

# Author Biographies

## Christoph ANDERL

Christoph.Anderl@UGent.be

Christoph ANDERL is a professor in the Centre for Buddhist Studies. His main research interest is the study of Medieval Chinese, as reflected in Buddhist texts (Buddhist Hybrid Chinese), including syntax, semantics, and rhetorical devices. The focus is currently on semi-vernacular texts among the Dūnhuáng manuscript material. During recent years, research has also focused on Buddhist iconography in Central Asia and China, studying mechanisms of text-image relations in Buddhist narratives. Other interests include: Chan/Zen Buddhism; Classical/Literary Chinese (syntax); Asian history of religion; Buddhist medieval lexicography; Digital Humanities; palaeography (Dūnhuáng manuscripts); Chinese historical phonology.

## Margarita DELGADO CREAMER

delgadocreamer@pitt.edu

Margarita DELGADO CREAMER, Ph.D., currently teaches at the University of Pittsburgh. Her experience studying and teaching in England, Peru, the United States, China, and the Philippines has led her to develop a penchant for understanding cultural interaction in its diverse expressions. With an academic background in Eastern and Western philosophy, she later on specialized in Asian religions with a focus on early Chinese Buddhism and its interaction with Daoism. Her latest research focuses on the relationship of spirituality, ethics and health in Buddhism, and the transmission of Buddhism to Latin-America.

### Thomas H. HAHN

Thomas H. HAHN received his Ph.D. from Heidelberg University with a thesis on China's sacred mountains and alpine spaces. He has taught courses on regional planning, urban ecology and environmental history at Cornell University and UC Berkeley. His latest project addresses the conversion (by way of ISO certified administrative measures and infrastructural integration) of so-called sites of special scientific interest (SSSI) into national or UNESCO accredited global Geoparks in China.

### John Stratton HAWLEY

jsh3@columbia.edu

John Stratton HAWLEY—informally, Jack—is Claire Tow Professor of Religion at Barnard College, Columbia University. His most recent books on India's bhakti traditions are *A Storm of Songs: India and the Idea of the Bhakti Movement* (Harvard, 2015), *Sur's Ocean* (with Kenneth Bryant, Harvard, 2015), a poem-by-poem commentary called *Into Sur's Ocean* (Harvard Oriental Series, 2016), and *Krishna's Playground: Vrindavan in the 21st Century* (Oxford, 2020). He is the co-editor of two recent volumes bearing on bhakti: *Text and Tradition in Early Modern North India* (Oxford, 2018) and *Bhakti and Power: Debating India's Religion of the Heart* (University of Washington and Orient BlackSwan, 2019). *A Storm of Songs* received the A. K. Coomaraswamy Book Prize of the Association for Asian Studies in 2017; *Sur's Ocean* received the A. K. Ramanujan Book Prize for Translation of the Association for Asian Studies in 2018. Jack has received multiple awards from NEH, the Smithsonian, and the AIIS. He has been a Guggenheim Fellow and a Fulbright-Nehru Fellow, and has been elected to the American Academy of Arts and Sciences.

**Nelson Elliot LANDRY**

nelson.landry@sant.ox.ac.uk

Nelson Elliot Landry is a fifth year D.Phil. student at the Faculty of Asian and Middle Eastern Studies, University of Oxford. He is working on a research project regarding the Tang dynasty scholar monk master Daoxuan (596–667) and the corpus of historical texts which Daoxuan authored that touch on supernormal themes, especially Daoxuan's later compilation of miracle tales, the *Ji Shenzhou sanbao gantong lu* 集神州三寶感通錄 [Collected Record of Miracles Relating to the Three Jewels in China]. Landry completed his bachelor's degree at McGill University in 2014, where he obtained a double major in World Religions and East Asian Studies. Landry continued his studies at Peking University with the generous support of the Chinese Scholarship Council (CSC) where he took a one-year foundational course in Mandarin Chinese, and completed a three-year master's under the supervision of Professor Li Silong. Landry's master's thesis studied the narrative use of dreams in Huijiao's (497–554) *Liang Biography of Eminent Monks*, analysing these dream sequences to try and extrapolate on their role in the process of Sinification of Buddhism that is characteristic of North and South Dynasty Buddhism.

**LI Yicong 李怡淙**

yicong.li@wolfson.ox.ac.uk

Yicong LI 李怡淙 is currently a first-year D.Phil. student in Archaeology at the University of Oxford and a member of Wolfson College. Her research focuses on the material culture of ancient Gandhāra, especially the diffusion of Gandhāran royal imagery. Before starting her D.Phil., Yicong obtained her M.Phil. and B.A. in Art History from Tsinghua University. She was awarded scholarships from The Karun Thakar Fund (in collaboration with the Victoria and Albert Museum) in 2021 and The China Oxford Scholarship Fund in 2022.

**William A. McGRATH**

wmcgrath@nyu.edu

William A. McGRATH is the Robert H. N. Ho Family Foundation Assistant Professor of Buddhist Studies at New York University. His research interests include Buddhism in East and Central Asia, Tibetan and Chinese medical traditions, Tibetan language and history, and the intersections of religion and medicine. He recently edited a volume entitled *Knowledge and Context in Tibetan Medicine*.

**Michael NYLAN**

mnylan@berkeley.edu

Michael NYLAN is Sather Professor of History at the University of California, Berkeley. She writes on a wide range of topics, early and modern, in more popular and more scholarly venues. She is deeply interested in human diversity and cultural changes over time. Most recently, she has been slogging through the *Documents* classic, writing with a co-author on the 'Four Fathers of History' (Herodotus and Thucydides, Sima Qian, and Ban Gu), and trying to make sense of classical learning during the early empires.

**Gregory SCHOPEN**

schopen@humnet.ucla.edu

Gregory SCHOPEN is an Emeritus Distinguished Professor at UCLA. His work focuses on Indian Buddhist monastic life. By looking beyond canonical materials in favour of less commonly used sources such as Indian Buddhist stone inscriptions, his numerous scholarly works have shifted the field away from Buddhism as portrayed through its own doctrines toward a more realistic picture of the actual lives of Buddhists, lives that were (and remain) deeply intertwined with the economic sphere. In 1985 he received the MacArthur Grant for his work in the field of History of Religion. In 2015 he was also elected to the American Academy of Arts and Sciences.

Jacqueline I. STONE

jstone@princeton.edu

Jacqueline I. STONE is professor emerita in the Department of Religion at Princeton University, where she taught Buddhism and Japanese Religion for almost thirty years. Her chief research field is Japanese Buddhism of the medieval and modern periods. Her current research interests include traditions of the *Lotus Sutra*, particularly Tendai and Nichiren; the role of Buddhism in premodern Japanese identity formation; and modern reinterpretations of Buddhist thought. Her books include *Original Enlightenment and the Transformation of Medieval Japanese Buddhism* (2001 American Academy of Religion Award for Excellence in the Study of Religion, Historical Studies category) and *Right Thoughts at the Last Moment: Buddhism and Deathbed Practices in Early Medieval Japan* (2017 Toshihide Numata Book Award); she has also co-edited several volumes of essays on the *Lotus Sūtra* and on death and dying in Buddhism. Stone has been president of the Society for the Study of Japanese Religions and co-chair of the Buddhism section of the American Academy of Religion. Currently she is vice president of the editorial board of the Kuroda Institute for the Study of Buddhism and serves on the international advisory board of the *Japanese Journal of Religious Studies*.

WANG Jinping 王錦萍

hiswj@nus.edu.sg

WANG Jinping 王錦萍 is an assistant professor of History at the National University of Singapore. She is a social-cultural-political historian of pre-modern China, and holds a Ph.D. from Yale University (2011). Her research interests include Chinese history, Chinese religions, regional studies, and the Mongol-Yuan and Ming Empires. Her first book *In the Wake of the Mongols: The Making of a New Social Order in North China, 1200–1600* was published by Harvard in 2018. Wang is currently working on two new projects, ‘Cultural History of Quanzhen Daoism’ and ‘Empire on the Ground: A Social History of Ming-Mongol Relations in the Northern Frontiers’.

WANG Yingxue 王映雪

yingxuewang@g.harvard.edu

Yingxue WANG 王映雪 is currently a Ph.D. student in the Department of History of Art and Architecture at Harvard University. Her research examines early Buddhist material culture in seventh-century Japan by situating Japan in the inter-regional networks of social, technological, and ecological exchange in East Asia. The particular issues she has been investigating include the transmission of novel materials (such as aromatics and incense) and technologies (such as Chinese metallurgy and medicine); the role of nascent Buddhism in generating new ritual and sensory experiences in Japan; and the connections between Buddhist material culture and healing practices. Before her Ph.D., Yingxue completed her B.A. in Art History at Yale University, after which she studied at Harvard for her M.A. in Regional Studies: East Asia.

ZHAO Shanshan (Alice) 趙珊珊

ZHAO Shanshan (Alice) 趙珊珊 received her M.A. in Religious Studies from McMaster University (2019) and B.A. in Asian Studies from the University of British Columbia (2017). She was a news reporter of the *Canadian Journal of Buddhist Studies* (2016–2019), and is currently a freelance translator. Her research interests include Chinese Buddhist biographical writing, Dharma protection and protectors in the Continued Biographies of Eminent Monks, and especially how females were portrayed in the context of Dharma protection in Buddhist biographies.