

SCOTT A. MITCHELL

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EDUCATION

Graduate Theological Union, Berkeley, CA, Ph.D., Interdisciplinary Studies, 2008

Dissertation: *Taking Refuge in the Dharma: Post-colonialism, ritual theory, and American Buddhist studies*

Graduate Theological Union, Berkeley, CA, M.A., Buddhist Studies, 2002

Thesis: *Indra's Cyber Net: the impact of the Internet on the development of American Buddhism*, passed with honors

San Francisco State University, San Francisco, CA, B.A., Philosophy and Religion, 1999

Senior Project: *The Kingdom is not Beyond a Single Thought: an inter-religious examination of Thomas' Kingdom of God and the Pure Land Sukhavati*

PUBLICATIONS

Books

Methods in Buddhist Studies: essays in honor of Richard K. Payne, with Natalie Fisk Quli, London: Bloomsbury Academic, 2019, *forthcoming*.

Buddhism in America: global religion, local contexts, London: Bloomsbury Academic, 2016.

Buddhism Beyond Borders: New Perspectives on Buddhism in the United States, with Natalie E.F. Quli, SUNY Press, 2015.

Journal Articles

"The Stories We Tell: The Study and Practice of Jōdo Shinshū Buddhism," in *Pacific World: the Journal of the Institute of Buddhist Studies*, Number 19 (2017): 67-83.

"The Ritual Use of Music in US Jōdo Shinshū Buddhist Communities," *Contemporary Buddhism*. 15:2 (2014): 1-17.

"The Tranquil Meditator: representing Buddhism and Buddhists in US popular media," *Religion Compass*, 8/3 (2014): 81-89.

"Introduction to the Special Section," *Pacific World: the Journal of the Institute of Buddhist*

Studies Third Series, Number 15 (2013): 117-118.

“Christianity is for Rubes; Buddhism is for Actors’: Media Representations of Buddhism in the Wake of the Tiger Woods Scandal,” *The Journal of Global Buddhism*, 13 (2012): 61-79.

“Locally Translocal American Shin Buddhism,” *Pacific World: the Journal of the Institute of Buddhist Studies* Third Series, Number 12 (2010): 109-126.

“Sunday Morning Songs: English Language *Gāthās* in American Shinshū Temples.” *The Pure Land*. No. 22, December 2006: 127-137.

“Shin Dharma Net as Virtual *Dōjō*.” *The Pure Land*. No. 20, December 2003: 208-227.

Book Chapters

“English Language Sources on Chinese Pure Land Buddhism: a bibliographic essay,” in *A History of Pure Land Buddhism in China* by Shinko Mochizuki, translated by Leo Pruden, edited by Richard K. Payne and Natalie Quli, Berkeley: Institute of Buddhist Studies and BDK America, 2016.

“American Shin Buddhist Music,” in *The Encyclopedia of Asian American Religious Cultures*, edited by Jonathan H. X. Lee, et al. Santa Barbara: ABC-CLIO Press, 2015.

“Buddhist Modernism as Narrative: A Comparative Study of Jodo Shinshu and Zen,” with Natalie E.F. Quli, in *Buddhism Beyond Borders: New Perspectives on Buddhism in the United States*, edited by Scott A. Mitchell and Natalie E.F. Quli, SUNY Press, 2015.

“Buddhism, sacred music of,” in *Grove Dictionary of American Music, 2nd Edition*, edited by Charles Garrett, et al, New York: Oxford University Press, 2013.

“Buddhism, media, and popular culture,” in *Buddhism in the Modern World* edited by David McMahan. London: Routledge, 2012: 305-323.

“Siddhartha: Historical Buddha,” in *The Encyclopedia of Asian American Folklore and Folklife*, edited by Jonathan H. X. Lee and Kathleen Nadeau. Santa Barbara: ABC-CLIO Press, 2011.

Annotated Bibliographies

“Buddhism and the Beats,” in *Oxford Bibliographies in Buddhism*, edited by Richard Payne. New York: Oxford University Press, 2013.

“Buddhism in the West (North America and Europe),” in *Oxford Bibliographies in Buddhism*, edited by Richard Payne. New York: Oxford University Press, 2010.

“Buddhism and globalization,” in *Oxford Bibliographies in Buddhism*, edited by Richard Payne. New York: Oxford University Press, 2010.

“Buddhism in New Medias,” in *Oxford Bibliographies in Buddhism*, edited by Richard Payne. New York: Oxford University Press, 2010.

Book Reviews

Review: *Silver Screen Buddha: Buddhism in Asian and Western Film*, by Sharon A. Suh. *Journal of Contemporary Religion*, 31:3 (2016).

Review: *Mourning the Unborn Dead: a Buddhist Ritual Comes to America*, by Jeff Wilson. *The Journal of Global Buddhism*, 11 (2010).

Review: *North American Buddhists in Social Context*, edited by Paul David Numrich. *The Journal of Global Buddhism*, 10 (2009).

PRESENTATIONS

“Mid-Century Modern: race and religion in the construction of modern American Buddhism”
Buddhist Studies Group
Annual Meeting of the AAR Western District
Berkeley, CA, March 2018

Respondent: “Singing to Buddha: Buddhist Music in Contemporary Asia”
Association for Asian Studies Annual Conference
Washington, DC, March 2018

Respondent: “Religiosity and Social Consciousness in the Buddhist Churches of America”
IBS Winter Symposium
BCA National Council Meeting
Sacramento, CA, February 2018

Respondent: “Theory and Method in the Study of Transnational Religious Expression”
Transnational Religious Expression: Between Asia and North America Seminar
American Academy of Religion
Boston, MA, November 2017

Panelist: “Mochizuki’s Doctrinal History of Pure Land Buddhism in China”
International Association of Shin Buddhist Studies Annual AAR Symposium
Boston, MA, November 2017

“Mid-Century Buddhist Engagements in America: the Berkeley Temple Newsletter 1939-1953”
Ryukoku University Research Center for Buddhist Culture in Asia (BARC)
Kyoto, Japan, July 2017

“Scrambled Eggs: At the Intersection of Buddhist Economies and Knowledge Economies”
Economics and Capitalism in the Study of Buddhism Seminar
American Academy of Religion
San Antonio, TX, November 2016

“The Life of a Song: Or, Why Are We Singing ‘Buddha Loves You’?”
Panel: Transnational Buddhisms: Meditation, Music, Memory, and Mobilization
Buddhism in the West Group
American Academy of Religion
San Antonio, TX, November 2016

Keynote Speaker
Tri-State/Denver Buddhist Temple
Centennial Celebration
Denver, CO, October 2016

Presider: “Engaged Buddhism, US and Japan: Past, Present and Future”
Ryukoku University Research Center for Buddhist Culture in Asia (BARC)
International Workshop at Institute of Buddhist Studies
Berkeley, CA, March 2016

Presider: “Modern Constructions of Shin Buddhist Subjectivity”
Subjectivity in Pure Land Buddhism
XVII Biennial Meeting of the International Association of Shin Buddhist Studies
Berkeley, CA, August 2015

“Japanese Buddhism in America”
2015 Hua Yen Symposium on Buddhism
Milpitas, CA, February 2015

Presider: “Buddhism, Capitalism, and Consumer Culture”
Buddhism in the West Group
American Academy of Religion
San Diego, CA, November 2014

“The ritual use of music in US Jōdo Shinshū communities”
17th Congress of the International Association of Buddhist Studies
Vienna, Austria, August 22, 2014

“American Gāthā: the ritual use of music in US Jōdo Shinshū communities”
Invited Lecture
University of Nebraska Lincoln, March 18, 2014

“American Gāthā: Shifting Identities in US Shin Buddhist Music”
Panel: Creating and Negotiating New Forms of Buddhist Community, Identity, and Practice
Buddhism in the West Group
American Academy of Religion
Baltimore, MD, November 2013

Presider: “Boarding the Maṇḍala’s Gate: An Exploration of Science Fiction Encounters with Buddhism”
Religion and Science Fiction Group and Tibetan and Himalayan Religions Group
American Academy of Religion
Baltimore, MD, November 2013

Presider: “(Re)Imagining the Founder: Shinran in Modern Japanese History”
International Association of Shin Buddhist Studies Annual AAR Symposium
Baltimore, MD, November 2013

“From Gagaku to Calypso: Shifting Identities in US Shin Buddhist Music”
The Pure Land in Buddhist Cultures
XVI Biennial Meeting of the International Association of Shin Buddhist Studies
Vancouver, British Columbia, June 2013

Presider: “Blurred Borders: Pan-Asianism, Transnationalism, and Buddhist Identities”
Buddhism Section
American Academy of Religion
Chicago, IL, November 2012

“Buddhism in the American Media Imagination”

10th DANAM Conference

Dharma Academy of North America

Chicago, IL, November 2012

“Contemporary Lay Practice in American Shin and Zen Buddhist Communities,”

With Rev. Daijaku Judith Kinst

Symposium: Domestic Dharma; Beyond Texts, Beyond Monasteries

Institute of Buddhist Studies

Berkeley, CA, September 2012

“Sex, Lies, and Buddhism: Buddhism in the Media Imagination”

Conference on Spirituality, Political Engagement, and Public Life

Social Science Research Council

Columbia University, New York, June 2011

“Buddhism, Pop-culture, and the Homogenization of the Dharma”

XIV Biennial Meeting of the International Association of Shin Buddhist Studies

Kyoto, Japan, June 2009

“Historical Development of American Shinshu *Gāthās*”

IBS Winter Symposium at the BCA National Council Meeting

Irvine, CA, February, 2009

“The End of American Buddhism: Toward a Transnational Perspective”

Buddhism in the West Consultation

American Academy of Religion

Chicago, IL, November 2008

Moderator, Panel: “Challenging the Boundaries: Problems of Essentialization in the Studies of Asian American Religions”

Asian Pacific American Religions Research Initiative conference, (Re)Defining Religious Studies: The Next Decade of APARRI

Berkeley, CA, August 2008

“Taking Refuge in the Dharma: Ritual and the Study of Buddhism in the West”

XVth Congress of the International Association of Buddhist Studies, Ethnography Section

Atlanta, GA, June 2008

“Reading the Dharma Talk as Ritual: a Status Report”

Buddhist Studies Group

Annual Meeting of the AAR Western District

Berkeley, CA, March 2007

“Sunday Morning Songs: English Language *Gāthās* in American Shinshu Temples”

XII Biennial Meeting of the International Association for Shin Buddhist Studies

Tokyo, Japan, September 2005

“Shin Dharma Net as Virtual *Dōjō*”

XI Biennial Meeting of the International Association for Shin Buddhist Studies

Berkeley, CA, September 2003

TEACHING & SERVICE

Core Faculty, Rev. Yoshitaka Tamai Professor of Jōdo Shinshū Buddhist Studies, Institute of Buddhist Studies

2009-present

Dean of Students and Faculty Affairs, Institute of Buddhist Studies

2016-present

Assistant Dean of Student Affairs, Institute of Buddhist Studies

2013-2015

Core Doctoral Faculty, Graduate Theological Union

2012-present

Students Supervised

Michelle Mueller, Graduate Theological Union, PhD, 2017

Performed Polygamy and Polyamory in the Media Age: an ethnography of nonmonogamous religious and spiritual families in reality television

Thomas Calobrisi, Graduate Theological Union, MA, 2016

On Mindful Civil Religion: a study of the rhetoric of the mindfulness movement in the United States, passed with honors

Chenxing Han, Graduate Theological Union, MA, 2014

Engaging the Invisible Majority: Conversations with Young Adult Asian American Buddhists, passed with honors

Alexander Kantner, Graduate Theological Union, MA, 2013

The Invisible Robe: a comparative study of lay and priest practice in the American Soto Zen lineage of Shunryu Suzuki

Anne Spencer, Graduate Theological Union, MA, 2012

Jodo Shinshu Buddhism in the United States: A Survey

PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS & SERVICE

Conference Organizer

XVII Biennial Meeting of the International Association of Shin Buddhist Studies
Berkeley, Ca, August 2015

Spring Numata Symposium: Narrative in Buddhist Texts, Practice, and Transmission, Berkeley
April 2014

International Association of Shin Buddhist Studies, Related Scholarly Organization Meeting in
Conjunction with the American Academy of Religion Annual Meeting
2013-present

The Institute of Buddhist Studies' Annual Graduate Student Symposium, Faculty Advisor
2011-2013, 2017-present

“Revisiting the Pure Land: New Research in Pure Land Buddhist Studies”
Exploratory Wildcard, Annual Meeting of the American Academy of Religion, San Francisco
November 2011

Buddhism Without Borders: Contemporary Developments in Buddhism in the West
Institute of Buddhist Studies, Berkeley, CA
March 2010

Steering Committee Member

Buddhism in the West Group, Steering Committee
American Academy of Religion
2014-present, Co-chair, 2018-present

Transnational Religious Expression: Between Asia and North America Seminar
American Academy of Religion
2017-present

The Asia Project, Managing Board
Graduate Theological Union
2009-present

International Association of Shin Buddhist Studies, North American District
Steering Committee Member and Treasurer
2009-present

Economics and Capitalism in the Study of Buddhism Seminar
American Academy of Religion
2015-2017

Editorial Committees

Oxford Encyclopedia of Buddhism, Senior Editor
2015-present

Pure Land Buddhist Studies Series of the University of Hawai'i Press
2014-present

Pacific World: Journal of the Institute of Buddhist Studies
2010-present

The Pure Land: Journal of the International Association of Shin Buddhist Studies
2011-present

Memberships

Association of Asian Studies
American Academy of Religion
International Association of Buddhist Studies
International Association of Shin Buddhist Studies

FELLOWSHIPS & GRANTS

Newhall Teaching and Research Fellowship, 2003-2004

RESEARCH LANGUAGES

Modern Japanese, written

French, written

Rev. January 2019