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Education

Ph.D. University of Virginia, Department of Religious Studies, 1998.
Dissertation: “Tradition and Innovation in the Consequence School:
Svabhāva in Indian and Tibetan Buddhism.” (Advisor: Jeffrey Hopkins)

Professional Employment

- 2017 Instructor, teaching Classical Tibetan Language Summer Intensive, Maitripa College, Portland, OR.
- 2011-present Translator, UMA Institute for Tibetan Studies
- 2011-present Webmaster, UMA Institute for Tibetan Studies (uma-tibet.org)
- 2015 UMA Outreach Instructor, teaching Beginning Classical Tibetan at the UMA Institute, Dyke, Virginia.
- 2013, 2015 UMA Outreach Instructor, teaching Beginning and Intermediate Classical Tibetan at Thosamling Nunnery, India
- 2011, 2013 UMA Outreach Instructor, teaching Beginning and Intermediate Classical Tibetan at Istituto Lama Tzong Khapa, Italy.
- 2011 Associate Professor, Dharma Drum Buddhist College, Taiwan
- 2007 Assistant Professor, Dharma Drum Buddhist College, Taiwan
- 2003 Visiting Professor, Chung-Hwa Institute of Buddhist Studies, Taiwan
- 2003 Instructor, Summer Tibetan Language Program, Tibet House, New York.
- 2002 Director, The Yaxche Learning Center, Taos, New Mexico
- 1998-2000 Visiting Professor, Department of Religious Studies, University of North Carolina at Greensboro
- 1997-1998 Instructor, Department of Philosophy and Religion, James Madison University
- 1996 Instructor, Department of Religion, Sweet Briar College
- Fall 1995 Visiting Instructor, Department of Religion, Washington and Lee University
- Fall 1993 Instructor, Department of Religion and Philosophy, Ithaca College

- 1988-2000 Instructor of Tibetan, Summer Foreign Language Institute at the University of Virginia
- 1993 Translator and language instructor, the Dalai Lama's Namgyal Institute, Ithaca, NY

Books

- *Buddha's Answer Dispelling Contradiction in the Sūtras: Jam-yang-shay-pa's Great Exposition of the Interpretable and the Definitive* (uma-tibet.org: UMA Publications, 2016)
- *UMA Institute for Tibetan Studies Bibliography of Sources With TBRC Digital Reprint References* (uma-tibet.org: UMA Publications, 2016)
- *Questioning the Buddha About Contradictions in His Teachings: Jam-yang-shay-pa's Great Exposition of the Interpretable and the Definitive* (uma-tibet.org: UMA Publications, 2015)
- *Principles for Practice: Jam-yang-shay-pa on the Four Reliances with Nga-wang-bel-den's "Annotations"* (uma-tibet.org: UMA Publications, 2014)
- *Paths to Omniscience: the Ge-luk Hermeneutics of Nga-wang-bel-den* (Taipei: Dharma Drum Publishing Corporation, 2011)
- *She Still Lives*. A novel about Tibet (Ithaca: Snow Lion Publications, 2006)
- *The Nature of Things: Emptiness and Essence in the Geluk World* (Ithaca: Snow Lion Publications, 2000)
- *Fluent Tibetan: A Proficiency-Oriented Learning System*. Co-author with Elizabeth Napper. In four volumes, 1000 pages (Ithaca: Snow Lion Publications, 1993; second printing, 1996).
- *Columbo and the Samurai Sword*. Co-author with Craig Schenck. (New York: Detective Book Club, 1979).

Articles

- "Evans-Wentz and *The Tibetan Book of the Dead*". Forward to paperback edition of *The Tibetan Book of the Dead*, Motilal Publications (Summer, 2016).
- "Structuring Reality: the Perfection of Wisdom Sūtras and the *Treatise on the Middle*," in *Studia Orientalia Tartuensia*, Series Nova (vol. 3; 2008).
- "Does Candrakīrti Assert 'Non-dependence on Another' To Be the Object To Be Negated in the View of Emptiness?" in *The Canadian Journal of Buddhist Studies* (Winter, 2008).

- “A Tree in the West: Competing *tathāgatagarbha* Theories in Tibetan Buddhism,” in *Chung-Hwa Buddhist Journal* (Vol. 19; Summer, 2006).
- “The Role of Reasoning in Meditation.” *Mandala* (April, 2005).
- “A Controversy Unveiled: How Many Sūtra Passages Are Indicated as Requiring Interpretation in Candrakīrti’s *madhyamakāvatārabhāṣya*” in *Chung-Hwa Buddhist Journal* (Vol. 18; Summer, 2005).
- “The Tibetan World View and the Wheel of Life” *Religions of the World*, ed. Edward Irons (New York: Facts On File, 2005).
- “Three Modes of Teaching Collected Topics,” in *Proceedings of the Symposium on Contemporary Tibetan Studies* (Mongolian and Tibetan Affairs Commission, Taiwan. Spring 2004).
- “Geshe Tashi Tsering and the Chenrezig Institute.” *Mandala* (February, 2004).
- “Expressing the Fallacy from the Viewpoint of a Pervader: Nāgārjuna and the Putative Consequences of *svabhāva*,” in *Chung-Hwa Buddhist Journal* (Vol. 17; Summer, 2004).
- “Materialism and the Immaterial Mind in Geluk Buddhism,” in *Leonardo Electronic Almanac* (Vol. XI, 2, Summer 2003).
- “Two Faces of Religious Charisma in Fifteenth-Century Tibet,” in *Fifteenth-Century Studies* (Vol. XXV, 1999).

Fellowships, Grants, and Appointments

- 2012- Vice President, UMA Institute for Tibetan Studies
- 2011 Organizing-Committee Chair, the XVIth Congress of the International Association of Buddhist Studies.
- 2008 Director, “Hopkins Tibetan Treasures Multimedia Research Archive.” Taiwan’s National Science Council Grant (third year).
- 2007-2011 Editor-in-Chief, the *Chung-Hwa Buddhist Journal*.
- 2006 Director, “Hopkins Tibetan Treasures Multimedia Research Archive.” Taiwan’s National Science Council Grant (second year).
- 2007 Editor, *Proceedings of the Fifth International Chung-Hwa Conference*.
- 2006 Director, “Hopkins Tibetan Treasures Multimedia Research Archive.” Taiwan’s National Science Council Grant (first year).
- 2005 Editorial Board, *Chung-Hwa Buddhist Journal*.
- 2000 Director, the Dharma Farm Asian Language Institute.

- 1992-1993 Visiting East Asia Fellow, Cornell University.
- 1990-92 Project Director of a two-year International Research and Studies Program grant from the Department of Education to design, write, and publish *Fluent Tibetan: A Proficiency-Oriented Learning System*. In four volumes with accompanying audio tapes.
- 1989-90 Researched, authored, and implemented first national standard Tibetan oral proficiency evaluation exams at the University of Virginia for the Center for South Asia on a grant from the Department of Education.