

GINA COGAN

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EDUCATION

- October 2004** **Ph.D. in Religion, Columbia University**
Dissertation: "Precepts and Power: Enshōji, Buddhism and the State in
Seventeenth Century Japan"
- May 1995** **M.A. in Religious Studies, New York University**
Master's Thesis: "Legitimation Strategies of Sinhalese *Dasasilamattawas*"
- May 1990** **B.A. in Philosophy, Georgetown University**
Senior Thesis: "The Theory of Presuppositions in Aristotle and Nietzsche"

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

BOSTON UNIVERSITY, Boston, MA

Assistant Professor of Asian Religions, September 2005 – present

Teach two courses per semester, ranging from small seminars to large lectures. Courses include "World Religions: East," "Buddhism," "Japanese Religion," "Chinese Religion," "Zen Buddhism," "Buddhism in America" and "Women in East Asian Religions."

THE STATE UNIVERSITY OF NEW JERSEY, RUTGERS, New Brunswick, NJ

Adjunct Instructor, Fall 2003, Spring 2004, Summer 2004

Taught the course "Religions of the Eastern World" for three semesters.

BARNARD COLLEGE, PRE-COLLEGE PROGRAMS, New York, NY

Instructor, Summer 2003

Taught the course "Religious and Cultural Worlds of New York City Neighborhoods" as part of a five-week program for high-school students.

HUNTER COLLEGE, New York, NY

Adjunct Instructor, Spring 2003

Taught the course "Nature of Religion," an introduction to world religions.

COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY, New York, NY

Instructor, Summer 2001, Summer 2004

Taught the course "Buddhism: East Asian."

PUBLICATIONS

“Time Capsules for Tradition: Repositioning Imperial Convents for the Meiji Period.” *U.S. – Japan Women’s Journal, English Supplement*, 30-31, 2006, 80 – 104.

“Precepts at Enshōji: The Rules of a Seventeenth-century *Amadera*.” In *Bridging Worlds: Buddhist Women’s Voices Across Generations*, edited by Karma Lekshe Tsomo, Taipei: Yuan Chuan Press, 2004, pp. 237-240.

“Gender and Authenticity in Contemporary Japanese Pop Music: 1980-2000.” With co-author Brian Cogan. In *Popular Music and Society* February 2006, pp. 87 – 108.

WORKS IN PROGRESS

“Serving the Buddha Through Serving the Emperor: Imperial Buddhist Monks and Nuns as Abbots, Abbesses and Adoptees in Edo Japan.” Article to be published in a multi-author work on Buddhism and the family, edited by Liz Wilson of Miami University of Ohio. Draft was submitted June 1, 2008.

The Princess Nun: Bunchi, Buddhism and Sovereign Power in Seventeenth-Century Japan. Manuscript to be submitted to the Asia Center of Harvard University Press.

CONFERENCE PAPERS AND LECTURES

“The ‘Kanbun 4 Regulations:’ Morals and Manners at a Seventeenth-Century Imperial Convent.” Paper presented at the annual Numata Buddhist Studies Conference, on Buddhist Training in Japan, at the University of Toronto, April 18, 2009.

“Serving the Buddha Through Serving the Emperor: Imperial Buddhist Monks and Nuns as Abbots, Abbesses, and Adoptees in Early Modern Japan.” Lecture given as part of the Edwin O. Reischauer Institute of Japanese Studies Japan Forum series, November 7, 2008

“Nuns as Teachers, Nuns as Students: Issues of Authority and Identity for Women in Early Modern Japanese Buddhism.” Paper presented at “Religious Women in the Premodern World,” a three-day symposium on nuns in premodern Asia and Europe, held at Chateau de la Bretesche, Missillac, France, July 6-9, 2008.

“Buddhist Nuns in Japan.” Talk given as part of the Asian Studies Lunch Series at Boston University, Thursday November 8, 2007

Respondent for two papers presented in Japanese on a panel on nuns and convents that was part of a two-day symposium, “Beyond Buddhology: New Directions in the Study of Japanese Buddhism,” held at Harvard University on November 2 and 3, 2007.

“Imperial Buddhist Nuns: Cooperation and Competition.” Talk given at Tertulia, the Junior Faculty in the Humanities group, February 15, 2007

“Serving the Buddha Through Serving the Emperor: Imperial Buddhist Monks and Nuns as Abbots, Abbesses and Adoptees in Edo Japan.” Paper presented at the annual meeting of the

American Academy of Religion in Washington, D.C., November 20, 2006. Organized and proposed the panel *Clerics and Family, Clerics as Family: Rethinking the Role of Families in Monastic Buddhism*, at which this paper was presented.

“The Ordination of Buddhist Nuns.” Talk given at the Anna Howard Shaw Center, Boston University, February 12, 2006.

“The Ordination of Women in Japan.” Talk given at the Buddhist Christian Dialogue 2005 conference at Loyola Marymount University, Los Angeles, June 4, 2005.

“The Presence of the Buddha: Cosmic Connection, Temporal Continuity, and Historical Consciousness in the Lineages of Early Modern Japanese Buddhist Nuns.” Paper presented at the annual meeting of the American Academy of Religion in San Antonio Texas, November 20, 2004, at a panel, *Writing Women into Religious History/ies*, co-organized with Anne Murphy assistant professor of religion at the New School for Social Research.

“Competition, Cooperation, Criticism: Aristocratic Nuns and the Formation of Elite Religious Identities in Early Tokugawa Japan.” Lecture given as part of the Edwin O. Reischauer Institute of Japanese Studies Japan Forum series, October 8, 2004.

“Precepts at Enshōji: The Rules of a Seventeenth-century Japanese Convent.” Paper presented at the Mid-Atlantic American Academy of Religion Annual Meeting, March 18, 2004.

Enshōji to Bunchi, jūnanaseiki no amadera to kairitsu o megutte.” (Enshōji and Bunchi: A Study of a Seventeenth-century Convent and its Precepts) Paper Presented at the Amadera chōsa kenkyūkai. Nara, Japan, August 2002. (In Japanese)

“Precepts at Enshōji: The Rules of a Seventeenth-century *Amadera*.” Paper presented at the Seventh Sakyadhita International Conference on Buddhist Women, Taipei, Taiwan, July 2002.

AWARDS

Japan Foundation Short-Term Summer Research Grant, June-August 2007

Japan Foundation Post Doctoral Fellowship Recognition Program, November 2004

Postdoctoral Fellow, Reischauer Institute of Japanese Studies, Harvard University 2004 - 2005

Dissertation Research Fellow, Japan Foundation, 2001-2002

Foreign Language and Area Studies Fellowship, Inter-University Center for Japanese Language Study, 1998-1999

Foreign Language and Area Studies Fellowship, Columbia University, 1997-1998

President’s Fellowship, Columbia University, 1995-2002

Religion Department Fellowship, New York University, 1992-1994

ACADEMIC AND ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICE

Boston University 2006 – present

Member, organizing committee for Dialogues with Eve Sedgwick, Spring 2009-present.

Member of a group of faculty organizing a one-day symposium honoring the work of Eve

Sedgwick to be held Oct 31 at Boston University. Will lead two or more student discussion groups to increase student awareness and involvement in this symposium.

Member, organizing committee for Carnal Knowledge, Spring 2009-present. Member of a group of faculty organizing a one-day symposium on knowledge, sexuality, and gender in the fields of religious studies, science, and American studies/popular culture. This symposium will be held on April 12, 2010.

Member, Humanities Curriculum Committee. Fall 2008 - present Member of a committee that reviews and recommends for college-wide approval syllabi and degree programs within the College of Arts and Sciences.

Member, Boston University Center for the Study of Asia charter committee, Spring 2008. Helped write the charter for this new interdisciplinary center.

Member, search committee. 2007-2008 Member of a search committee that reviewed applications for a junior position in Religions of Asia, leading to a hire in Chinese Religions.

Co-Organizer, Tertulia 2007-2008. With another faculty member, organized this monthly series for junior faculty in the humanities in which members present their research and go to dinner afterwards. Booked rooms for presentations, arranged audio-visual equipment and took charge of mailing list.

Co-Organizer, Asian Studies Faculty Lunch Series, 2007-2008. With another faculty member, arranged this monthly lunch at which member of the BU faculty from all schools and disciplines relating to Asia presented their research.

Chair, Committee on Graduate Program Requirements, summer 2007. Led a three-member committee designed to assess the requirements of the Division of Religious and Theological Studies Ph.D. programs by comparing them to similar programs in the humanities at Boston University and other Ph.D. programs in religion. Convened meetings and prepared a report that was submitted to the College of Arts and Science Religion department in the September 2007 that incorporated my comparative research and interviews by the two other members of faculty in religion

Associate Director, Division of Religious and Theological Studies, 2006-2008. Led monthly workshops for teaching assistants and interviewed graduate students in order to place them in teaching assistant positions for the 2006-2007 and 2007 – 2008 academic year.

Faculty advisor, Students for Camp Heartland, a student organization that raises money for a summer camp for children living with or affected by HIV/AIDS. 2006-present

Faculty advisor, Women's Interfaith Action Group, a student organization that runs events designed to promote interfaith understanding. 2006 –present.

American Academy of Religion

Member, steering committee. Fall, 2008-present. On the steering committee of a new consultation, Religion, Memory, History. The first panels will be held at the American Academy of Religion annual meeting in Montreal on November 7 and 9.

RELATED EXPERIENCE

Member, Kyoto joshi daigaku komonjo kenkyûkai, Kyoto, Japan, April – August 2002. Member of a research group at Kyoto Women's University that met weekly to catalogue the archives of Mishima Jinja, a Shinto shrine.

Member, ama monzeki komojo chôsa, Kyoto and Nara, Japan, 2001-2002, 2008. Member of a research group led by Oka Yoshiko of Otemae joshi daigaku and Nishiguchi Junko of Sôai daigaku and funded by Japan's Ministry of Culture and Science. This group surveyed and catalogued documents from the archives of two convents, Reikanji and Chûgûji, during three three-day surveys.

Reviewer, *Publisher's Weekly*, 1999-2001. Reviewed books on Buddhism and Asian religion.

Rapporteur, International Workshop on Shinto Studies in the West, Columbia University, March 5-6, 1998. Took notes on speakers in English and Japanese and prepared minutes.

LANGUAGES

Reading and speaking proficiency in modern Japanese

Reading competence in classical Japanese and classical Chinese

Reading competence in Sanskrit

MEMBERSHIPS

American Academy of Religion

Association for Asian Studies