Redescription, and Humor in East Asian Mahāyāna Buddhist Thought and Practice,”** *XVth Quadrennial Congress of the International Association of Buddhist Studies (IABS)*, Emory University, Atlanta, GA (Jun 23–28)
- “Irony, Contingency & Solidarity: Three Jewels of Postmetaphysical Buddhist Criticism,”** American Academy of Religion (AAR) Annual Meeting, San Diego, CA (Nov 17–20)
- “Spirited Away: Using Miyazaki’s Anime to Teach Japanese ‘Folk Religiosity’,”** Mid-Atlantic Region Association for Asian Studies (MAR-AAS) 36th Annual Conference, University of Maryland, College Park, MD (Oct 27–28, 2007)
- “Empty Words, Turning Words & Word Magic: Irony, Instrumentality, and Identity in a Buddhist Critique of Language,”** *American Academy of Religion, Mid-Atlantic Regional (AAR-MAR) Meeting*, Baltimore, MD (Mar 1–2, 2007)
- “I’d Rather Listen to the Rain’: Buddhist Themes in the Films of Akira Kurosawa,”** *Japan Studies Association (JSA) Annual Conference*, San Diego, CA (Jan 4–6, 2007)
- “Vexing Weber: Critical Buddhist Scholarship as a Vocation,”** *American Academy of Religion (AAR) Annual Meeting*, Washington, DC (Nov 18–21, 2006)
- “Imaging the Dharma: Buddhist Art and Identity in Multiple Contexts” (Respondent),** New York Conference of Asian Studies (NYCAS) Annual Meeting, St. Lawrence University, Canton, NY (Oct 6–7, 2006)
- “Beyond Belief: Japanese Approaches to the Meaning of Religion,”** *World’s Religions After September 11: A Global Congress*, Montréal, QC (Sep 11–15, 2006)
- “Sexuality, Blasphemy, and Iconoclasm in the Media Age: The Strange Case of the Buddha Bikini,”** *World’s Religions After September 11: A Global Congress*, Montréal (Sep 11–15, 2006)
- “Against the Grain: Buddhist Hermeneutics as Scholarly Praxis,”** *American Philosophical Association (APA) Annual Meeting*, New York, NY (Dec 27–30, 2005)

“Murakami Seshō and the Construction of Buddhist Unity,” *American Academy of Religion (AAR) International Meeting*, Singapore (Jun 26–Jul 1, 2005)

“Reform and Unification in Modern Japanese Buddhism: Murakami Seshō and Critical Buddhism,” *XIXth World Congress, International Association for the History of Religions (IAHR)*, Tokyo, Japan (Mar 23–30, 2005)

“The Way of the Sword: Japanese Buddhist Justifications for War,” *Canadian Peace Research and Education Association Annual Conference*, Queen’s University, Kingston, ON (Jun 1–3, 2000)

“His Truth Goes Marching On’: Rethinking Thoreau’s ‘Civil Disobedience’,” Canadian Peace Research and Education Association (CPREA) Annual Conference, Queen’s University, Kingston, ON (Jun 1–3, 2000)

“Why They Say ‘Buddhism is Criticism’: A Decade of Critical Buddhism,” *Emerging Boundaries: Interpretations of Religion & Culture*, Concordia U., Montréal, QC (May 19–20, 2000)

“Eros and Transgression in an Age of Immanence: Bataille vs. Kinsey,” *Implications & Interpretations: A Conference in Religion & Culture*, Concordia U., Montréal, QC (May 14–15, 1999)

SELECTED UNIVERSITY LECTURES

“The OWL (Zero Waste) Project: A Presentation,” 13th Annual Sustainability Symposium Expo, Bucknell Center for Sustainability and the Environment (Mar 26, 2026)

“Crafting Utopia: William Morris on Work, Beauty, and the Art of Living Well,” *William Morris: A Birthday Celebration Panel*, Bucknell Humanities Week (Mar 24, 2026)

“Work: A Provocation,” Bucknell Presidential Fellows Seniors Common Hour (Oct 4, 2024)

“Radical Buddhism: A Primer, Sourcebook and Portal,” *Bucknell Humanities Center Summer 2023 Residency Fellows Snaptalks* (Nov 16, 2023)

“Work: A Critical Humanist Provocation,” *Teaching & Learning Center Friday Learning Series* (Oct 22, 2021)

“Zero Waste: A Personal View,” *BSG Sustainability Committee Earth Week* Event on Zero Waste at Bucknell (Apr 19, 2021)

“They Promised us Flying Cars, and What we Got Was 140 Characters’: A Critical (Utopian) Humanist Perspective on the NAE Grand Challenges,” *Grand Challenge Scholars Program Seminar Series* (Mar 5, 2020)

“Shunga: Sex, Art and Humor in Early Modern Japan,” *Bucknell Sex Positive Week 2020*, Uptown Science and Cocktails Series (Feb 14, 2020)

“Walden and Asian Thought and Practice: What gives?” *Walden: A Community Discussion*, Bucknell Center for Sustainability and the Environment (Jan 25, 2018)

“Some Lingering Ambiguities of the October Revolution,” A Response to Paul Hollander, *Symposium on the October Revolution* (Nov 2, 2017)

“Life of Nichiren, Radical Prophet of 13th-century Japan, As Portrayed in the Woodblock Prints of Utagawa Kuniyoshi (1798–1861),” Samek Art Gallery Lecture (Mar 4, 2013)

“Zen & the Art of Americanization: The Columbian Exposition to the Buddha Bikini,”

Humanities Institute Lecture Series, Dis-orienting America: Asian Religions & US Culture (Nov 5, 2012)

“Chasing Reality: The Social Effects of Social Media in Contemporary Japan,” *Shaping Your World Conference* (July 9–10, 2012)**“The Dharma and/as Water,”** *Campus Water Week Teach-in Series* (Apr 18, 2012)**“The Perfect Man’s Perfect Body: Masculine Imagery in Early Buddhism,”** *Women’s and Gender Studies Masculinity Series* (Oct 12, 2011)**“Religious and Cultural Responses to the Tohoku Earthquake and Tsunami,”** Panel on Japan’s Response to the 3/11 Crisis (Apr 19, 2011)**“Buddhism and the Environment: Resources for the 21st Century,”** Bucknell Environmental Center Series on Religion and the Environment (Apr 11, 2011)**“Rethinking Buddhist Socialism: A Case Study from Japan,”** Bucknell Faculty Colloquium Series (Mar 22, 2011)**“What Does it Mean to Be a Cosmopolitan Citizen?”** *Bucknell Diversity Conference: Across Extremes, The Polarization of Public Discourse* (Oct 22, 2010)**DIGITAL TEACHING RESOURCES**

Associated Kyoto Program Video Series: Sacred Sites of Kyoto (Spring 2022)

- *Produced a series of twelve 15-minute documentary videos introducing the sacred sites of Kyoto for students in the Associated Kyoto Program.*

EXTERNAL FELLOWSHIPS & AWARDS

2023 | **Japan Foundation Grant** | Masaryk University, Brno, Czechia | \$2800
 2022 | **Japan Foundation Japanese Studies Short-term Fellowship** | \$8000
 2022 | **Associated Kyoto Program Visiting Faculty Fellowship** | \$30,000
 2013–14 | **Japan Foundation Japanese Studies Long-term Fellowship** | \$50,000
 2011 | **Japan Society for the Promotion of Science Postdoctoral Fellowship** | \$12,000
 2009 | **Associated Kyoto Program Visiting Faculty Fellowship** | \$25,000
 2000–02 | **Monbusho (Japanese Ministry of Education) Research Fellowship** | \$25,000

RESEARCH GRANTS

2026 | **Bucknell Humanities Center, Pre-Publication Support Grant** | \$500
 2023 | **Provost Office Publication Subvention Grant** | \$3000
 2026 | **IDEA Grant** | \$5500
 2026 | **Bucknell Arts Council, High-Impact Scholarship Grant** | \$2000
 2025 | **Bucknell Humanities Center, High-Impact Research Grant** | \$1500

2025 | **Bucknell Humanities Center, High-Impact Research Grant** | \$500
2024 | **IDEA Grant** | \$6000
2024 | **Bucknell Humanities Center, High-Impact Research Grant** | \$1500
2024 | **Bucknell Humanities Center, Pre-Publication Support Grant** | \$1000
2023 | **Mellon Confounding Problems Grant** | \$2500
2023 | **Provost Office Publication Subvention Grant** | \$4000
2023 | **Bucknell Humanities Center Mellon Summer Residency Fellowship** | \$7500
2023 | **Bucknell Humanities Center Faculty Research Fellowship** | \$3000
2021 | **Teaching & Learning Center Faculty Fellowship** | \$1000
2020 | **Cook Award** | \$2500
2019 | **Three-Quarters Sabbatical Funding Award** | \$29,000
2017 | **Scholarly Development Grant** | \$6000
2013 | **Three-Quarters Sabbatical Funding Award** | \$19,000
2011 | **International Research Grant** | \$3000

INSTITUTIONAL LEADERSHIP GRANTS

2016–2020 | **Renewal of the Humanities at Bucknell University (Mellon Foundation) — Co-Principal Investigator** | \$600,000

TEACHING

AREAS OF COMPETENCE

Buddhist Studies

- Buddhist Traditions
- Buddhist Philosophy
- Buddhist Ethics
- Buddhism & Politics
- Zen

Asian & Comparative Philosophy

- Japanese Philosophy
- Chinese Philosophy
- Buddhist Philosophy
- Kyoto School

Gender, Body & Sexuality

- Religion and Gender
- Religion and Sexuality
- Women in Asian Religions
- The Body in Asian Cultures

East Asian Religions

- Shinto
- Daoism
- Confucianism
- Chinese & Japanese Religions

Humanities & Political Thought

- Utopian Studies
- Religion & Politics
- Religion & Literature
- Religion & the Arts

COURSES DEVELOPED & TAUGHT

Foundations

- Love & Sex on the Silk Road
- Myth, Reason & Faith
- Art, Nature & Knowledge

East Asian Religions & Philosophy

- Religions of China
- Religions of Japan
- Daoism
- Chinese Philosophy

Buddhist Studies

- Buddhism
- Buddhist Philosophy
- Buddhist Ethics
- Beat Zen, Square Zen

Comparative Humanities

- Beyond Orientalism
- Modernism & Crisis
- Utopia
- An Inquiry into the Good
- Zero Waste

PEDAGOGICAL INNOVATION

2024 | **Bucknell Humanities Center, High-Impact Teaching Grant** | \$1500

2020 | **Mellon Foundation Confounding Problems Teach-Out Grant (Zero Waste)** | \$2500
 2016 | **Curricular Integrated Perspectives Development Grant (Modernism & Crisis)** | \$2500
 2011 | **Curricular Development Grant (Beat Zen, Square Zen)** | \$2500
 2007 | **Nominated for Exceptional Faculty Accomplishment in the Area of Diversity Award**

UNDERGRADUATE MENTORSHIP

Supervised 11 Honors Theses, 6 Independent Studies, 1 Undergraduate Research Assistantship, and 1 Global Ambassador Project (2007–2022)

HONORS THESES

Max Fathauer, “A Philosophical Analysis of the Relation between the Overman and the Other in Nietzsche” (2018)
 Qijing Zheng, “Nature and Flourishing in the Laws of Manu & Daodejing” (2017)
 Tong Tong, “The Politics of Translation and Reception in Late Twentieth Century Chinese Literature” (2017)
 Adem Ahmed, “Pablo Escobar: Drug Lord as Heroic Archetype” (2016)
 Elaine Lac, “Finding Commonality: A Comparative Environmental History of America and China” (2016)
 Justin Marinelli, “Beyond the Black Flag: Modernism, Ideology and the Rise of ISIS” (2015)
 Kirstin Clouser, “‘Whiteness’ in China: Racial Identity in Contemporary Chinese Culture” (2013)
 Jason Brown, “Medication or Meditation: Dharma and/as Therapy” (2013)
 Hein Tun, “Cosmopolitanism and Identity among Burmese International Students” (2013)
 Ali Kint, “Just a Story: How Children in 19th and 20th Century Western Europe and Japan existed within Fairy Tales and in the Real World” (2012)
 Angela Remeika, “*Muga Mushin*: A New *upāya-kaṁśāhya* from Cognitive Neuroscientific Studies” (2009)

INTERNATIONAL & VISITING TEACHING

Masaryk University, Brno, Czechia (2023)
 Associated Kyoto Program, Dōshisha University, Kyoto, Japan (2009)
 Lakeland College, Tokyo, Japan (2003–2005)
 Antioch Buddhist Studies in Japan, Kyoto, Japan (2002)

SERVICE

UNIVERSITY LEADERSHIP

Faculty Governance: Co-chair and elected member, University Review Committee; member of Faculty Council, Committee on Academic Freedom and Tenure, and numerous departmental review committees for tenure, promotion, and reappointment.

Faculty Development & Mentoring: Faculty Mentoring Program; adviser to Presidential Fellows, Emerging Scholars Fellowship, Beinecke Fellowship, Graduate School Advising, and related university initiatives.

PROFESSIONAL LEADERSHIP

Editorial Leadership: Co-editor, *Journal of Religion in Japan* (2016–2019); Associate Editor and Acting General Editor, *Journal of Buddhist Ethics* (2012–2018); Editorial or Advisory Board member for the *Journal of Japanese Philosophy* and *Journal of Religion in Japan*.

Professional Organizations: Mentor to junior scholars, American Academy of Religion (2025–); Steering Committee, Economics & Capitalism in the Study of Buddhism, American Academy of Religion (2015–2019); member of the Nichibunken Collaborative Research Group on Japanese Buddhist Thought (2013–2014).

Conference Leadership: Co-founder and organizer of the Inaugural (2016) and Second Biennial (2018) Buddhist Ethics Conferences; organizer and chair of conference panels for the American Academy of Religion, American Philosophical Association, Asian Studies Conference Japan, Association for Asian Studies–Mid-Atlantic Region, European Association of Japanese Studies, International Association of Buddhist Studies, and the International Association for the History of Religions.

SCHOLARLY REVIEW & EVALUATION

Journal Referee: Referee for seventeen scholarly journals, including *Journal of Buddhist Ethics*, *Philosophy East & West*, *Journal of Japanese Studies*, *Dao*, *Religions*, *Journal of Religion in Japan*, and *Japan Review*.

Book Manuscripts: Manuscript reviewer for Cambridge University Press, Columbia University Press, Oxford University Press, Routledge, Bloomsbury, University of Virginia Press, Rowman & Littlefield, and Ashgate.

External Academic Review: External reviewer for promotion and tenure cases, academic programs, doctoral dissertations, and grant proposals for universities and funding agencies in North America, Europe, Africa, and Asia.