

Rutgers University, who presented “A Poet’s Repertoire in Early Medieval China,” on Buddhist and Lao-Zhuang thought in the works of Sun Chuo (314-371). In December we welcome Professor Burkhard Scherer, topic TBA, of Canterbury Christ Church University (U.K.), currently Numata Visiting Chair in Buddhist Studies at McGill University.

## **Carleton University**

Angela Sumegi

In March, 2014 the College of the Humanities Religion Program hosted The Annual Edgar and Dorothy Davidson Lecture: “Pali Buddhist Practices of the Self.” Renowned Pali scholar Steven Collins situated Buddhist meditation in the larger context of spiritual practices and technologies of the self. He began by noting that “the denial that there is an eternal, unchanging self does not invalidate ordinary language talk about self; ‘practices of the self’ refers to an area of mental/physical focus, not to an item of metaphysics.”

Collins is the Chester D. Tripp Professor in the Humanities, Department of South Asian Languages and Civilizations at the University of Chicago. He specializes in the social and cultural history of Buddhism in premodern and modern South and Southeast Asia, and in Pali language and literature. Among numerous other works in the field of Pali Buddhist Studies, Professor Collins is the author of *Selfless Persons: imagery and thought in Theravada Buddhism*, Cambridge University Press, 1982, and *Nirvana: concept, imagery, narrative*. Cambridge University Press, 2010.

## **McGill University**

Victor Sōgen Hori

Professor Lara Braitstein spent the summer of 2014 at the Rangjung Yeshe Institute in Kathmandu, Nepal, developing her research on the life of the 10th Shamarpa Chōdrup Gyatso (1742-1792). Professor Victor Hori was on sabbatical leave during 2013-14. He spent three months at the Nanzan Institute for Religion and Culture in Japan, two months as Visiting Researcher-in-Residence at VU University in Amsterdam and a term at the Centre for Studies in Religion and Society at University of Victoria in B.C. He worked on his SSHRC-funded research project “The Modernization of Buddhism in Global Perspective.”