

Curriculum Vitae

SONAM KACHRU

Assistant Professor
Department of Religious Studies, Yale University

320 York Street, #409,
New Haven, CT 06511

917-699-5926 | sonam.kachru@yale.edu

EMPLOYMENT HISTORY

July 2022-	Assistant Professor, Yale University
September 2015 – June 25, 2022	Assistant Professor, University of Virginia (Department of Religious Studies)

ACADEMIC BACKGROUND

2015	PhD, University of Chicago, Divinity School Dissertation: <i>Minds and Worlds: A Philosophical Commentary on the Twenty Verses of Vasubandhu</i> .
2014-2015	Junior Fellow, Max Planck Institute for the History of Science, Berlin.
2013-2014	Fellow; Zukunftsphilologie (Future Philology): Forum Transregionale Studien, Berlin.
2004	MA, University of Georgia
2002	BA, University of Georgia. Phi Beta Kappa.
2004-2006	Attended Harvard Divinity School, Harvard University
1996-1998	Attended Indian Institute of Technology, Bombay

PUBLICATIONS

BOOKS

Other Lives: Mind and World in Indian Buddhism. New York: Columbia University Press, 2021.

More about the Book Here:

- [“Of Understanding Experience and the Experience of Understanding,”](#) *Columbia University Press Blog*, Sep. 23, 2021.
- [Recently Published Book Spotlight: *Other Lives*](#), Interview with Maryellen Stohlman-Vanderveen, *Blog of the American Philosophical Association* (APA), Oct. 15, 2021.

Reviews & Commentary

- Constance Kassor, [“Can We Know Others’ Worlds?”](#) *Lions Roar*, March 17, 2022.

- Michael Nichols, [Religion](#), 20 July 2022.
- Ethan Mills, “[Vasubandhu’s Twenty Verses and Comparative Philosophy](#),” *The Indian Philosophy Blog*
- Sean Smith, (article-length), [Mind](#), 22 Nov 2022.

Dreams, Demons, and You: Meditations on Fragility. ms. in preparation. Under Contract. Bloomsbury (World Philosophies Series).

Ongoing Long-term Book Projects

- * *Ungovernable: Women, Indian Philosophy, and an Archive of Freedom*
- * *The Mind in Motion and at Rest: A Manuscript on aesthetic experience.*
- * *The Poems of Lalla of Kashmir*

MONOGRAPHS

- 2015 *What is it like to become a likeness of oneself? Gestures of Light, Motion and Mind at the Surfaces of Representation*. Berlin: Forum Transregionale Studien.
DOI: [10.25360/01-2017-00003](https://doi.org/10.25360/01-2017-00003)

PEER-REVIEWED PUBLICATIONS

ARTICLES

- 2023 In Press. (With Bryce Huebner.) “Minds in Motion and Introspective Minds.” Special issue of *Consciousness Studies*, ed. by Keith Frankish and Francois Kimmerer.
- 2022 “Surely You’re Joking, Mr. Nāgasena? Once Again on the Questions of Menander and Nāgasena’s Replies,” *Journal of the International Association of Buddhist Studies*.
- 2021 “Death and the Afterlife: The View from South Asian Buddhism,” *Journal of Religion*, Vol. 101, No. 1, January: 48-76.
- 2021 “Seeing in the Dark: Of Epistemic Cultures and *Abhidharma* in the Long Fifth century C.E.,” [Journal of Dharma Studies](#). 3 (2), 291-317.
- 2020 “The Translation of Life: Thinking with Painting in Indian Buddhist Literature,” in Phyllis Granoff and Sonya Mace (eds.), [Religions](#) 2020, 11(9), 467.
- 2020 “As If A Stage: Towards an Ecological Conception of Thought in Indian Buddhist Philosophy,” *Journal of World Philosophies* 5: 1-29.
- 2019 (With Jane Mikkelsen). “The Mind is its Own Place: Of Lalla’s Comparative Poetics,” *University of Toronto Quarterly*, Volume 88 Issue 2 (Spring 2019): 125-141. Special Issue: World Poetics and Comparative Poetics, (eds. Ming Xie and Jonathan Hart).
- 2019 “Ratnakīrti and The Extent of Inner Space: An Essay on Yogācāra and the Threat of Radical Solipsism,” *Sophia* 58 (1): 61-83.

- 2019 “After the Unsilence of the Birds: Remembering Aśvaghoṣa’s Sundarī,” *Journal of Indian Philosophy* 47 (2): 289-312.
- 2018 “Of Dwelling With, and Getting to Know: Or, What a Medieval Variety of Irony can do for Contemporary Solidarity,” *Indian Journal of Secularism*. Volume 21, No. 4 (Jan-March): 42-73.
- 2017 “Things You Wouldn’t Think to Find in One Place: A Quick Note On an All-too Brief Example on Life and Matter in *Abhidharmakośabhaṣyam* ad 3.14c,” *Journal of the American Oriental Society*. Vol. 137, No. 4 (October-December): 669-678.

PEER-REVIEWED CHAPTERS & RESEARCH CONTRIBUTIONS

- 2023 “What did Śāntideva Learn from Lovers?” Contribution for Festschrift for Janet Gyatso. Edited by Holly Gayley and Andrew Quintman. *Wisdom Press*.
- 2022 (With Eyal Aviv and Bryce Huebner.) “The Magic of Consciousness: Sculpting an Alternative Illusionism,” in *Consciousness, Nature, and Ultimate Reality: Cross-Cultural Perspectives*. Bloomsbury. Edited by Susanne Beieis and Itay Shani.
- 2022 “*Milindapañha*: How To Use a Philosophical Resource and Find A Literary Gem,” for Sara McClintock, William Edelglass, Pierre-Julien Harter (eds.) *Routledge Handbook of Indian Buddhist Philosophy*.
- 2022 “Engaging Metacognitive Practices: On the Uses (and Possible Abuse) of Meditation in Philosophy.” For Rick Repetti (ed.) *Philosophy of Meditation*. Routledge.
- 2021 “Some Questions for Friends of Buddhism,” Invited Essay, [APA Asian and Asian-American Philosophers and Philosophies Newsletter](#). Special Issue on Buddhist Philosophy: Book Symposium on *Why I Am Not a Buddhist* by Evan Thompson. Minh Nguyen (ed.) and Yarran Hominh (associate ed.) Spring 2021: Vol. 20, No. 2: 29-32.
- 2021 “Non-Presentism in Antiquity: South Asian Buddhist Perspectives,” in John Doody, Sean Hannan, and Kim Paffenroth (eds.). *Augustine and Time* (Lanham, Boulder, New York, London: Lexington): 245-271
- 2021 “The Mind in Pain: The View from Buddhist Systematic and Narrative Thought,” for Maria Heim, Chakravarthi Ram-Prasad, and Roy Tzohar (eds.), *The Bloomsbury Research Handbook of Emotions in Classical Indian Philosophy*, (London: Bloomsbury): 131-153.
- 2020 “Of Doctors, Poets, and the Minds of Men: Towards the Varieties of Thought in Aśvaghoṣa’s *Beautiful Nanda*,” in Rafal Stepień (ed.) *Buddhist Literature as Philosophy, Buddhist Philosophy as Literature*. (New York: SUNY): 113-145.

- 2019 “The Traces of the World in the Tracks of the Philosophers” in Daniel A. Arnold et. al (eds.), *Reasons and Lives in Buddhist Traditions: Tibetan And Buddhist Studies in Honor of Matthew Kapstein*. Wisdom Press. Boston. Pages 325-341.
- 2019 “On Learning to Overhear “The Forgotten Poet’,” in *Readings of Śāntideva’s Guide to Bodhisattva Practice (Bodhicaryavatāra)*. Edited by Douglas Duckworth and Jonathan Gold. New York: Columbia University Press. Pages 60-83.
- 2019 “Who’s Afraid of Non-Conceptuality? Rehabilitating Dignāga’s Distinction Between Perception and Thought,” in Jay Garfield (ed.), *Sellars and Buddhism: Freedom from Foundations*. Routledge. Pages 172-200.

IN PREPARATION

ARTICLES

- (Submitted) “Aśoka’s Principled Pluralism,” for Brian Black and James Madaio (eds.) *Pluralism and Plurality in Classical and Contemporary India*. Planned for the series: Dialogues in South Asian Traditions: Religion, Philosophy, Literature and History. Routledge.
- (Submitted) “On Moral Tragedy: Mātṛceṭa’s Lament for Animals.” For Bronwyn Finnigan and Geoffrey Barstow (editors). *Buddhist Philosophy and Animals (?)* Oxford University Press.
- In prep On Mental Effort in Buddhist Philosophy of Mind.
- In prep “Notes for a History of Desire,” for Niki Clements and Daniel Wyche (eds.), *Foucault’s Confessions*.
- In prep Vasubandhu, "Did the Buddha Really Mean to Deny that We (Sometimes) Experience Pleasure?" From the *Cutting Edge of Buddhist Thought (Abhidharmakośabhāṣya)* on 6.3, for Mohammed Rustom (ed.), *Sourcebook in Global Philosophy*. Equinox Press.

ENCYCLOPEDIA ARTICLES / DICTIONARY ENTRIES

- 2021 “The Dream argument.” For the *Wiley-Blackwell Encyclopedia of Philosophy of Religion*. (4 Vols.) Edited by Stewart Goetz and Charles Taliaferro.
- 2018 “Dukkha,” *A Dictionary of Philosophy of Religion*, Second Edition, Edited by Charles Taliaferro and Elsa J. Marty, Bloomsbury Publishing, 2018: 85-6
- 2018 “Four Noble Truths,” *A Dictionary of Philosophy of Religion*, Second Edition, Edited by Charles Taliaferro and Elsa J. Marty, Bloomsbury Publishing, 2018: 107.
- 2018 “Śūnyatā,” in *A Dictionary of Philosophy of Religion*, Second Edition, Edited by Charles Taliaferro and Elsa J. Marty, Bloomsbury Publishing, 2018: 276-277.
- 2004 “Subhūti,” in *Holy People of the World: A Cross-Cultural Encyclopedia*, In Three Volumes, ed. Phyllis G. Jestice, (ABC-CLIO), 2004.

REVIEWS

- IN PRESS Brian Black. *In Dialogue with the Mahabharata*. London and New York: Routledge, 2021. *Journal of Hindu Studies*.
- 2021 C. V. Jones. *The Buddhist Self: On Tathāgatarbha and Ātman*. Honolulu, Hawai'i: University of Hawai'i Press, 2021. [Buddhadharma](#) (Lion's Roar)
- 2021 Steven D. Goodman, *The Buddhist Psychology of Awakening: An In-Depth Guide to Abhidharma*. Boulder, Colorado: Shambala, 2020. *Religious Studies Review*.
- 2021 Chakravarthi Ram-Prasad, *Human Being, Bodily Being: Phenomenology from Classical India*, Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2018. *Philosophy East and West*, Vol. 71: No. 3 (July): <https://doi.org/10.1353/pew.2021.0056>
- 2019 *Science and Philosophy in The Indian Buddhist Classics: Volume 1: The Physical World*. Conceived and Introduced by His Holiness The Dalai Lama. Edited by Thupten Jinpa. Somerville, MA: Wisdom Publications. 2017. *Reading Religion: A Publication of the American Academy of Religion* (readingreligion.org).
- 2017 Jonathan C. Gold. *Paving the Great Way: Vasubandhu's Unifying Buddhist Philosophy*. Columbia University Press. 2015. *Journal of Religion*, 119-121.
- 2017 P. Bilimoria and A. Wenta (eds.), *Emotions in Indian Thought-Systems*. Routledge. 2015. *The Bulletin of the School of Oriental and African Studies*, 664-665.
- 2013 Ranjit Hoskote, (trans.), *I, Lalla*, (Penguin, New Delhi, 2011), for *South Asia News*, The South Asia Language and Area Center, Committee on Southern Asian Studies, and South Asia Outreach.
- 2006 Joseph Walser, *Nāgārjuna in Context: Mahayana Buddhism and Early Indian Culture*, (Columbia University Press, 2005), in *The Journal of Religion*, vol. 86, no.3, 503-404.

PUBLIC-FACING SCHOLARSHIP

- 2022 [5 Questions with Sonam Kachru](#). Interview with Daevan Mangalmurti.
- 2022 "[Learning Is the Path Forward](#)," Invited commentary for *Lion's Roar*, Oct 14.
- 2021 "[What are we Doing Here?](#)" Invited manifesto for the [Collective Buddhist Studies Manifesto Project](#). (Published online, Dec 31, 2021.)
- 2021 "Ashoka's Moral Empire," [talk delivered for Angle House Education: Dew Drop Talks](#), (Virtual Event), Monday, June 28.
- April 11, 2021 "Ashoka: The Upasak King," Interview with Ranjit Pawar for ['Long History Short with Ranjit'](#)

- Jan 21, 2021 “Beyond Perfection: King Ashoka, Engaged Buddhism, and Dharma in Ancient India, for Currents, Lecture Series at Mangalam Research Center: Berkeley, California: <https://www.mangalamresearch.org/currents/>
- 2020 [“Ashoka’s Moral Empire.”](#) Invited Feature contribution. *Aeon Magazine*. July.
- 2019 Halvorson-Taylor, M., Schaeffer K. (Presenters), Kachru, S. (Guest), & Gadek, E. (Producer), “A Common Thread.” *Sacred & Profane* (2019, August 1): <https://religionlab.virginia.edu/podcast/a-common-thread/>
- 2019 “What Is That Which Steals Your Mind?” in *Surprise: 107 Variations On The Unexpected*. Edited by Mechthild Fend, Ankete Heesen, Christine von Oertzen, Fernando Vidal. Berlin: Max Planck Institute for the History of Science. Pages 183-185.
- 2017 [“Provincializing Philosophy of Religion, and Beyond.”](#) *Syndicate*.
- 2014 [“The Meaning of Love: Insights from Medieval South Asia.”](#) *History of Emotions: Insights into Research*, Max Planck Institute for Human Development. July.
- 2012 “The Last Embrace of Color and Leaf: Introducing Āśvaghoṣa’s Disjunctive Style,” *Almost Island: Special Issue (On Style)*. Winter.

LITERARY ESSAYS / CRITICISM / TRANSLATION

- 2022 “What is Gained in Translation,” in Bronner Y. & Hallisey C. 2022. “The Music Contest from Tiruttakkatevar’s Tamil Chivakan’s Gem.” In: Bronner Y. & Hallisey C (eds.), *Sensitive Reading*. California: University of California Press. DOI: <https://doi.org/10.1525/luminos.114.h>
- 2020 Nādim’s “Where We Dwell,” “I Will Not Sing,” solicited translations [Asymptote](#) Fall 2020. (October.)
- 2017 Poems from Nādim and Rasul Mīr for *Words Without Borders*, June; material concurrently published for the *Simurgh Project* by the Sangam Literary House, Bangalore, India.
- 2016 Selections from Lallā, in Sir. James Mallinson and Mark Singleton (eds.), *Roots of Yoga*. Penguin. 2016.
- 2016 Rasul Mīr. For *Kashmir Ink*, June 15.
- 2014 Translation of Samad Mir’s *Insāf Kar*, Make It Right, featured in Max Kramer, Sarbani Sharma, Sarah Ewald and Suvaidd Yaseen (directors), *Mir*, a documentary short on the Kashmir Intifada of 2008: <https://vimeo.com/112954024> (Password: SamadMir)
- 2014 *Night’s Triptych and other Modern Experiments* [25 pages, 15 poems, 7 poets], in Biswamit Dwibedy (ed.), *Aufgabe*, (Litmus Press, New York, July: 2014).

- 2013 [*Make Humans Again: A Portfolio of Twentieth Century Kashmiri Poetry*](#), in *Almost Island*, Monsoon Issue, 2012.
- 2012 “A Love Song from Habba Khatoon,” translation from Medieval Kashmiri, *Another Chicago Magazine*, 50, volume 2.

TALKS

INVITED PUBLIC LECTURES / KEYNOTES

- OCT 2, 2023.** Hells, Turtles, Snakes, Robots: Back to the Future of a Connected World *Buddhist Cosmopolis* workshop. NYU
- Sep 15, 2023 “Philosophy After Adventure: Premodern Lessons for the story of Global Philosophy” McGill University, Montreal.
- April 15, 2023 [“To Hell and Back,”](#) Symposium at the Asia Society Museum, New York.
- Feb 15, 2023 [“The Truth about Poetry: Some Buddhist Fictions.”](#) Smith College Buddhist Studies Program, Smith College.
- March 7, 2022 “To Weary of Painting the World: South Asian Lessons for a Global Humanities.” [Invited Goodspeed Lecture](#), Denison University

INVITED LECTURES & CONVERSATIONS

- May 21-22, 2024** “I Dream of *Rasa*: The Savor of Controversy in Early Modernity.” For [Rasa Fest](#), University of British Columbia.
- October 13, 2023** “The Place of Encounter: Some Lessons from Islamic and Buddhist historiography.” For *Encounters in Islamic Theology*. Humboldt University, Berlin.
- Sep 18, 2023 On the Truth of Pain (and the disputed reality of pleasure). Visiting speaker, History of Philosophy Seminar, Cornell University.
- Sep 15, 2023 “Translating Pain.” For the Sanskrit Translation Workshop, McGill University.
- June 15, 2023 “Of Minds, Motion, and Meaning in Aśvaghoṣa,” Tel Aviv University, Tel Aviv.
- June 13, 2023 “A Theory of Mind and Some Thoughts about Theories,” Hebrew University of Jerusalem, Jerusalem.
- March 1, 2023 Ungovernable: Or, How I learnt to Stop Worrying about Philosophy and Learnt to Philosophize with the Therīgāthā. Yale Business School.
- Feb 16, 2023 How I learnt to Stop Worrying about Philosophy and Learnt to Philosophize with the Therīgāthā. Session with students of philosophy at Smith College.
- Feb 2, 2023. Mātṛceṭa’s Lament: Of Animals and Moral Tragedy. Invited Paper for the South Asian Religions Colloquium, Harvard University
- December 9, 2022 Mind / Body Dualism in Buddhist Philosophy and Beyond. Invited presentation for Columbia University Seminar on Comparative Philosophy (Zoom)

- MARCH 2, 2022 “Does the Real Problem Lie with Knowing Other Minds or One’s Own?” Talk delivered at IIT, Bombay, as part of “On the Problem of Other Minds: A. K. Chatterjee Memorial Lecture Series.
- February 25, 2022 “On Keeping The History of Buddhist Philosophy Weird.” Invited Speaker, [Khyentse Foundation Buddhist Studies Lecture Series](#), Northwestern University.
- January 31, 2022 “Ashoka’s Principled Pluralism,” Invited Lecture, Department of Religious Studies, Yale University.
- January 21, 2022 [“What is Buddhist Philosophy?”](#) Invited Lecture, UCLA Center for Buddhist Studies Colloquium series.
- December 3, 2021 In Conversation with Nicholas Witkowski about *Other Lives*. History Department of Nanyang Technological University (sponsored by NTU History Seminar, the NUS Buddhist Studies Seminar; Religion Cluster and South Asia Cluster).
- November 12, 2021 “Philosophy without Borders,” invited presentation for the working group “The Future of the Ancient?” hosted by the Center for Cultural Analysis, Rutgers University.
- October 7, 2021 In Conversation with Karin Meyers about *Other Lives: Mind and World in Indian Buddhism*. Mangalam Institute, Berkeley, CA
- November 8, 2021 In Conversation with David Shulman and Janet Gyatso about *Other Lives: Mind and World in Indian Buddhism*. Hosted by Natasha Heller, and the Department of Religious Studies, University of Virginia. (Webinar.)
- September 30, 2021 “How to Read (At the Bottom of the Ocean, for Example),” Invited Lecture, Theory and Practice of South Asia Workshop, University of Chicago.
- April 29, 2021 “Presentism and Beyond,” Invited Lecture. Philosophy of Religions Workshop, University of Chicago.
- March 26, 2021 [“Engaging Metacognitive Practices: On the Uses \(and Possible Abuse\) of Meditation in Philosophy,”](#) Invited talk, Global Philosophy Research Group, University of Toronto.
- June 1, 2020 “Ethics and Epidemics: Reflections from Ancient India.” Invited Lecture (Webinar / on Zoom). Hosted by Motilal Nehru College, Delhi University. (Attended by over a hundred participants, as recorded by the college.)
- February 28, 2020 Invited Talk. “Looking Back on Siddhartha: On Finding our Way in Aśvaghōṣa’s *Life of the Buddha*.” University of Washington, Seattle.
- 2019 (With Jane Mikkelson). The Mind is Its Own Place: Prospects for a Global Humanities. Religious Studies Colloquium, University of Virginia. December 11.
- 2019 (Invited Lecture.) Sep 27. “A Buddhist Theory of Action.” SUNY

Binghamton. Department of Philosophy.

- 2019 (Invited Lecture.) “The Strange Life and Death of Kanthaka in the Life of the Buddha: An Essay in Appreciation of the Uncanny,” Yale University. September 19. Department of Religious Studies.
- 2018 “Practices of the Self in Antiquity.” April 29. Department of Classics. Dissecting Cultural Pluralism Lab, University of Virginia.
- 2014 “Know, then, Yourself: An Invitation to Extend the Brief History of a Weighty Imperative,” talk delivered, and workshop conducted at the *World Philologies Seminar* of Zukunftspilologie Project, at the Friedrich Schlegel Graduate School of Literary Studies at Freie Universität, Berlin; June 26.
- 2014 “Philosophy and the Varieties of Conversation: A Commentary on the Opening Conversations in *The Questions of King Menander*”; invited talk for the Khyentse Center for Tibetan Buddhist Textual Scholarship, Department of Indian and Tibetan Studies, University of Hamburg; Hamburg, May 14.
- 2014 “Gestures of Light: Āśvaghoṣa on the Moving and Unmoving Surfaces of Representation,” Invited Talk delivered at the Fifth Colloquium of the Forum Transregionale Studien convened by the program Art Histories and Aesthetic Practices on the topic “Aesthetic Practices, Ekphrasis and Description”; Berlin, March 3.
- 2014 “What is it Like to Become a Likeness of Oneself: Lessons from a Scene of Ekphrasis in Sanskrit Literature (and its Verbal Echoes in Translations in Chinese, and Tibetan)”, Talk delivered to the Colloquium “Philology as the Study of Concepts,” convened at the Forum Transregionale Studien, Berlin, January 20.
- 2014 “What is Hindu Theology? Being An Introduction to a Belated Tradition of Systematic Thought,” Invited Lecture delivered to the Faculty and Students of the Departments of Catholic Systematic Theology, and the Center of Comparative Theology and Cultural Studies, Universität Paderbon, Paderbon, Germany; January 8.

Conferences and Workshops

- April 20-22, 2023 With Zachary Irving, “A Puzzle about Contemplative Achievement.” Symposium on Contemplative Science, University of Virginia.
- March 18, 2023 “Vasubandhu’s Virtual Realism,” in The Oneirological Turn in Buddhist Studies, American Asian Society Annual Conference, Boston.
- February, 25, 2023 “Ramsey, Dharmottara, and the Determination of Content,” Paper for a panel on Buddhism and Pragmatism for the Central meeting of the American Philosophy Academy. (Denver). (Written, shared, but not delivered.)
- Nov 20, 2022 Respondent, to a panel *Sonam Kachru’s Other Lives*, panel on *Other Lives* (Columbia

- University Press, 2022), Annual Meeting of the American Academy of Religions, Denver, CO.
- Nov 19, 2022 Respondent. Language, Poiesis, and Buddhist Experiments with the Possible. Seminar in the Annual Meeting of the American Academy of Religions, Denver, CO.
- June 24-25, 2022 “Missing Concepts,” draft circulated for *Philosophy In/Of/For Religious Studies*, Amherst College, Amherst, Massachusetts.
- November 22, 2021 Presentation for the panel, Renouncing the “World While Staying at Home: A Critical Engagement with Gṛhastha” (Hinduism / Religion in South Asia Units). Annual Conference of the American Academy of Religion.
- November 21, 2021 Presentation for “Buddhist Studies Manifesto” (Buddhism Unit). Annual Conference of the American Academy of Religion.
- November 21, 2021 “Of the Salience of the Poetic,” paper for Exploratory Session: *Poetics, Poiesis, and Buddhist Experiments with the Possible*. Annual Conference of the American Academy of Religion.
- April 9, 2021 Moderator and Respondent for Panel 2, *Literature and History, Longing and Belonging*, in the virtual conference [Citizenship, Belonging and the Partition of India](#), Institute of the Humanities and Global Cultures, University of Virginia.
- February 6, 2021 Invited Participant, Buddhist Bodies Workshop, McMaster University
- January 9, 2021 “What is Metacognition?” Eastern American Philosophical Association (APA) Session [New York], delivered online. Respondent: Tad Zawidzki
2020. “Aśoka’s Reasonable Pluralism.” Pluralism and Plurality in Classical and Contemporary India. Prague, Czech Republic. The Czech Academy of Sciences, Sep 18-19, 2020. Virtual Presentation.
- 2019 “It’s Easy If You Try: A Plea for Imagination and Experiment in Theories and Methods.” Panel: Theory and Methods 2.0. Annual Meeting of the American Academy of Religion, Nov 25 (Monday), San Diego.
- 2019 “The Salience of Attention: A South Asian Buddhist Story” for Norms of Deliberate and Spontaneous Attention, University of Virginia. Oct 11-12, 2019. October 11.
- 2019 “Inner Purity: Notes on a Comparative Category,” for Inner Purity and Pollution in Ancient Mediterranean Religions, University of Virginia. May 11.
- 2019 “Attention and Affect,” for Virtues of Attention: Global Philosophical Perspectives III, “Mind, World, and Attention: Themes From Indian and Buddhist Philosophical Theory.” April 25. NYU, New York.

- 2018 “On Making Sense: With and Without Ends.” Nov 16. *Buddhism, Thought and Civilization: A Memorial Symposium for Steven Collins*. University of Chicago.
- 2018 “The Mind In Pain: The View From Buddhist Systematic and Narrative Thought,” September 22. Workshop on Emotions in Classical Indian Thought. Amherst College.
- 2018 “Thinking ‘With the Whole Body’: The Buddhist Transvaluation of Emotion in Medieval South Asia,” *The Conference on the History of Emotion*, George Mason University.
- 2018 “Translations Dreamt, Refused, Prefaced, and Confessed: Diverse Thoughts on Translation in Premodernity,” May 3. *Translation in Modern South Asia*. Yale University.
- 2018 Who’s Afraid of Non-Conceptuality: Rehabilitating Dignāga’s Distinction Between Perception and Thought. Workshop on *Conceptuality and Non-Conceptuality in Buddhist Philosophy*, March 23-25, University of California Berkeley.
- 2017 “Of Poets, Their Lies, and the Savage Fruits Thereof: Four Brief Vignettes on the Imagination in Buddhism,” *Annual Meeting of the American Academy of Religion*, Saturday, November 18, Boston.
- 2017 (With Jane Mikkelsen.) “The Mind as Its Own Place: Of Lalla’s Languages,” *Annual Conference on South Asia*, Madison, Wisconsin. October 23.
- 2017 “Overhearing Śāntideva,” Conference of the International Association of Buddhist Studies, Toronto. Aug 23.
- 2016 “Being Human in Buddhist Texts about Many Worlds,” Invited Response to Janet Gyatso, *Being Human in a Buddhist World*. San Antonio: AAR Annual Meeting. November.
- 2016 “Minds and our Living Forms of Life.” Philosophy of Religion and Buddhist Philosophy Group. San Antonio: AAR. November.
- 2016 “A Life Dreamed, the Traumatized Titan, and the Forest Decimated in Anger: Of the Stories Philosophers Tell, and Why.” San Antonio: AAR. November.
- 2016 “Who’s Afraid of Non-Conceptual Content: Rehabilitating Dignāga’s distinction between Perception and Thought. Nov 4th. Invited Paper Part of the Workshop *Buddhism on Conceptuality and Non-Conceptuality*, University of California, Berkeley, Nov 2-3, 2016.
- 2016 “Of Doctors, Poets and the Minds of Men (Which Move and Contain Many Secrets),” Annual Meeting of the American Comparative Literature Association, March 20, Cambridge, MA.
- 2015 “Ratnakīrti and the Extent of Inner Space.” *Annual Meeting of the American Academy of Religions*, Atlanta. November.

- 2014 “Vasubandhu Through a Mahāyāna Looking Glass: Or, Why Vasubandhu Believes That Ordinary Language Can and Does Take Care of Itself,” Aug 21, Conference of the International Association of Buddhist Studies. Vienna.
- 2014 “Tales of Remembering and Forgetting: Attitudes towards time as an intentional object in Medieval Kashmir,” talk delivered at the Workshop *Memory and Temporalities*, Max Planck Institute for Human Development, June 18.
- 2014 “Slips’ Dream: The Kashmirian Voices of the Dictionary of the Kashmiri Language Known as Grierson’s,” talk delivered at the conference *Nineteenth and Twentieth Century Philological Encounters*, Joint International Conference of the Zukunftsphilologie Project and the Leiden University Center for the Study of Islam and Society (LUCIS), Leiden, June 4.
- 2014 “The Invention of Love”; talk delivered at the South Asia Colloquium at the Center for the History of Emotions, Max Planck Institute for Human Development, May 21.
- 2014 “Is Madness Anything Like Dying? Thoughts on Vasubandhu and the Mind in Pain, and Life without (My) Mind,” *Madness and Wisdom in Southern Asian Religions*, University of Chicago. February 14.
- 2013 “Other Minds and the Extent of Inner Space: On the Consequences for Buddhist Philosophy of an Argument for the Existence of Other Minds”; a talk delivered at *The Theory and Practice in South Asia Workshop*, University of Chicago, IL.
- 2013 “Philosophy as Commentary, Commentary as Rational Reconstruction: Re-introducing Vasubandhu’s Monograph, *A Demonstration in Twenty Verses of the fact that the only particulars that exist are mental events*”; An invited lecture and presentation delivered to the Philosophy of Religions Club and Workshop, University of Chicago, Chicago, IL., January.

Academic Service

- 2021- Board Member, *Journal of Contemplative Science*
- 2019- Steering Committee Member, Buddhism Group, American Academy of Religions.
- 2020- Steering Committee Member, Buddhism and Poesis Group, American Academy of Religions.
- 2016 -2021 Steering Committee Member, Buddhist Philosophy Group, American Academy of Religions.
- 2017- External Reviewer for *Journal of the American Academy of Religion*, *Sophia*, *Journal of Religion*, *Religions*, *Journal of World Philosophy*, *Journal of South Asian Studies*, *Philosophy East and West*, *Journal of Buddhist Philosophy*, *Critical Philosophy of Race*; Oxford University Press, Norton; University of Vienna Press; Columbia University Press; Anthem Press; Israel Science Foundation.
- 2013 On behalf of Aleph Book Company, [interviewed Professor Wendy Doniger](#) (Mircea Eliade Distinguished Service Professor of the History of Religions in the Divinity School, University of Chicago), on the publication of *On Hinduism* (Aleph Book Company, 2013) and (Oxford University Press, 2013):

Conferences / Workshops Organized

- 2023, March 31 The (Middle) Way Ahead. Yale University
- 2022, Spring Practices of Self in Antiquity. April 6-7, University of Virginia
- 2019, October 11-12 (With Zachary S. Irving) The Norms of Attention (University of Virginia).
 See more about this [inter-disciplinary conference](#).
 More about the over-arching project [here](#).
- 2010, May 17-19 (With Wendy Doniger). Hindus in America: Hinduizing America;
 Globalizing India. (University of Chicago Divinity School). For coverage, see [here](#).

Grants

- 2021 Page-Barbour Workshop Grant (\$10,000) for the Spring 2022 Conference,
 Practices of Self in Antiquity
- 2020-2022 (With Charles Matthewes, Jane Mikkelsen and Shankar Nair.) *Gratitude to God: Psychological, Philosophical and Theological Investigations* research project at Biola University, funded by the John Templeton Foundation: \$85,000
- 2019 (With Jennifer Geddes.) Thrive Grant for FORU 1500 (Ideals and Injustices): \$2,500
- 2018-Spring 2019 3 Cavalier Grant (with Zachary Irving and Jim Coan): Project Title: Harnessing The Wandering Mind: \$60,000.
- 2017-2018 (With Meghan Hartman) Buckner-Clay Global Humanities Grant

Fellowships / Honors

- 2020 Arts, Humanities and Social Sciences Grant, University of Virginia
- 2020 Summer Research Award
- 2020 The Ludo and Rosane Rocher Foundation Subvention Grant
- 2018-2019 Brown College Fellow, University of Virginia
- 2018 Sesquicentennial Research Associateship (Fall).
- 2017 UVA VSHR Summer Research Award
- 2012-2013 Marty Dissertation Fellow, Martin Marty Center at the University of Chicago.
- 2012-2013 Dissertation Writing Grant, Committee on South Asian Studies, University of Chicago.
- 2004-2006 Harvard Divinity School Fellowship, Harvard University.

-END-