

KAMMIE MORRISON TAKAHASHI
Department of Religion Studies, Muhlenberg College

Curriculum Vitae

EDUCATION

- Ph.D. University of Virginia
-Religious Studies Department, History of Religion, Tibetan and Chinese Buddhist Studies
- M.A. University of Virginia
-Religious Studies Department, History of Religion, Tibetan and Chinese Buddhist Studies
- B.A. Mount Holyoke College
-Asian Studies and English Literature (double major)
- International: Ryukoku University (Kyoto, Japan)
Stanford University's Center for Japanese Language Study (Yokohama, Japan)
University of Wisconsin Year in Nepal (Kathmandu, Nepal)

TEACHING AND ADMINISTRATION

Muhlenberg College

Associate Professor, Religion Studies	2018 - present
Director of Asian Studies	2014 - present
Assistant Professor, Religion Studies	2012-18
Visiting Assistant Professor, Religion Studies	2011-12

Washington University in St. Louis

Andrew W. Mellon Postdoctoral Teaching Fellow 2009-11

PUBLICATIONS

"Like Birds Soaring and Fish Gliding: View and Method in the Mahāyoga Texts of Buddhaghosha."

The Journal of the International Association for Buddhist Studies (41) 2019.

"The Thirty Apophatic Topics in Pelyang's *Thugs kyi sgron ma*." *Revue d'Etudes Tibétaines* (41) 2018.

"dPal dbyangs." *The Treasury of Lives: A Biographical Encyclopedia of Tibet, Inner Asia, and the Himalaya*.
Forthcoming (2017).

"Contribution, Attribution, and Selective Lineal Amnesia in the Case of Mahāyogin dPal dbyangs" in
Revue d'Etudes Tibétaines (32) 2015.

"Ritual and Philosophical Speculation in the *Rdo rje sems dpa'i zhus lan*" in *Aspects of Esoteric Buddhism at Dunhuang*, eds. Matthew T. Kapstein and Sam van Schaik. Leiden: EJ Brill, 2010.

CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS, PANELS, AND PUBLIC LECTURES

- “Minding the Mountain and Surveying the Sea: Integrating Ecology and Religion Studies in Japan,” ASIANetwork Annual Conference, Spring 2018.
- “The (Concentric) Magic Circles of Hosoda’s *Summer Wars*: Religion, media, and play,” ASIANetwork Annual Conference, Spring 2017.
- “Pronouncing Praxis and Doing Doxography: Exploring the functions of genre in early Tibetan tantra,” McMaster University Numata Buddhist Studies Lecture Series, invited lecture, Spring 2017.
- “Buddhaguhya’s Greater and Lesser *Lam nam par bkod pa*,” University of Toronto Buddhist Studies Department, invited workshop, Spring 2017.
- “The Many Meanings of Death in Buddhist Traditions Worldwide” Lehigh Valley Hospice, invited lecture, Spring 2017.
- “View and Method in the Tantric Texts of Buddhaguhya,” Religion Studies Department Colloquium, Spring 2016.
- “Birds and Fishes: View and method in the Mahāyoga texts of Buddhaguhya,” American Academy of Religion Annual Meeting, Fall 2015
- “Tibetan Buddhism in Bhutan and Nepal,” University of Pennsylvania, invited lecture, Spring 2015.
- “Unobserved, Unobserving: Meditations on nonduality in early Tibetan tantra,” ASIANetwork Annual Conference, Spring 2015.
- “Body and Spirit in Dzogchen Great Perfection” panel organizer, ASIANetwork Annual Conference, Spring 2015
- Luce Fellowship Mentor Roundtable participant, ASIANetwork Annual Conference, Spring 2015
- “Buddhist Deathways,” Lehigh Valley Hospice, invited lecture Fall 2014
- “Surpassing the Unsurpassed and Delineating the Indivisible: Buddhaguhya’s Heuristic *Mārgavyūha*,” International Association of Tibetan Studies, Ulaanbaatar, Mongolia, Summer 2013
- “Celebration and Elision: The [missing] life of Peyang,” Association of Asian Studies Annual Meeting, San Diego, Spring 2013
- “Knots in the Sky: Boundaries and unboundedness in early Tibetan tantra,” Centre College, invited lecture Spring 2012
- “Contribution, Attribution, and Selective Lineal Amnesia,” American Academy of Religion Annual Meeting, Fall 2011
- “Buddhist Cosmologies: Being, Becoming, and Emptiness,” Muhlenberg College Family Weekend Faculty Lecture, 2011
- “The Inconceivable Eye of the Peacock’s Feather: The reimagination of tantra in Master Pelyang’s Mahāyoga,” Washington University, Spring 2010
- “The Lamps of Peyang,” XIV Conference of the International Association of Buddhist Studies, London, Fall 2005
- “*Saishokushugi to bukkijō* (Vegetarianism and Buddhism),” Numata Foundation, Japan, invited lecture Spring 2001

INSTITUTIONAL GRANTS

Luce Foundation ASIANetwork Postdoctoral Teaching Fellowship Grant, awarded to Muhlenberg College for faculty hire in Asian Performance, 2014-15 (\$40,000)

AWARDS AND FELLOWSHIPS

Muhlenberg College Bridge Builder Award, multiple years
Mellon Foundation site visit grant to Japan, Summer 2016 (with Kimberly Heiman)
Muhlenberg College Parent's Fund Award, 2011
Andrew W. Mellon Postdoctoral Teaching Fellowship, Washington University, 2009-11
W. Dexter Whitehead Dissertation Fellowship, University of Virginia, 2007-08
1836 Distinguished Alumni Award, Mount Holyoke College, 2006
Bukkyō Dendō Kyōkai Fellowship for Research in Japan, 2000-01
Foreign Language and Area Studies Fellowships (Tibetan), University of Virginia, multiple years
Ellen Bayard Weedon Grants for study in Asia, University of Virginia, multiple awards
Robert J. Huskey Fellowships for study travel to Asia, University of Virginia, multiple awards

COURSES TAUGHT AT MUHLENBERG COLLEGE

Buddhist Traditions
Death and Desire in Tibetan Buddhism
Ecology and Religion in Japan (MILA, co-taught with Kimberly Heiman, Biology, and Sustainability Studies)
Gender and Sexuality in Buddhism
Journey to the West: Transnational Asian Media and Religion (cluster course with Irene Chien, Media and Communications)
Pilgrimage: Rites of Way
Religion and Ecology (Senior Capstone for Religion Studies)
Religions of China (regular seminar and as IL "Religion in the Residences")
Religions of Japan
Theory and Method in Religion Studies
Writing Meditation (first-year seminar and Muhlenberg Scholar course)
Zen Buddhism

PROFESSIONAL SERVICE

Center for Ethics Institute Program Director for "Crisis Earth: The Ethics of the Anthropocene," Muhlenberg College 2018-19
National Working Group member for "Enhancing Asian Studies: Asia in the Liberal Arts Curriculum" project, funded by the Henry Luce Foundation 2018-2021
President's Search Committee for College Chaplain, Muhlenberg College 2018
Curriculum Committee (Dean of Academic Life petitions subcommittee), Muhlenberg College Fall 2016
Dana Honors Program thesis advisor, Muhlenberg College 2014-15

Lectures and Forums Committee (Chair 2014-16), Muhlenberg College 2013-16
College Library Committee, Muhlenberg College 2013-16
President's Sustainability Committee (Food and Dining Subcommittee Chair), Muhlenberg College
2015-present
Prestigious Awards Committee, Muhlenberg College 2012-present
Religion Studies and Asian Studies Library Liaison, Muhlenberg College 2012-15
Religion Studies and Cultures Forum Faculty Advisor, Muhlenberg College 2013-15
Sustainable Table PreOrientation Program Advisor, Muhlenberg College 2017
Theta Alpha Kapa Religious Studies Honors Society Faculty Advisor, Muhlenberg College 2012-
present

RESEARCH INTERESTS

- Esoteric Shugendō cult in Tōhoku Japan, Kankiten imagery, and mountain cults
- Mahāyoga tantra, the *Guhya garbha tantra*, and its exegetical cycles during the Dynastic Age and Age of Fragmentation; the creative processes of religious adoption and re-formation with particular attention to tantra
- Great Perfection (*rdzogs chen*); Nubchen Sanggye Yeshe (10c) and his *Lamp Eye of Contemplation*; the Mind Series (*Sems sde*) corpus; development of non-tantric meditative technique as ultimate stages of accomplishment within tantric communities
- The Dunhuang esoteric manuscripts, with special focus on the Tibetan Mahāyoga and Chan texts and the role of Chinese thought in the development of early Tibetan Buddhism
- Indian tantric exegete Buddhaguhya, early Indian-Tibetan collaboration in tantric transmissions

PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS

American Academy of Religion, American Oriental Society, ASIANetwork, International Association of Buddhist Studies, Association of Asian Studies, International Association of Tibetan Studies