

Robert Company (Vanderbilt University)

Reading Group: "Religious Repertoires and Contestation: A Case Study Based on Buddhist Miracle Tales"

Geoffrey Samuel (Cardiff University)

Lecture: "The Multiple Meanings and Uses of Tibetan Sacred Dance: 'Cham' in Context"

Jens-Uwe Hartmann (Ludwig-Maximilians-Universität München)

Lecture: "A Hub and a Cradle: Gandhara and the Spread of Buddhism"

## **Simon Fraser University**

### **Paul Crowe**

While Simon Fraser University has no department for Asian Studies, nor a Religious Studies department, we do have a Religious Studies certificate in the Department of Humanities and Religion is frequently a subject of study in our Asia-Canada Program. Additionally, the David See-Chai Lam Centre for International Communication occasionally hosts speakers. It is in these institutional contexts that matters related to Buddhist scholarship and undergraduate teaching are addressed.

During the past year, two courses dealt with various dimensions of Buddhist thought and praxis. Humanities 331, taught by Paul Crowe, considered Buddhist ethics in relation to contemporary challenges, such as economic and social justice, ecological concerns, and reproductive rights. Asia-Canada 300, taught by Michael Newton, began with an examination of concepts such as orientalism, foundational myths, transnationalism and globalism as a way of framing discussion of Buddhism and martial arts in North American popular culture.

The David See-Chai Lam Centre for International Communication hosted a dialogue between Dharma Master Guojun and Paul Crowe titled "Roots of an Ecological Consciousness in Buddhist and Daoist Approaches to Cultivation." Dharma Master Guojun received monastic ordainment under Master Song Nian at Mahabodhi Monastery, Singapore. He received lineage transmission in the Chan School of Chinese Buddhism from Master Sheng Yen of Dharma Drum Mountain in Jinshan, Taiwan. He has been the President of Mahabodhi Monastery Board of Directors, Singapore since 2004 and Abbot of Mahabodhi Monastery, Singapore since 2008.

Next semester the Asia-Canada program will offer a third-year course that looks at Buddhist institutions in British Columbia and another, fourth-year course, will consider Asian heritage religious organizations in the evolving context of multicultural public policy and public philosophy and dramatically shifting demographics stemming from immigration.

## University of British Columbia

### Dewei Zhang

The Department of Asian Studies held a workshop titled, “The Space That Is More than Space: New Perspectives on Buddhist Sacred Sites in East Asia” in the UBC Asian Centre on August 2, 2013. This workshop was sponsored by the Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council of Canada (SSHRC). It had one keynote speech and two panels. The keynote address was given by Ven. Shengkai 釋聖凱 (Associate Professor, Tsinghua University) and was titled, “Zhongguo fojiao ‘Sida mingshan’ xinyang de xingcheng” 中國佛教“四大名山”信仰傳統的形成 (The formation of the tradition of belief in the “Four Famous Mountains” in Chinese Buddhism).

## University of Calgary

### Wendi L. Adamek

The 2013 Leslie S. Kawamura Memorial Lecture, titled “Vision, Song, and Self: Contemplative Practice in Western and Tibetan Landscapes,” was given by Professor Anne Klein/Rigzin Dolma of the Department of Religious Studies at Rice University. She also gave a talk for Religious Studies faculty and students, “Nine Vehicles, One Path: Short Takes from Jigme Lingpa and Longchen Rabjam.” We are pleased to announce that the 2014 speaker will be Professor Jan Nattier, dates and topic to be announced.

Wendi L. Adamek will be joining the Religious Studies faculty in January as the new incumbent of the Numata Chair in Buddhist Studies. Dr. Adamek received her doctorate from Stanford University and specializes in medieval Chinese Buddhism.

James B. Apple published seven articles as well as a book, *A Stairway taken by the Lucid: Tsong kha pa’s Study of Noble Beings* (Aditya Prakashan: Śāta-piṭaka Series, 2013). He was also recently a Research Fellow at the Institute for Research in Humanities, Kyoto University, Kyoto, Japan.