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Current Positions

Professor of Religion and Anthropology, Boston University, September 2009-present
Affiliated Professor of Folklore & Mythology, Harvard University, September 2015-present

Visiting Professorships

Amherst College, Spring Semester 2016
Harvard University, Spring Semester 2014
Heidelberg University, Summer Semester 2012
University of Hyderabad, Summer Semester 1990.
Mahatma Gandhi Memorial College, Summer Semester, 1989.

Previous Positions

Associate Professor of Religion and Anthropology, Boston University, September 2004-August 2009
Assistant Professor of Religion and Anthropology, Boston University, September 1998-August 2004
Curator of Asian and Middle Eastern Collections, Museum of International Folk Art, September 1993-August 1998
Adjunct Lecturer in Religion and Anthropology, Santa Fe Community College, January 1994-August 1998
Postdoctoral Fellow, Smithsonian Institution, Center for Folklife Programs and Cultural Heritage, September 1992-August 1993
Cultural Consultant, Ford Foundation, New Delhi and Dhaka Offices, Intermittently May 1989-July 1990

Personal Information

Birth: December 15, 1957, Kikinda, Serbia (formerly Yugoslavia)
Citizenship: U.S.A., naturalized 1966

Education

Ph.D. Folklore and Folklife, University of Pennsylvania, 1992.
M.A. Folklore and Folklife, University of Pennsylvania, 1987.
B.A. Anthropology and Religious Studies, University of Colorado, 1984.

Publications

I. Authored Books

Village of Painters: Narrative Scrolls from West Bengal. 2006. Santa Fe: Museum of New Mexico Press.
South Asian Folklore: A Handbook. 2006. Westport, CT: Greenwood Press.
Hosay Trinidad: Muharram Performances in an Indo-Caribbean Diaspora. 2003. Philadelphia: University of Pennsylvania Press.
Folkloristics and Indian Folklore. 1991. Udupi, India: Regional Resource Center for the Folk Performing Arts. [co-authored with P. J. Claus]

II. Edited Books

South Asian Folklore in Transition: Crafting New Horizons. 2019. New York: Routledge [co-edited with Leah Lowthorp].
Anthropology of Performance: A Reader. 2013. Malden, MA: Wiley-Blackwell.

Constructing Tibetan Culture: Contemporary Perspectives. 1997. St-Hyacinthe, Québec: World Heritage Press.

Tibetan Culture in the Diaspora. 1997. Vienna: Austrian Academy of Sciences Press.

Gender, Genre and Power in South Asian Expressive Traditions. 1991. Philadelphia: University of Pennsylvania Press. [co-edited with A. Appadurai & M. Mills]

Pakistani Folk Culture: A Select Annotated Bibliography. 1988. Islamabad, Pakistan: National Institute of Folk Heritage.

III. Edited Special Issues

“Crafting New Horizons: South Asian Folklore in Transition.” *South Asian History and Culture* 8/4 (2017).

“South Asian Nationalisms.” *Asian Ethnology* (In Progress).

IV. Book Chapters and Articles

“Masculine Posturing in the Bengali Chitrakar Repertoire.” *Tasveer Ghar* (In Press).

“The Medinipur Flood of 1978: An Emic Perspective.” *Man in India* (In Press).

“It Ain’t Religion, It’s Just Culture, Man! Muharram Controversies in the Indo-Caribbean Diaspora.” In P. Sohoni & T. Tschacher (eds.). *Beyond Mourning: South Asian Muharram Outside the Shia Frame*. London: Routledge (In Press).

“The World According to Ghanaram: A Partial Translation of His *Gitarambha*.” In H. Harder & C. Brandt (eds.). *Festschrift in Honour of Rahul Peter Das on His 65th Birthday*. Berlin: CrossAsia. (In Press).

“The Rise of Vernacular Religious Movements in Medieval Bengal.” In A. M. Chowdhury & P. Akhtaruzzaman (eds.). *History of Bangladesh: Medieval*. Dhaka: Asiatic Society of Bangladesh (In Press).

“Religious Nationalisms Compared: The Curious Cases of India and Serbia.” In S. Bronner & W. Mieder (eds.). *Contexts of Folklore: Festschrift for Dan Ben-Amos on His Eighty-Fifth Birthday*. 2019. New York: Peter Lang, pp. 169-180.

“Folklore & Nationalism in India and Serbia: A Comparative Exploration.” *Bulletin of the Nanzan Anthropological Institute* 9 (2019): 87-103.

“Click Here for Enlightenment: On Tibet, Hollywood, Virtual Communities, Cyberspace, and Other Matters of Representational Discourse.” In S. Bhoil & E. Galvan-Alvarez (eds.) *Tibetan Subjectivities on the Global Stage: Negotiating Dispossession*. 2018. New York: Lexington Books, pp. 43-67.

“The Role of Humor in the Bengali Chitrakar Repertoire.” In R. Bendix & D. Noyes (eds.) *Terra Ridens – Terra Narrans: Festschrift zum 65. Geburtstag von Ulrich Marzolph*. 2018. Dortmund, Germany: Verlag für Orientkunde, pp. 1-24.

“Writing Sequoyah: On the Uses and Abuses of Cherokee Literacy.” In P. Chenna Reddy & M. Sarat Babu (eds.). *Psycho-Cultural Analysis of Folklore: Essays in Honor of Alan Dundes*. 2018. Delhi: B. R. Publishing Corporation, pp. 361-386.

“The Chitrakar’s Dilemma: Globalization’s Impact on Traditional Work.” In J. Wechsler (ed.) *Many Visions, Many Versions: Art from Indigenous Communities in India*. 2017. Washington, DC: International Arts & Artists, pp. 38-43, 118-121.

“Introduction: Locating the Study of Folklore in Modern South Asian Studies.” *South Asian History and Culture* 8/4 (2017): 404-413 [reprinted in F. J. Korom & L. L. Lowthorp (eds.) *South Asian Folklore in Transition: Crafting New Horizons*. 2019. New York: Routledge, pp. 1-10].

“Social Change as Depicted in the Folklore of the Bengali Patuas: A Pictorial Essay.” In F. Mahmud & S. Khatun (eds.) *Social Change and Folklore*. 2017. Dhaka: Bangla Academy, pp. 27-38.

“Longing and Belonging at a Sufi Saint Shrine Abroad.” In D. Dandekar & T. Tschacher (eds.). *Islam, Sufism, and Everyday Politics of Belonging in South Asia*. 2017. London: Routledge, pp. 77-99.

“A Telling Place: Narrative and the Construction of Locality in a Bengali Village.” *Narrative Culture* 3/1 (2016): 32-66.

“Modern Anxieties and Sufi Solutions: Bawa Muhaiyaddeen and the Origins of a Transnational Sufi Family.” In M. Faghfoory & G. Dastagir (eds.). *Sufism and Social Integration: Connecting Hearts, Crossing Boundaries*. 2015. Chicago: Kazi Publications, pp. 253-267 [reprinted in F. Mahmud & S. Khatun (eds.) *Folklore: New Challenges*. 2015. Dhaka: Bangla Academy, pp. 295-306].

“Singing About Disaster: How Oral Tradition Serves or Does Not Serve Governmentalities.” *Annual Papers of the Anthropological Institute* 5 (2015): 131-150.

“Unraveling a Narrative Scroll about Modernity and Its Discontents.” In R. Perret (ed.). *Machines of Desire*. 2014. Zürich: Amsel Verlag, pp. 60-66 [German translation in same volume as “Das Unbehagen in der Modernität: Vom Entziffern einer Bilderrolle,” pp. 164-171].

- “Of Shamans and Sufis: An Account of a ‘Magico-Religious’ Muslim Mystic’s Career.” In P. Swanson (ed.). *Shamanism and Pentecostalism in Asia*. 2013. Nagoya, Japan: Nanzan Institute for Religion and Culture, pp. 147-169 [Japanese translation in same volume as “Shāman to Sūfi ni tsuite: aru ‘jujutsu, shūkyōteki’ na Isurāmu shinpi shugisha no keireki,” pp. 367-398].
- “Introducing the Anthropology of Performance.” In F. J. Korom (ed.). *Anthropology of Performance: A Reader*. 2013. Malden, MA: Wiley-Blackwell, pp. 1-7.
- “Speaking with Sufis: Dialogue With Whom and About What?” In C. Cornille & S. Corigliano (eds.). *Interreligious Dialogue and the Cultural Shaping of Religions*. 2012. Eugene, Oregon: Cascade Books, pp. 224-249.
- “The Presence of Absence: Using Stuff in a Contemporary South Asian Sufi Movement.” *Austrian Academy of Sciences Working Papers in Social Anthropology* 23 (2012): 1-19.
- “Charisma and Community: A Brief History of the Bawa Muhaiyaddeen Fellowship.” *The Sri Lanka Journal of the Humanities* 37/1-2 (2011): 19-33.
- “Civil Ritual, NGOs, and Rural Mobilization in Medinipur District, West Bengal.” *Asian Ethnology* 70/2 (2011): 181-195.
- “Issues and Themes in the Study of South Asian Diaspora,” in S. Chaudhuri & A. Seeger (eds.) *Remembered Rhythms: Music in the South Asian Diaspora*. 2010. New Delhi: Seagull Press, pp. 17-36.
- “Gurusaday Dutt, Vernacular Nationalism, and the Folk Culture Revival in Colonial Bengal,” in F. Mahmud (ed.) *Folklore in Context: Essays in Honor of Shamsuzzman Khan*. 2010. Dhaka, Bangladesh: University Press Ltd., pp. 257-273.
- “The Role of Folklore in Tagore’s Vernacular Nationalism,” in K. Sen (ed.) *Tagore and Modernity*. 2006. Kolkata: Dasgupta & Co. Pvt. Ltd., pp. 34-58.
- “Uncharted Waters of Folklore Theory.” *Lokoshruti* 3/1 (2004): 45-56 [reprinted in *Lokadarpan* 2/1 (2005): 234-248].
- “The Bengali Dharmaraj in Text and Context: Some Parallels.” *Journal of Indian Philosophy* 32/5-6 (2004): 843-870 [reprinted in P. Olivelle (ed.) *Dharma: Studies in its Semantic, Cultural and Religious History*. 2009. New Delhi: Motilal Banarsidass, pp. 421-448].
- “Caste Politics, Ritual Performance, and Local Religion: A Reassessment of Liminality and Communitas.” *Acta Ethnographica Hungarica* 47/3-4 (2002): 397-449.
- “Liminality and Communitas Reconsidered: The Politics of Caste and Ritual in Goalpara, West Bengal.” *Acta Ethnographica Hungarica* 46/1-2 (2001): 105-130 [reprinted in G. Barna (ed.) *Politics and Folk Religion*. 2001. Szeged, Hungary: Szegedi Vallási Néprajzi Könyvtár, pp. 105-130].
- “Blunders, Plunders and the Wonders of Religious Ethnography: ‘Archiving’ Tales from the Field.” *Method and Theory in the Study of Religion* 13/1 (2001): 58-73.
- “Introduction: Fieldwork, Ethnography, and the History of Religions.” *Method and Theory in the Study of Religion* 13/1 (2001): 3-11.
- “Holy Cow! The Apotheosis of Zebu, or Why the Cow is Sacred in Hinduism.” *Asian Folklore Studies* 59/2 (2000): 181-203 [reprinted in A. Leo (ed.) *This is the Cow*. 2012. Vancouver, Canada: West Front Exhibitions, pp. 311-345].
- “South Asian Religions and Diaspora Studies.” *Religious Studies Review* 26/1 (2000): 21-28.
- “Close Encounters of the Numinous Kind: Personal Experience Narratives and Memorates in Goalpara, West Bengal.” *South Asia Research* 20/1 (2000): 19-45.
- “Contested Identities and the Uses of Tradition among Indo-Trinidadians,” in P. Anttonen, et al. (eds.) *Folklore, Heritage Politics, and Ethnic Diversity: A Festschrift for Barbro Klein*. 2000. Botkyrka, Sweden: Centre for Multicultural Studies, pp. 86-99.
- “Reconciling the Local and the Global: The Ritual Space of Shi‘i Islam in Trinidad.” *Journal of Ritual Studies* 13/1 (1999): 21-36.
- “Empowerment through Representation and Collaboration in Museum Exhibitions.” *Journal of Folklore Research* 36/2-3 (1999): 235-241 [German translation in R. Bendix & G. Welz (eds.) *Kulturwissenschaft und Öffentlichkeit*. 2002. Frankfurt am Main: Institut für Kulturanthropologie und Europäische Ethnologie, pp. 253-262].
- “‘To Be Happy’: Ritual, Play, and Leisure in the Bengali Dharmaraj puja.” *International Journal of Hindu Studies* 3/2 (1999): 113-164.
- “Tibetans in Exile: A Euro-American Perspective.” *Passages: Journal of Transnational and Transcultural Studies* 1/1 (1999): 1-23.
- “On the Ethics and Aesthetics of Recycling in India,” in L. Nelson (ed.) *Purifying the Earthly Body of God: Religion and Ecology in Hindu India*. 1998. Albany: State University of New York Press, pp. 197-223.

- “Oral Exegesis: Local Interpretations of a Bengali Folk Deity.” *Western Folklore* 56/2 (1997): 153-173.
- “‘Editing’ Dharmaraj: Academic Genealogies of a Bengali Folk Deity.” *Western Folklore* 56/1 (1997): 51-77.
- “Language, Belief, and Experience in Bengali Folk Religion,” in E. Franco & K. Preisendanz (eds.) *Beyond Orientalism: The Work of Wilhelm Halbfass and its Impact on Indian and Cross-Cultural Studies*. 1997. Amsterdam: Poznan Rodopi B.V., pp. 567-586.
- “Tibet und die New Age-Bewegung,” in T. Dodin & H. Räther (eds.) *Mythos Tibet. Wahrnehmungen, Projektionen, Phantasien*. 1997. Köln: DuMont, pp. 178-192 [English translation in T. Dodin & H. Räther (eds.) *Imagining Tibet: Perceptions, Projections, and Fantasies*. 2001. Boston: Wisdom Publications, pp. 167-182].
- “Introduction,” in F. J. Korom (ed.) *Constructing Tibetan Culture: Contemporary Perspectives*. 1997. Québec: World Heritage Press, pp. 1-18.
- “Old Age Tibet in New Age America,” in F. J. Korom (ed.) *Constructing Tibetan Culture: Contemporary Perspectives*. 1997. Québec: World Heritage Press, pp. 73-97 [reprinted in A. McKay (ed.) *The History of Tibet, Volume III*. 2003. London: RoutledgeCurzon, pp. 717-737].
- “Place, Space and Identity: The Cultural, Economic and Aesthetic Politics of Tibetan Diaspora,” in F. J. Korom (ed.) *Tibetan Culture in the Diaspora*. 1997. Vienna: Austrian Academy of Sciences Press, pp. 1-12.
- “Oral Canon Formation in a Bengali Religious Community.” *Suomen Antropologi* 21/2 (1996): 12-22.
- “Recycling in India: Status and Economic Realities,” in C. Cerny & S. Seriff (eds.) *Recycled, Reseen: Folk Art from the Global Scrap Heap*. 1996. New York: Harry Abrams, Inc., pp. 118-129, 190-192.
- “The Transformation of Language to Rhythm: The *Hosay* Drums of Trinidad.” *The World of Music*. 36/3 (1994): 68-85.
- “Memory, Innovation and Emergent Ethnicities: The Creolization of an Indo-Trinidadian Performance.” *Diaspora*. 3/2 (1994): 135-155.
- “Community Process and the Performance of Muharram Observances in Trinidad.” *The Tisch Drama Review*. 38/2 (1994): 150-175. [co-authored with P. Chelkowski]
- “Of Navels and Mountains: A Further Inquiry into the History of an Idea.” *Asian Folklore Studies*. 51/1 (Spring 1992): 103-125.
- “Introduction,” in A. Appadurai, F. J. Korom & M. Mills (eds.) *Gender, Genre and Power in South Asian Expressive Traditions*. 1991. Philadelphia: University of Pennsylvania Press, pp. 3-29. [co-authored with A. Appadurai & M. Mills]
- “The Evolutionary Thought of Aurobindo Ghose and Teilhard de Chardin.” *Journal of South Asian Literature*. 24/1 (1989): 124-140.
- “Inventing Traditions: Folklore and Nationalism as Historical Process in Bengal,” in D. Rihman- Auguštin and M. Povržanović (eds.) *Folklore and Historical Process*. 1989. Zagreb: Institute of Folklore Research, pp. 57-84.

V. Encyclopedia Entries, Brief Communications, and Miscellaneous

- “Things Felt, Things Perceived: The Metaphysics of Fieldwork.” *Just Between Us*. 8/3 (2018): 1-4.
- “Religious Tolerance in an Age of Intolerance: Lessons from the Bengal Countryside.” *WION News* 12/1/2017.
- “The Allure of a Blood-Drooling Goddess Clothed in Human Limbs.” *WION News* 10/15/2017.
- “Bengali Tales,” in A. E. Duggan and D. Haase (eds.) *Folktales and Fairy Tales: Traditions and Texts from Around the World*. 2016. Santa Barbara, CA: ABC-CLIO Press, pp. 118-121.
- “Folk and Popular Hinduism,” in A. Hildebeitel (ed.) *Oxford Bibliographies Online: Hinduism*. 2010. New York: Oxford University Press.
- “Diaspora Hinduism,” In A. Hildebeitel (ed.) *Oxford Bibliographies Online: Hinduism*. 2010. New York: Oxford University Press.
- “Ritualistische Theorie,” in K. Ranke, et al. (eds.) *Enzyklopädie des Märchens. Handwörterbuch für historischen und vergleichenden Erzählforschung*. Vol. 11.2. 2004. Berlin: Walter de Gruyter, pp. 724-731.
- “Benfey, Theodore” (pp. 55-56), “*katha*” (pp. 331), “*mangalkavya*” (pp. 378-379), “*muharram*” (pp. 410-411), “Nationalism and Folklore” (pp. 439-440), “*Pañcatantra*” (pp. 459-461), “recycling” (pp. 515-516), “Tagore, Rabindranath” (pp. 589-590), “*ta’ziya*” (pp. 595-596), in M. Mills, et al. (eds.) *South Asian Folklore: An Encyclopedia*. 2003. New York: Routledge.
- “Foreword,” in *The Art of Exile: Paintings by Tibetan Children in India*. 1998. Santa Fe: Museum of New Mexico Press, pp. xii-xv.

- “Tibetans,” in D. Levinson and M. Ember (eds.) *American Immigrant Cultures: Builders of a Nation*. 1997. New York: Macmillan Publishing, pp. 888-896.
- “Report on a Planned Exhibit of Tibetan Material Culture in Diaspora.” *Asian Folklore Studies*. 53/1 (1994): 172-173.
- “A Festive Mourning: Moharram in Trinidad.” *The India Magazine*. 13 (1993): 54-63. [co-authored with P. Chelkowski]
- “Indien,” in K. Ranke, et al. (eds.) *Enzyklopädie des Märchens. Handwörterbuch für historischen und vergleichenden Erzählforschung*. Vol. 7.1. 1991. Berlin: Walter de Gruyter, pp.138-151.
- “Report on the XIth All-India Folklore Congress.” *Asian Folklore Studies*. 48/2 (Fall 1989): 296-298.
- “Report on the IXth Congress of the International Society for Folk Narrative Research.” *Karnataka Folklore Newsletter*. 1/4 (Fall 1989): 7-8.
- “Why Folklore?,” *Inaugural Address for the International Workshops in Folkloristics*. Regional Resource Center for the Folk-Performing Arts [Udupi, India] (April 1988): 7pp.
- “South Asian Recordings in the Archive of Folk Culture.” *Library of Congress Folk Archive Finding Aid*. 5 (August 1987): 11pp.
- “A Brief Survey of Folkloristic Research and Institutions in India.” *The Middle East and South Asia Folklore Newsletter*. 4/2 (Spring 1987): 2-6.

VI. Book Reviews

- Living & Dying: Meanings in Maithili Folklore (Delhi 2018), by Dev Nath Pathak in *Journal of Folklore Research* (In Press).
- Mana: A History of a Western Category (Leiden 2017), by Nicolas Meylan in *History of Religions* (In Press).
- Sacred Spaces and Transnational Networks in American Sufism: Bawa Muhaiyaddeen and Contemporary Shrine Cultures (London 2018), by Merin Shobhana Xavier in *Asian Ethnology* 28/1 (2019): 202-204.
- Shared Characters in Jain, Buddhist and Hindu Narrative: Gods, Kings and Other Heroes (New York 2017), by Naomi Appleton in *International Journal of Hindu Studies* 23/1 (2019): 83-84.
- Homo Ritualis: Hindu Ritual and Its Significance for Ritual Theory (New York 2016), by Axel Michaels in *Religions of South Asia* 12/1 (2018).
- Political Violence in Ancient India (Cambridge 2017), by Upinder Singh in *Journal of Religion and Violence* 61/1 (2018): 152-154.
- Avatar Art: Neo-Vedic Paintings Celebrating Life (Los Angeles 2016), by Steven J. Rosen & Kaisori Bellach in *Asian Ethnology* 76/2 (2017): 424-425.
- Banāras Revisited: Scholarly Pilgrimages to the City of Light (Wiesbaden 2014), edited by István Keul in *International Journal of Hindu Studies* 21/2 (2017): 261-263.
- Houses of Madness: Insanity and Asylums of Bengal in Nineteenth-Century India (New Delhi 2015), by Debjani Das in *Asian Medicine: Tradition and Modernity* 11/1 (2017): 274-276.
- Encountering Difference: Diasporic Traces, Creolizing Spaces (London 2016), by Robin Cohen and Olivia Sheringham in *Current History* 115/784 (2016): 325-327.
- The Triumph of the Snake Goddess (Cambridge 2015) by Kaiser Haq in *Journal of Asian Studies* 75/2 (2016): 591-592.
- Religion, Pilgrimage, and Tourism (Routledge 2015) edited by Alex Norman, et al. in *Asian Ethnology* 75/1 (2016): 232-233.
- Rethinking Religion in India: The Colonial Construction of Hinduism (London 2010) Edited by Esther Bloch, et al. in *Journal of Hindu Studies* 7/3 (2014): 119-120.
- The Ramayana Tradition and Socio-Religious Change in Trinidad, 1917-1990 (Kingston, Jamaica 2012) by Sherry-Ann Singh in *New West Indian Guide* 87/3-4 (2013): 452-454.
- Theos Bernard, The White Lama: Tibet, Yoga, and American Religious Life (New York, 2012) by Paul G. Hackett in *Asian Ethnology* 72/1 (2013): 179-181.
- Translating Museums: A Counterhistory of South Asian Museology (Walnut Creek, CA, 2012) by Shaila Bhatti in *Museum Anthropology* 36/2 (2013): 160-162.
- Lexikon der Globalisierung (Bielefeld, Germany, 2011) edited by Fernand Kreff, et al. in *American Anthropologist* 115/2 (2013): 335.
- Indo-Muslim Cultures in Transition (Leiden 2012) edited by Alka Patel and Karen Leonard in *Journal of Asian Studies* 71/3 (2012): 835-837.
- Engaging South Asian Religions: Boundaries, Appropriations, and Resistances (Albany, NY 2011) edited by Mathew N. Schmalz and Peter Gottschalk in *Journal of Asian Studies* 71/2 (2012): 574-576.

- Guilty Males and Proud Females: Negotiating Genders in a Bengali Festival (Calcutta, India 2010) by Fabrizio M. Ferrari in *Journal of Hindu Studies* 5/1 (2012): 116-118.
- The Story-Time of the British Empire: Colonial and Postcolonial Folkloristics (Jackson, MS 2010) by Sadhana Naithani in *Asian Ethnology* 70/1 (2011): 131-133.
- Caribbean Folklore: A Handbook (Westport, CT 2008) by Donald Hill in *Fabula* 51/1-2 (2010): 120-121.
- Rajasthani Painters Bagta and Chokha: Master Artists at Devgarh (Zürich 2005) by Milo Cleveland Beach and Rawat Nahar Singh II in *Museum Anthropology Review* 3/2 (2009): 158-159.
- Beautiful Cosmos: Performance and Belonging in the Caribbean Diaspora. By Tina K. Ramnarine (Ann Arbor, MI 2007) in *New West Indian Guide* 83/3 & 4 (2009): 146-148.
- Gender and Story in South India (Albany, NY 2006) edited by Leela Prasad, *et al.* in *Western Folklore* 68/1 (2009): 86-87.
- A Portrait of the Hindus: Balthazar Solvyns & the European Image of India 1760-1824 (New York 2004) by Robert L. Hardgrave in *Journal of Asian Studies* 66/2 (2007): 571-572.
- Callaloo Nation: Metaphors of Race and Religious Identity among South Asians in Trinidad (Durham, NC 2004) by Aisha Khan in *History of Religions* 46/1 (2007): 275-276.
- Sidis and Scholars: Essays on African Indians (Noida, India 2004) edited by A. Catlin-Jairazbhoy & E. A. Alpers in *Journal of Asian Studies* 65/4 (2006): 840-842.
- Ritual Worship of the Great Goddess: The Liturgy of the Durga Puja with Interpretations (Albany, NY 2003) by Hillary Peter Rodrigues in *Asian Folklore Studies* 64/2 (2005): 346-347.
- Kaleidoscopic Ethnicity: International Migration and the Reconstruction of Community Identities in India (Piscataway, NJ 2002) by Prema Kurien in *Journal of Asian Studies* 63/1 (2004): 233-235.
- The Epic: Oral and Written (Mysore, India 1998) edited by Lauri Honko, *et al.* in *Asian Folklore Studies* 62/1 (2003): 178-180.
- Folklore in Modern India (Mysore, India 1998) edited by Jawaharlal Handoo in *Asian Folklore Studies* 62/1 (2003): 178-180.
- The End of Magic (Oxford 1997) by Ariel Glucklich in *Journal of American Folklore* 115/457-458 (2002): 493-494.
- The Economics of Ecstasy: Tantra, Secrecy, and Power in Colonial Bengal (New York 2001) by Hugh Urban in *ME/SA Folklore Bulletin* 18/3 (2002): 7-8.
- The South Asian Religious Diaspora in Britain, Canada, and the United States (Albany, NY 2000) edited by Harold Coward, *et al.* in *International Journal of Hindu Studies* 5/1 (2001): 103-104.
- Eloquence in Trouble: The Poetics and Politics of Complaint in Rural Bangladesh (New York 1998) by James M. Wilce in *American Ethnologist* 28/3 (2001): 731-732.
- “(H)ideology: The Hidden Agenda of Religious Studies.” *Religious Studies Review* 27/2 (2001): 108-110.
- Changing Patterns of Family and Kinship in South Asia (Helsinki 1998) edited by Asko Parpola and Sirpa Tenhunen in *Journal of the American Oriental Society* 121/1 (2001): 120-122.
- Destination Culture: Tourism, Museums, and Heritage (Berkeley 1998) by Barbara Kirshenblatt-Gimblett in *Journal of American Folklore* 114/451 (2001): 98-101.
- The Death of Authentic Primitive Art and Other Tales of Progress (Berkeley 1998) by Shelly Errington in *Journal of American Folklore* 114/451 (2001): 98-101.
- Music of Hindu Trinidad: Songs from the India Diaspora (Chicago 1998) by Helen Myers in *International Journal of Hindu Studies* 4/1 (2000): 77-79.
- Die Tschungelkönige: Ethnohistorische Aspekte von Politik und Ritual in Südorissa/Indien (Stuttgart 1997) by Burkhard Schnepel in *Journal of the American Oriental Society* 120/2 (2000): 290-292.
- Pierced by Murugan’s Lance: Ritual, Power, and Moral Redemption among Malaysian Tamils (DeKalb, IL 1997) by Elizabeth Fuller Collins in *Journal of American Folklore* 113/448 (2000): 218-219.
- Two Tales of Crow and Sparrow: A Freudian Folkloristic Essay on Caste and Untouchability (Lanham, MD 1997) by Alan Dundes in *Journal of American Folklore* 113/448 (2000): 216-218.
- Hinduism and the Religious Arts (London 1999) by Heather Elgood in *International Journal of Hindu Studies* 3/1 (1999): 105-106.
- Peasants and Monks in British India (Berkeley 1996) by William R. Pinch in *Journal of the American Oriental Society* 119/2 (1999): 355-356.
- Languages of Tribal and Indigenous Peoples of India: The Ethnic Space (Delhi, India 1997) edited by Anvita Abbi in *Journal of the American Oriental Society* 119/2 (1999): 354-355.
- Historical Dictionary of Hinduism (Lanham, MD 1997) by Bruce M. Sullivan in *Journal of American Folklore* 112/444 (1999): 231-232.
- Folk Narrative and Cultural Identity (*Arts Populares*, 16-17, Budapest 1996) edited by Vilmos Voigt in *Journal of American Folklore* 112/443 (1999): 100-102.
- Religious Change, Conversion and Culture (Sydney 1996) edited by Lynette Olson in *South Asia* 21/2 (1998): 166-168.

- Deutsche Buddhisten: Geschichte und Gemeinschaften (Marburg 1995) by Martin Baumann in *International Journal of Buddhist Ethics* 5 (1998): 433-435.
- Passions of the Tongue: Language Devotion in Tamil India, 1891-1970 (Berkeley 1997) by Sumathi Ramaswamy in *ME/SA Folklore Bulletin* 14/1 (1998): 2-3.
- The Mandala: Sacred Circle in Tibetan Buddhism (Boston 1997) by Martin Brauen in *International Journal of Buddhist Ethics* 5 (1998): 9-13.
- “Because it Gives Me Peace of Mind:” Ritual Fasts in the Religious Lives of Hindu Women (Albany 1996) by Anne Mackenzie Pearson in *Critical Review of Books in Religion* 10 (1997): 268-271.
- Afro-Creole: Power, Opposition, and Play in the Caribbean (Ithaca 1997) by Richard D.E. Burton in *Journal of Ritual Studies* 11/1 (1997): 76-78.
- Treasures of Tibetan Art: Collections of the Jacques Marchais Museum of Tibetan Art (New York 1996) by Barbara Lipton and Nima Dorjee Ragnubs in *International Journal of Hindu Studies* 1/3 (1997): 618-619.
- Heroes of the Age: Moral Fault Lines on the Afghan Frontier (Berkeley 1996) by David B. Edwards in *Asian Folklore Studies* 56/2 (1997): 439-440.
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VIII. Exhibition & Film Reviews

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- Live Like the Banyan Tree: Images of the Indian American Experience*. Exhibition, Balch Institute for Ethnic Studies, Philadelphia (February 4-December 31, 1999) in *Journal of American Folklore* 114/451 (2001): 70-73.

Invited Lectures

- “Bhujangbhusan's Oscillation between Song and Speech in Performance.” Keynote Lecture, 2nd Symposium of the ICTM Study Group on Music and Allied Arts of Greater South Asia, December 2019.
- “Guru Bawa’s Travels to the West.” Lund University, March 2019.
- “The Institutionalization of Folklore in Contemporary Bangladesh: Converging Culture and Politics.” Lund University, March 2019.
- “Vishwakarma’s Children: The Plight of Bengal’s Chittrakars in a Globally Competitive Art Market.” Keynote Lecture, *Evolution of Tradition: Interrogating Traditions in the Transformation of the Folk Performing Arts*. Centre for Knowledge, Ideas and Development, Kolkata, January 2019.
- “The Place of India in the History of Global Folklore Studies.” Indira Gandhi National Centre for the Arts *Public Lecture Series*, New Delhi, December 2018.
- “Folklore and Nationalism in India and Serbia: A Comparative Exploration.” Nanzan Anthropological Institute, December 2018.
- “Transnational Sufism.” Keio University, Yokohama, Japan, December 2018.
- “Guru Bawa’s Contribution to Global Sufism.” Keio University, Yokohama, Japan, December 2018.
- “Singing Modernity: The Patuas and Globalization.” Keio University, Yokohama, Japan, December 2018.
- “Weathering the Storm: Environmental Catastrophes and Divine Wrath in a Bengali Bardic Tradition.” *Deities, Spirits and Demons in Vernacular Beliefs and Rituals in Asia*. University of Tartu, Estonia, November 2017.
- “Translating Ghanaram’s Gitarambha.” *Second Middle Bengali Summer Camp*, Czikszereda, Romania, August 2017.
- “What is Folklore: An International Perspective.” Lok Virsa, Islamabad, Pakistan, May 2017.
- “Ritual and Power in Trinidad, 1845-1996.” Bangla Academy, Dhaka, Bangladesh, April 2017.
- “Social Change as Depicted in the Folklore of Bengali Patuas.” Bangla Academy, Dhaka, Bangladesh, April 2017.
- “Religious Nationalisms: India and Serbia Compared,” Plenary Lecture, *Religion and Nation(alism): Entanglements, Tensions, Conflicts*, Tartu, Estonia, November 2016.
- “Three Decades of Folklore Studies in South Asia: Toward a History.” *Celebrating Another Harmony: South Asian Folklore in the 21st Century*, Harvard University, April 2016.
- “Doing Moral Fieldwork in an Age of Globalization.” *Politics of Telling and Studying Folklore* Symposium, Tufts University, April 2016.

- “Dravidian Sufism: An Appreciation of Afsar Mohammad’s Contribution to Interreligious Dialogue.” University of Texas at Austin, March 2016.
- “A Musical View of Modernity: Bengal’s Scroll-Painting Bards and Globalization.” University of Wisconsin—Madison, January 2016.
- “Viewing TransAsia from Sri Lanka: A Sufi Perspective.” *Transasia Initiative Lectures*, University of Wisconsin—Madison, January 2016.
- “Folklore Studies in South Asia.” *South Asian Folklore Seminar*, Harvard University, November 2015.
- “The Life and Legacy of a Tamil Sufi Saint.” Department of Religion *Guest Lecture Series*, Amherst College, October 2015.
- “Corpoethetics that Matter: Multi-Sensorial Embodiment in a Modern Transnational Sufi Community.” *Material Religion* Conference. Duke University, September 2015.
- “Things Seen and Unseen: Making Sense of Transnational Sufism.” University of Houston, March 13, 2015.
- “Sufism in North America.” Framingham State University, February 20, 2015.
- “Nepal as Accessible Shangri-La.” *The Edges and Beyond: Shedding Light on Shangri-La* Symposium, Harvard Peabody Museum, September 2014.
- “Remembering 9/11 through Sufi Practice.” *September 11 Memorial* Symposium, Framingham State University, September 2014.
- “Singing Modernity: Bengali Patuas in a World of Globalization.” *Transformations: South Asian Folk Art, Aesthetics, and Commodification*, Syracuse University, February 2014.
- “The Challenges of Making Modern Tibetan Art.” *Public Lecture Series*, Fleming Museum, University of Vermont, February 2014.
- “Creating a Transcultural Lens via Sufism to View Sri Lanka and North America.” *Transcultural Lenses on Islam* Symposium, University of Texas at Austin, February 2014.
- “*Mangalkavyas* and Medieval Bengali History.” Department of Religion, Tufts University, February 2014.
- “*Na Hindu Na Musalman*: Dilemmas of a Bengali Artisan Caste.” *Muslims in South Asia Lecture Series*, Harvard University, December 2013.
- “Dravidian Sufism and its American Manifestation.” *Prince Alwaleed Faculty Lecture Series*, Harvard University, April 2013.
- “Sufis as Folk Preachers in South Asia: The Curious Case of Bawa Muhaiyaddeen.” *New Year Lecture*, Bangla Academy (Bangladesh), April 2013.
- “Singing About Disaster: How Oral Tradition Serves or Does Not Serve Governmentalities.” *Visiting Scholar Lecture Series*, Anthropological Institute, Nanzan University, March 2013.
- “What Happens When Local Traditions Go Global?” *Transculturation Lecture Series*, Heidelberg University, June 2012.
- “Transnational Sufism and the Making of an American Sufi Movement.” *South Asia Institute Guest Lecture Series*, Heidelberg University, June 2012.
- “Bawa’s Funny Philadelphia Family.” *Tales of Trickery, Tales of Endurance: Gender, Performance, and Politics in the Islamic World and Beyond*, Ohio State University, May 2012.
- “How Bengal’s Scroll Painting Bards View Modernity.” *Public Lecture Series*, Clark Art Institute, May 2012.
- “American Sufism and Charisma.” *Guest Religion Lecture*, Amherst College, April 2012.
- “The Indian Origins of Hosay.” *Public Forum*, Cedros Community Centre (Trinidad), April 2012.
- “The Presence of Absence: Using Stuff in a Contemporary South Asian Sufi Movement.” *International Guest Lecture Series*, Centre for Studies in Asian Cultures and Social Anthropology, Austrian Academy of Sciences, March 2012.
- “Transnational Elements in the Making of an Occidental Sufi Fraternity.” *Guest Lecturer Series*, Lucerne University, March 2012.
- “The Charismatic Origins of a Transnational Sufi Family.” *Occasional Lecture Series*, University of Bern, March 2012.
- “Debates Over a Sri Lankan Sufi’s Use of Hindu Terminology.” *Hindu Studies Colloquium*, Center for the Study of World Religions, Harvard University, December 2011.
- “Guru Bawa and the Making of a Transnational Family.” *Asian Studies Colloquium Inaugural Lecture*, University of Massachusetts, Boston, October 2011.
- “Critical Crossroads: Bengali Patuas Confront Modernity.” Workshop on *New Culture, New Welfare in South Asia*, International Studies Center, University of Iowa, October 2011.
- “Speaking with Sufis: Dialogue with Whom and About What?” Conference on *Interreligious Dialogue and the Shaping of Cultures*. Boston College, September 2011.
- “The Green Agenda of Tibetan Exiles.” Workshop on *Ritual, Culture, and Environment in South Asia*, International Studies Center, University of Iowa, April 2010.

- “Civil Ritual, NGOs, and Rural Mobilization in Medinipur District, West Bengal.” Workshop on *Ritual, Culture, and Environment in South Asia*, International Studies Center, University of Iowa, April 2010.
- “Singing Modernity.” Folklore Institute, Indiana University, November 2008.
- “Bawa Muhaiyaddeen: A Global Sufi Saint.” Center for Asian Studies, University of Colorado at Boulder, October 2008.
- “Orality, Literacy, and Innovation in a Bengali Bardic Tradition.” *Luce Lecture Series in Scripture and the Arts*, Boston University, September 2008.
- “Essentialism and the Study of the Orient.” *International Programs Lecture*, Indiana University of Pennsylvania, April 2008
- “Stereotyping Asian Religions.” *International Programs Lecture*, Clarion University, April 2008.
- “From Guru to Shaykh: The Making of a Transnational Sufi ‘Family.’” Völkerkundemuseum, University of Zürich, October 2007.
- “Bengali Scroll Painters and the Challenge of Modernity.” *Anthropology of Art Seminar*, Pitt-Rivers Museum, Oxford University, May 2007.
- “Bengali Images and Their Makers.” Department of Religion, University of Zürich, April 2007.
- “Visual Piety in Hinduism.” Department of Religion, University of Lucerne, April 2007.
- “Gurusaday Dutt, Vernacular Nationalism, and the Folk Culture Revival in Late Colonial Bengal.” *Tarapada Santra Memorial Lecture*, Centre for Archaeological Studies and Training, Kolkata, India, March 2007.
- “Artists as Activists.” Department of Religion, University of Florida, February 2007.
- “Scroll Paintings and Bardic Poetry in Bengal.” Center for the Study of Hindu Traditions, University of Florida, February 2007.
- “When the World Comes Calling: Bengali Scroll Painters and Globalization.” Center for South Asian Studies, University of Michigan, January 2007.
- “Village of Painters: Narrative Scrolls from West Bengal.” Inaugural Lecture for *Village of Painters: Narrative Scrolls from West Bengal* Exhibition, Museum of International Folk Art, Santa Fe, October 2006.
- “Revisiting the ‘Origin of the Patuas’ Debate.” Centre for Archaeological Studies and Training, Kolkata, India, October 2006.
- “Ritual and Ethnicity in Trinidad.” Department of Anthropology, Tufts University, October 2006.
- “The Changing Worlds of the Patuas of West Bengal.” *Benjamin Botkin Lecture Series*, Library of Congress, October 2006.
- “Reflexive Anthropology and the Positionality of the Researcher: A Southeastern European Perspective on Diasporas.” *13th Mediterranean Ethnological Summer School*, Piran, Slovenia, September 2006.
- “The Historical Origins of the Patua Controversy Revisited.” *History Seminar*, Slovenian Academy of Sciences and Arts, September 2006.
- “What Happens When Local Art Goes Global?” *Religion and Society Colloquium*, Boston University, September 2006.
- “The History of the Patuas.” *International Folk Art Market Lecture*, Museum of International Folk Art, July 2006.
- “Crossing Genres in Transnational Spaces.” *Crossing Borders Convocation*, University of Iowa, March 2006.
- “Moving Music: Itinerancy in a Bengali Folk Genre.” *Ethnomusicology Colloquium*, Harvard University, February 2006.
- “Singing Modernity: Bengali Scroll Painters Confront Globalization.” Department of Anthropology, Uppsala University; Department of Religious Science, Lund University, December 2005; Center for India and South Asia Studies, UCLA, February 2006.
- “Ritual and Power in Trinidad, 1845-1997.” Department of Anthropology, Uppsala University, December 2005.
- “From Minstrel Shows to Rap and Hip Hop: African-American Expressive Culture in American Society.” *American Culture and Civilization: Formation of the American Mind* Conference. American Center, Kolkata, India, May 2005.
- “Being in But Not of the World.” *2nd Annual Fulbright Alumni* Conference. Lahore University of Management Sciences, Lahore, Pakistan, May 2005.
- “The Politics of Teaching Religion in American Universities.” *Religion and Politics in the US* Seminar, Quaid-e-Azam University, Islamabad, Pakistan, April 2005.
- “Research Methodology in the Social Sciences and Humanities.” Berhampur University, Berhampur, India, April 2005.

- “Modernity in Tradition: Changing Lifeworlds of Bengali Patuas.” Berhampur University, Berhampur, India, April 2005.
- “Anthropology and Empire.” *Empire and Literature* Seminar, Vidyasagar University, Medinipur, India, March 2005.
- “Uncharted Waters in Folklore Theory.” Northeastern Hill University, Shillong, India, March 2005.
- “Issues and Themes in the Study of South Asian Diasporas.” *Remembered Rhythms* Conference, Archives and Research Center for Ethnomusicology, New Delhi, February 2005.
- “The Globalization of Folklore.” *International Union of Anthropological and Ethnological Sciences* Pre-Conference, Kolkata, India, December 2004.
- “The Role of Folklore in Tagore’s Vernacular Nationalism.” *Tagore and Modernity* Symposium, Calcutta University, Kolkata, India, November 2004.
- “Recent Trends in Folkloristics.” Kalyani University, Kalyani, India, November 2004.
- “Ritual and Power in Trinidad, 1845-1997.” *Occasional Lecture*, Indian Historical Society, Kolkata, India, November 2004.
- “The Role of Fulbright in International Education.” Puri College, Puri, India, October 2004.
- “Folklore Fieldwork Methodology.” Berhampur University, Berhampur, India, October 2004.
- “Folklore in Literature.” Ravenshaw College, Cuttack, India, October 2004.
- “Creolization and Cultural Change in the Caribbean.” University of Vermont, February 2003; University of New Mexico, March 2003.
- “Creolization Theory and the Study of South Asian Diasporas.” Jadavpur University, Kolkata, India, January 2003.
- “Ritual and Resistance in Colonial Trinidad.” Rupasi Centre for Folk Culture Studies, Kolkata, India, January 2003.
- “Alternative Religions in the United States.” Boise Center for Religion and Public Life, Boston College, September 2002.
- “Patuas in Transition.” Museum of International Folk Art, Santa Fe, March 2002.
- “Visually Documenting Ritual in Trinidad.” Department of Anthropology, Williams College, November 2001.
- “Where Drums are Sacred: The Tassas of Trinidad.” *Music and Religion* Symposium, Center for the Study of World Religions, Harvard University, April 2001.
- “Merging Visual and Verbal Art: A Bengali Patua Sings the Goddess.” *Experiencing Devi: Hindu Goddesses in Indian Popular Art* Symposium, University of Iowa, February 2001.
- “Tibetan-Tibetan Buddhists and American-Tibetan Buddhists: An Incongruous Dialogue.” *Building Homes Away from Home: Religious and Ethnic Identities Among Asian-Americans* Symposium, University of Vermont, October 2000.
- “Negotiating Ethnicity through Ritual in Multicultural Trinidad.” *Anthropology Colloquium*, School of American Research, July 2000.
- “Ritual and Play in a Bengali Pujā.” *Graduate Student Association for South Asia Workshop*, Harvard University, March 2000.
- “Click Here for Enlightenment: Virtual Communities and the Representation of Tibet on the Internet.” *Symposium on the Representation of Tibet in the United States*, University of Colorado at Boulder, January 2000.
- “Culture Transplanted: South Asians in the Caribbean.” *Tuesday Evening Faculty Reflections*, Boston University, October 1999.
- “The City as Display: Making the Other Tolerably Us in Santa Fe.” Swedish Collegium for Advanced Studies in the Social Sciences, Uppsala, February 1999.
- “East-West Flows: Tibet and the Problem of Representation.” Institute for the Study of Economic Culture, Boston University, October 1998.
- “Virtual Tibetans: On the Pros and Cons of Media Representation.” *Tibet Lecture Series*, Museum of International Folk Art, Santa Fe, May 1998.
- “Envisioning the Global, Performing the Local: Indo-Trinidadian Muharram Rituals in Context.” *Agha Khan Lecture Series*, Massachusetts Institute of Technology, April 1998.
- “Hybridity in the Flesh: Karma Phuntsok and the Making of New Tibetan Art.” *Tibetan Art Lecture Series*, Albuquerque Museum, March 1998.
- “The Tibetan Diaspora: A Euro-American Perspective.” Inaugural Lecture for *At Home Away from Home: Tibetan Culture in Exile* Exhibition, Museum of International Folk Art, Santa Fe, March 1998.
- “Aesthetic and Ethical Dilemmas of Indian Recyclia.” Smith College, December 1997.
- “Holy Cow! The Apotheosis of Zebu, or Why the Cow is Sacred in Hinduism.” School of American Research, Santa Fe, December 1997.
- “Tibetan Art and Culture in Exile.” *Docent Lecture*, Albuquerque Museum, September 1997.

- “Cultural Institutions as Agents of Preservation in the Tibetan Diaspora.” Inaugural Lecture for *Tibetan Sacred Art and Texts* Exhibition, Zimmerman Library, University of New Mexico, June 1997.
- “The Use of Oral Exegesis in a Bengali Village Context.” California State University—Northridge, April 1997.
- “Making Tadjahs: The Art of Community Formation in Trinidad.” *Seminar on Art in the Diaspora*. University of East Anglia, December 1996.
- “Trash Aesthetics in India.” *World Art Research Seminar*, University of East Anglia, December 1996.
- “The Dynamics of the Local and the Global in Indo-Trinidadian Ritual.” *Anthropology Colloquium*, University of Lund, November 1996.
- “Dharma and the Pandits: The Image Management of a Medieval Bengali Deity.” Nordic Institute of Asian Studies, Copenhagen, November 1996.
- “Indo-Trinidadian Community Formation through an Islamic Mourning Rite.” Institut für Völkerkunde, University of Vienna, November 1996.
- “Recycling in South Asia.” *Docent Lecture*, Museum of International Folk Art, Santa Fe, August 1996.
- “The Role of Tibet in the New Age Movement,” Symposium on *Mythos Tibet*, University of Bonn, May 1996.
- “Tibetans in the European Community: An Overview,” *European Studies Seminar*, University of Washington, January 1996.
- “The Art of Recycling: Trash, Market Demand and the Informal Sector in India,” School of American Research, Santa Fe, January 1996.
- “Reconciling the Local and the Global: The Ritual Space of Indo-Trinidadian Shi‘i Islam,” *48th Annual South Asia Seminar*, University of Pennsylvania, November 1995.
- “Islam in a Carnival Context: A Shi‘i Ritual as Practiced in Trinidad.” Loyola University, Chicago, September 1995.
- “Blunders, Plunders and the Wonders of Fieldwork,” University of California, Los Angeles, April 1995.
- “Dirty Beauty: The Recycling Phenomenon in South Asia.” *Folklore Colloquium Series*, University of Pennsylvania, April 1995.
- “Regional Configurations of Pan-Hindu Concerns: The *Ramayana* in Eastern India.” St. John’s College, March 1995.
- “What is Folk Art?” *Docent Lecture*, Museum of Indian Arts and Culture, Santa Fe, October 1994.
- “The *Pat* Painters of West Bengal: Patuas in Transition,” University of Iowa, October 1994.
- “Placing Ethnicity: East Indian Trinidadians and Global Tibetans Compared,” California State University—Northridge, May 1994.
- “Ritual and Play Reexamined: A Bengali Example,” University of Iowa, February 1994.
- “Moonlighting: An East Indian Retention in the New World,” University of Iowa, February 1994.
- “*Hosay* Hermeneutics: Contested Meanings of an Indo-Trinidadian Ritual Performance,” Indiana University, February 1994.
- “The Dynamics of East Indian Ethnicity in Trinidad,” School of American Research, Santa Fe, January 1994.
- “What Are Hinduisms?” *Docent Lecture*, Museum of International Folk Art, Santa Fe, October 1993.
- “Language, Belief and Experience in Bengali Folk Religion,” *Philosophy Colloquium*, University of New Mexico, April 1993.
- “Personal Experience Narratives in Bengali Folk Religion,” *45th Annual South Asia Seminar*, University of Pennsylvania, December 1992 and *Religious Studies Colloquium*, Wesleyan University, February 1993.
- “*Hosay*: An East Indian Religious Observance in Trinidad,” *Anthropology Seminar*, Smithsonian Institution, October 1992.
- “Vicarious Suffering in Shi‘i Islam and Other World Religions,” University of Lethbridge (Canada), July 1992.
- “Who Is Dharmaraj?: Pluralistic Traditions in Local Hinduism,” University of Lethbridge (Canada), July 1992.
- “The South Asian Background of Shi‘i Mourning Rites in the Caribbean,” *Workshop on Intercultural Performance*, New York University, February 1992.
- “Critical Editions and the Ethnography of Religion,” Williams College, January 1992.
- “‘I Say *Hosay*’: The Transformation of an Islamic Ritual in the Caribbean,” *Performance Studies Seminar*, New York University, November 1991.
- “Current Trends in South Asian Folkloristics,” *South Asia Graduate Seminar*, University of California, Berkeley, October 1991.

- “‘Who Say, I Say, Hosay’: The Ritual Maintenance of East Indian Ethnic Identity in Trinidad,” University of California, Los Angeles, October 1991.
- “‘To Be Happy’: Ritual, Play and Leisure in an Annual Bengali Religious Festival,” University of California, Los Angeles, October 1991.
- “Contextualizing Context,” St. Xavier’s College and University of Kerala (India), March 1991.
- “Performance Studies and the Making of Modern American Folkloristics,” *Special Visiting Lecturer Series*, Rajshahi University (Bangladesh), September 1990.
- “The History of American Folklore Studies,” *Folkloristics Seminar*, Kalyani University (India), November 1990.
- “Islam and Christianity: Dialogic Conversation Partners,” *Interreligious Dialogue Series*, Holy Trinity Lutheran Church, Abington, PA, November 1989.
- “Suffering, Remembering and Forgetting: Salvation through Drama in Shi‘i Folk Piety,” *Moors, Giants, Saints and Fools: Festival Drama from Around the World*, University Museum, University of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia, October 1989.
- “The Problem of Semiotics and the Study of Folklore,” *Semiotics Circle*, Central Institute of Indian Languages, Mysore, India, May 1988.
- “Current Trends in Folkloristics,” *Folklore Seminar*, University of Mysore (India), May 1988.
- “An Interdisciplinary Approach to Indian Folklore,” *Folk Literature Seminar*, Mangalore University (India), May 1988.
- “Popular Religious Drama in the Shi‘i World,” University of Pennsylvania, October 1987.
- “Writing the Cherokee: An Ethnohistorical Inquiry into the Uses and Abuses of Literacy,” *Religious Studies Colloquium*, University of Colorado at Boulder, October 1987.

Conference Papers

- “On the “ism” in Middle Bengali Religiosity.” *17th Annual Meeting of the European Association for the Study of Religion*, University of Estonia, June 2019.
- “Male Posturing in the Chitrakar Scroll Painting Repertoire.” *Manly Matters in South Asia Workshop*, Duke University, May 2019.
- “Bangladeshi New Year’s Performances as Markers of Nationalism.” *Nationalisms in South Asia Workshop*, Lund University, Sweden, April 2018.
- “A Sufi for the Modern Age: Guru Bawa’s Move from Sri Lanka to North America.” *The Rise of New Religions in Asia*, Boston University, March 2018.
- “‘It Ain’t Religion, Man, Its Culture’: Hindu Rhetoric on Muharram Practices in Cedros, Trinidad.” *45th Annual Conference on South Asia*, Madison, October 2016.
- “Ephemeral and Permanent Shrines on the Streets of Kolkata: Homelessness, Worship, and Prosperity.” *24th European Conference on South Asian Studies Meeting*, Warsaw, July 2016.
- “Multiple Reproduction of Charisma in a Transnational Sufi Community.” Annual meeting of the *Association for Asian Studies*, Seattle, March 2016.
- “Global Citizens, Local Bards: Bengali Responses to Globalization.” *Netlore: Globalizing Folklore in a Digital World*, Harvard University, April 2015.
- “Multi-Sensorial Crossings in a Contemporary Sufi Community.” *Aesthetics of Crossing: Experiencing the Beyond in Abrahamic Traditions*. Utrecht, The Netherlands, March 2015.
- “The Successes and Limitations of Publishing an Open Access Journal.” Open Access Journals *Special Forum*, Annual meeting of the *American Folklore Society*, Santa Fe, November 2014.
- “A Sri Lankan Sufi Movement in Philadelphia.” American Institute for Sri Lankan Studies *Special Forum*, Annual meeting of the Association for Asian Studies, Philadelphia, March 2014.
- “The Shaman and the Sufi: Typologies of Ecstatic Behavior.” Conference on *Pentecostalism and Shamanism in Asia*, Nagoya, Japan, January 2012.
- “Guru Bawa and the Making of a Transnational Sufi Family.” Workshop on *Sufism in Contemporary Sri Lankan Muslim Life*. Colombo, Sri Lanka, November 2010.
- “Carol Salomon’s Contribution to Bengali Studies.” *38th Annual Conference on South Asia*, Madison, October 2009.
- “Guru Bawa and Transnational Sufism.” Annual meeting of the *American Academy of Religion*, Chicago, November 2008.
- “Patua Religion and Globalization.” Annual meeting of the *American Academy of Religion*, San Diego, November 2007.
- “Singing Modernity: The Changing Role of a Bengali Artisan Caste.” *18th European Conference on Modern South Asian Studies*, Lund, July 2004.

- “A Telling Place: Constructing Locality in Rural West Bengal.” 7th *Société Internationale d’Ethnologie et de Folklore* conference, Budapest, April 2001.
- “Explaining Reductionism: On Cows, Dung, and Other Ecological Matters in Hindu India.” *Congress 2000: The Future of Religion*, Boston, September 2000.
- “(H)Ideology: Masking Hidden Agendas in the Study of Religion,” Annual meeting of the *Society for the Scientific Study of Religion*, Boston, November 1999.
- “Between Kundun and Brad Pitt There is No East or West: On Tibet, Hollywood, and Cyberspace Discourse,” Annual meeting of the *American Folklore Society*, Memphis, October 1999.
- “Caste Politics, Ritual Performance, and Folk Religion in a Bengali Village,” 3rd *Symposium of the Society for International Ethnology and Folklore*, Szeged, Hungary, September 1999.
- “Representing Tibetan Religion in Hollywood and Cyberspace,” Annual meeting of the *American Academy of Religion*, Orlando, November 1998.
- “Close Encounters of the Numinous Kind: Personal Experience Narratives and Memorates in Goalpara, West Bengal,” 15th *European Conference on Modern South Asian Studies*, Prague, September 1998.
- “Encountering Dharmaraj: Personal Experience Narratives in a Bengali Village,” 12th *Congress of the International Society for Folk Narrative Research*, Göttingen, Germany, July 1998.
- “Empowerment through Representation and Collaboration in Museum Exhibitions,” *Cultural Brokerage: Forms of Intellectual Practice in Society*, Deutsche Gesellschaft für Volkskunde, Bad Homburg, July 1998.
- “Contested Identities and the Uses of Tradition in an Indo-Trinidadian Community,” *International Symposium on Hindu Diaspora*, Concordia University, August 1997.
- “Identity on the Move: A Trinidadian Shi‘i Ritual in Transnational Perspective,” *Symposium on Migrations and Homelands, Real and Imagined: Constructing South Asian Muslim Identities*, North Carolina State University, May 1997.
- “Transforming Trash: Some Thoughts on Recyclia in India,” Annual meeting of the *American Folklore Society*, Lafayette, October 1995.
- “Place, Space and Identity: The Cultural and Economic Politics of Tibetan Diaspora,” 7th Seminar of the *International Association for Tibetan Studies*, Graz, June 1995.
- “The Concept of Tradition and Multiple Identities among East Indian Trinidadians,” Annual meeting of the *Association for Asian Studies*, Washington, D.C., April 1995.
- “Oral Canon Formation in a Bengali Religious Community,” Annual meeting of the *American Academy of Religion*, Washington, D. C., November 1993.
- “Urgent Matters in the Study of South Asian Folk Traditions,” *Workshop on Evaluating Trends in the Collection, Preservation and Dissemination of Music and Dance*, Washington, D. C., July 1993.
- “Imaginary Homelands and Emergent Ethnicity: East Indian Self-Representations through a Cultural Performance in Trinidad,” *Conference on Extended Worlds: The South Asian Experience of Diaspora*, Columbia University, March 1993.
- “Oral Traditions of the Dharma Cult,” Annual meeting of the *Mid-Atlantic Regional Chapter of the Association for Asian Studies*, West Chester, PA, November 1992.
- “Building the Tadjah: Artistic Creativity and Community,” *21st Annual South Asia Conference*, Madison, November 1992.
- “Moon Men: Body Symbolism in the Hosay Moons of Trinidad,” Annual meeting of the *American Folklore Society*, Jacksonville, October 1992.
- “Presuppositions and Fieldwork: Cursory Notes from West Bengal,” Annual meeting of the *American Folklore Society*, Philadelphia, October 1989.
- “Hindu Pilgrimage: A Folklorist’s Perspective,” 11th *All-India Folklore Congress*, Santiniketan, India, February 1989.
- “The Pañcakroshi Yatra: Process or Goal?” 16th *Annual South Asia Conference*, Madison, November 1987.
- “A Phenomenological Approach to Orissi Dance,” Annual meeting of the *Mid-Atlantic Regional Chapter of the Association for Asian Studies*, Bethlehem, October 1987.
- “Tragic Shi‘i Drama in Iran, India and Trinidad,” Annual meeting of the *American Folklore Society*, Albuquerque, October, 1987.
- “Performer-Audience Interaction in the Qawwali Song Tradition,” Annual meeting of the *Mid-Atlantic Chapter of the Society for Ethnomusicology*, Philadelphia, April, 1987.
- “Muharram and Ta‘ziyeh in Shi‘i Islam: A Comparison of Two Performative Contexts,” Annual meeting of the *Southeastern Regional Chapter of the American Academy of Religion*, Atlanta, March 1987.
- “Is Krsna Consciousness American? Towards a Redefinition of an Indian Movement,” Annual meeting of the *American Folklore Society*, Annual Meeting, Baltimore, October 1986.

Thesis and Dissertation

Ph.D. Dissertation: “*To Be Happy:*” *Narrative, Ritual Play and Leisure in an Annual Bengali Religious Festival*. Committee: Dan Ben-Amos (advisor), Margaret Mills, Arjun Appadurai, Peter Gaeffke
 M.A. Thesis: *The History and Development of the International Society for Krsna Consciousness in a Local Urban Environment*. Advisor: Don Yoder

Academic Work Experience

I. Teaching

Anthropology of Religion (Santa Fe Community College, Fall 1995)
Anthropological Approaches to Religion (Boston University, Fall 2000; Spring 2003; Spring 2004; Spring 2006; Spring 2008; Spring 2009; Spring 2010; Spring 2011; Fall 2011; Spring 2013; Spring 2013; Spring 2014; Spring 2015; Spring 2016; Spring 2017; Spring 2018)
Art and Religion (Boston University, Fall 2015)
Culture, Society and Religion in South Asia (Boston University, Fall 1999; Spring 2002; Fall 2003; Fall 2007; Fall 2009; Fall 2012; Fall 2014; Fall 2015; Fall 2016; Fall 2017; Fall 2018)
Ethnographic Fieldwork (Karnatak University [India], Spring 1989)
Folk Culture and Heritage Management (Lok Virsa [Pakistan], Winter 2017)
Hinduism (Boston University, Fall 1998, Fall 2000; Spring 2004; Fall 2005; Fall 2007; Fall 2008; Spring 2011; Spring 2013; Spring 2015; Spring 2016; Spring 2017; Spring 2018; Spring 2019)
Introduction to Cultural Anthropology (Boston University, Summer 2010, Summer 2011, Summer 2012; Summer 2013; Summer 2014; Summer 2015; Summer 2016; Summer 2018)
Introduction to Eastern Religions (Santa Fe Community College, Summer 1994; Fall 1994; Summer 1995)
Introduction to South Asian Folklore (M.G.M. College and Telugu University [India], Spring, Summer 1988)
Lived Islam in South Asia (Boston University, Fall 2014)
Myth, Symbol, and Rite (Boston University, Fall 1999)
New Age Spirituality (Boston University, Spring 1999, Spring 2000; Spring 2002; Fall 2002)
Oral Tradition as Verbal Art (Boston University, Spring 2001; Fall 2002; Fall 2005; Fall 2008)
Shamanism (Boston University, Fall 2017; Fall 2018)
South Asian Religions and Diaspora Studies (Boston University, Spring 2008; Spring 2009)
Social Sciences Approaches to Religion (Boston University, Fall 2011; Fall 2012; Fall 2016)
Sufism in South Asia (Boston University, Spring 2014)
Sufism in Theory and Practice (Amherst College, Spring 2016)
Survey of World Folklife (Santa Fe Community College, Spring 1995; Spring 1996)
Theoretical Approaches to Myth (Boston University, Spring 2000)
Visual Piety (Boston University, Fall 2015)
Visual Piety in South Asia (Boston University, Spring 2010; Harvard University, Spring 2014)
World Religions: Eastern (Boston University, Fall 1998; Spring 1999; Summer 1999; Spring 2001; Summer 2002; Spring 2003; Summer 2003; Fall 2003; Spring 2006; Fall 2009; Summer 2013; Summer 2014; Summer 2015; Spring 2016; Summer 2016; Summer 2017; Summer 2018; Summer 2019)

II. Fieldwork and Research

Fieldwork and Archival Research, “The Making of a Transnational Sufi ‘Family,’” June 2006-present.
 Fieldwork and Archival Research, “Bengali Patuas in Transition,” February-March 2007; October 2006; September 2004-June 2005; December 2002-January 2003; May-June 2002; December 2001.
 Fieldwork and Archival Research, “Hosay Observances in Trinidad,” May 1997.
 Fieldwork and Collecting, “Traditional and Contemporary Tibetan Crafts in India,” March 1996.
 Fieldwork, “East Indian Participation in Trinidad Carnival,” February 1996.
 Fieldwork and Collecting, “Folk Art in Hungary,” June 1995.
 Fieldwork, “Tibetan Refugees in Switzerland,” August 1994.
 Fieldwork and Collecting, “Recycled Art in India,” March-April 1994.
 Fieldwork and Research, “Tibetan Refugees in New Mexico,” September 1993-July 1998.
 Research, “Nineteenth-Century Depictions of Muharram,” Oriental and India Office Collections, The British Museum, January 1993.
 Fieldwork and Research, “Hosay in Trinidad,” Summer 1991; Summer 1992.
 Fieldwork and Research, “The Contemporary Context of a Medieval Bengali Narrative: The Dharmamangal,” 1990-1991, West Bengal, India.

Fieldwork and Research, "The History and Development of the International Society for Krsna Consciousness in a Local Urban Context (Philadelphia)." Spring 1986.
Fieldwork and Research, "Pañcakroshi Yatra." September 1982-May 1983.

Museum Exhibitions

"Village of Painters: Narrative Scrolls from West Bengal." *Museum of International Folk Art*, October 2006-May 2007.
"At Home Away from Home: Tibetan Culture in Exile," *Museum of International Folk Art*, March 1998-March 1999.
"From Land to Loom: Tierra Wools," *Museum of International Folk Art*, January-July 1994.

Films

"Making *Pats*" & "Patua Performances." Two fieldwork-based documentaries on the work of narrative scroll painters in West Bengal.
--eight-month run at the Museum of International Folk Art in conjunction with the exhibition *A Village of Painters: Narrative Scrolls from West Bengal* (with Tom McCarthy & Felicia Harris)
"Dorjee Gyaltzen: A Tibetan Painter in Exile." A fieldwork-based documentary of the life of a local Tibetan in his diasporic context (with Tom McCarthy).
--one-year run at the Museum of International Folk Art in conjunction with the exhibition *At Home Away from Home: Tibetan Culture in Exile*.
"Hosay Trinidad." An ethnographic exploration of the annual Islamic commemoration of the martyrdom of Imam Husayn, brought to the island by East Indian indentured laborers in the mid-nineteenth century (with John Bishop).
--screened at annual meeting of the *American Anthropological Association*, Philadelphia, December 1998; annual meeting of the *Middle East Studies Association*, Chicago, December 1998; annual meeting of the *American Folklore Society*, Memphis, October 1999; *Göttingen International Ethnographic Film Festival*, May 2000; *Berlin Documentary Film Festival*, May 2000; *Third Biennial Conference on Iranian Studies Film Festival*, May 2000; *School of American Research Anthropology Colloquium*, August 2000; *Royal Anthropological Institute Film Festival*, December 2000; *University of Texas Festival of Ethnographic Film*, April 2001; Department of Anthropology, Williams College, November 2001; Department of Religion, University of Vermont, February 2003; Maxwell Museum, University of New Mexico, March 2003; 14th *Mediterranean Ethnological Summer Seminar*, August 2007; Department of Anthropology, University of Colorado, October 2008; *Intimate Lens Ethnographic Film Festival*, Caserta, Italy, December 2012.
--winner of UCLA's annual *VITAS Film Festival*, March 1999.

Grants, Fellowships and Honors

Max Planck Institute for the Study of Religious and Ethnic Diversity Residency Fellowship, 2020. To complete the writing of a book on transnational Sufism.
Chief Guest, Kharagpur Book Fair, January 2019. In recognition of contributions made to Bengal Studies.
American Institute of Bangladesh Studies, September 2018. To partially fund a roundtable discussion on Bengal Studies in Boston.
Crafoord Foundation, April 2018. To fund an international workshop in Sweden on South Asian nationalisms.
American Institute of Pakistan Studies Grant, June 2017. To partially fund a collaborative workshop on heritage management in Islamabad with Lok Virsa.
American Institute of Pakistan Studies Grant, January 2016. To fund a Pakistani lecturer at Boston University.
Research Associate, Museum of International Folk Art, December 2015-December 2018.
BU Arts Initiative Grant, 2014. To collect, document, and display Indian chromolithographs in conjunction with teaching Hinduism.
Research Associate, Nanzan Institute for Religion and Culture, September 2014-2017.
Deutscher Akademischer Austauschdienst (DAAD) Grant, 2012. To fund a visiting professorship at Heidelberg University.

- Clark Art Institute Residency Fellowship, 2012. To complete a book tentatively titled *Visualizing Modernity*.
- Research Associate of the Anthropological Institute of Nanzan University. January 2011-Janauary 2013.
- Carnegie Foundation, 2011. To co-organize and co-convene a symposium on “Sufism as a Mediating Force in South Asia.”
- American Institute of Sri Lankan Studies Grant, 2009-2011. To carry out fieldwork on Sufism in Sri Lanka.
- American Academy of Religion Research Award, 2007-2008. To carry out fieldwork on Sufism in Sri Lanka.
- John Simon Guggenheim Memorial Foundation Fellowship, 2006-07. To complete the writing of a book on Bengali scroll painters.
- International Travel Grant, GRS Office of the Dean, Boston University, 2005. To chair a panel at the 14th *Mediterranean Ethnological Summer Seminar*.
- Senior Fulbright Research Scholarship, 2004-05. To carry out fieldwork in West Bengal.
- International Travel Grant, GRS Office of the Dean, Boston University, 2003. To deliver a paper and chair a panel at the 18th *European Conference on Modern South Asian Studies*.
- Premio Pitirè Città di Palermo, 2002. International book prize for best ethnohistorical study.
- Honorary Research Associate of the Museum of International Folk Art, Santa Fe, August 2002-present.
- International Folk Art Foundation Research Grant, 2002-2003. To carry out fieldwork in West Bengal.
- American Academy of Religion Research Award, 2001. To carry out fieldwork in West Bengal.
- Boston University Humanities Foundation Fellowship, 2001. To complete a manuscript on *muharram* rites in Trinidad.
- International Travel Grant, GRS Office of the Dean, Boston University, 2001. To deliver a lecture at the 8th *Mediterranean Ethnological Summer Seminar*.
- International Travel Grant, American Folklore Society, 2001. To deliver a paper at the 7th *Conference of the International Society for Ethnology and Folklore*.
- International Travel Grant, GRS Office of the Dean, Boston University, 2000. To deliver a paper at the 7th *Conference of the International Society for Ethnology and Folklore*.
- School of American Research Summer Residency Fellowship, 2000. To complete a manuscript on *muharram* rites in Trinidad.
- National Endowment for the Humanities Summer Stipend, 2000. To complete a manuscript on *muharram* rites in Trinidad.
- International Travel Grant, GRS Office of the Dean, Boston University, 1999. To deliver a paper at the 3rd Conference of the Folk Religion section of the *International Society for Ethnology and Folklore*.
- International Travel Grant, GRS Office of the Dean, Boston University, 1998. To deliver a paper at the 15th *European Conference on Modern South Asian Studies*.
- Committee on Excellence Grant, Museum of New Mexico, 1997. To deliver a paper at the 12th *Congress of the International Society for Folk Narrative Research*.
- Swedish Collegium for Advanced Studies in the Social Sciences, Resident Scholar Fellowship. 1998-1999 (declined).
- Committee on Excellence Grant, Museum of New Mexico, 1997. To deliver a paper at the *International Symposium on Hindu Diaspora*.
- Fund for Folk Culture Grant, 1997. To support public programs in conjunction with an exhibition titled “At Home Away from Home: Tibetan Culture in Exile.”
- American Philosophical Society Research Grant, 1997. To support fieldwork in Trinidad.
- Florence D. Bartlett Memorial Scholarship, International Folk Art Foundation, 1997. To support ongoing research on “Hosay in Trinidad.”
- Committee on Excellence Grant, Museum of New Mexico, 1996. To support archival research at the American Philosophical Society.
- Committee on Excellence Grant, Museum of New Mexico, 1996. To support fieldwork on “Carnival in Trinidad.”
- National Endowment for the Humanities Planning Grant, 1995. To support a symposium and research for a major museum exhibition titled “At Home Away from Home: Tibetan Culture in Exile.”
- Florence D. Bartlett Memorial Scholarship, 1995. To support the writing and presentation of a paper on the economic and cultural politics of Tibetan refugee art.
- Committee on Excellence Grant, Museum of New Mexico, 1995. To prepare and present a paper on “Tradition and Identity in the Caribbean.”
- Florence D. Bartlett Grant, 1994. To support fieldwork on Tibetans living in Switzerland.
- American Academy of Religion Research Assistance Grant, 1993. Funding for the reproduction of photos and illustrations for a forthcoming monograph.

Committee on Excellence Grant, Museum of New Mexico, 1993. To support study of the Tibetan Language.

Associate Member of the Folklore Fellows of the Finnish Academy of Science and Letters, Helsinki, 1993.

Research Opportunities Grant, Office of the Secretary of Science, Smithsonian Institution, 1993. To support archival research at the India Office Library and British Museum.

Postdoctoral Fellowship, Smithsonian Institution, 1992.

Dean's Scholar Award for Outstanding Scholarly Achievement, University of Pennsylvania, 1992.

Mellon Doctoral Dissertation Fellowship in the Humanities, 1991.

Smithsonian Institution Office of Folklife Programs Grant, 1991. To support research in Trinidad leading to the making of a film and publication of a monograph on East Indian Muslim ritual in the Caribbean.

American Institute of Indian Studies Dissertation Research Fellowship, 1991 (declined).

Fulbright-Hays Dissertation Research Fellowship, 1990. For doctoral research in India.

Highest Honors, Ph.D. Comprehensive Examinations, Dept. of Folklore, University of Pennsylvania, 1989

American Institute of Indian Studies Advanced Language Fellowship in Bengali, 1988.

American Folklife Center's Fellowship in Archival Practice, 1987.

Outstanding College Students of America, 1987.

Summer Language Fellowship in Bengali, University of Pennsylvania, 1986.

FLAS Title VI Fellowship in Bengali, University of Pennsylvania, 1985; 1986; 1987.

BULPIP Language Fellowship in Urdu, University of California-Berkeley, 1984.

Phi Beta Kappa, University of Colorado at Boulder, 1984.

Phi Beta Kappa Scholarship in Humanities, University of Colorado-Boulder, 1982. To support study and research on pilgrimage in India.

Dean's List, University of Colorado-Boulder, Fall 1981; Spring 1982; Fall 1983; Spring 1984.

Foreign Languages

Bengali, German, Hindi, Hungarian, Urdu (reading, writing, speaking).

Assamese, Oriya, Tamil, Tibetan (working knowledge).

Service to the Profession

I.I Editorial & Advisory Boards (present)

Editorial Board Member, *Text and Performance Quarterly*, July 2018-present.

Vice President, American Institute of Bangladesh Studies, September 2016-present.

Executive Committee Member, American Institute of Pakistan Studies, September 2016-present.

Editorial Board Member, *Religion, Culture, Society*, September 2014-present.

Editorial Board Member, *Journal of South Asian Studies*, February 2013-present.

Co-editor, *Asian Ethnology*, January 2012-present.

Editorial Board, *Humankind*, January 2011-present.

Editorial Board Member of *Folklore: Electronic Journal of Folklore*, 2008-present.

Editorial Board, *Journal of Contemporary Thought*, April 2004-present.

I.II Editorial & Advisory Boards (past)

Board of Trustees Member, American Institute of Bangladesh Studies, 2015-2016.

Advisory Board Member, *Routledge South Asia Archives Project*, 2014-2017.

Board of Trustees Member, American Institute of Pakistan Studies, 2014-2016.

Executive Committee Member, American Institute of Indian Studies, 2015-2018.

Editorial Board, *Archives of Anthropology*, 2013-2015.

Advisory Board Member, American Institute of Indian Studies Ethnomusicology Committee, 2012-2015.

Editorial Board, *American Anthropologist*, 2012-2016.

University Delegate, American Institute of Indian Studies, 2008-2015.

Editorial Board Member, *Journal of American Folklore*, 2009-2014.

Founding Editorial Board Member, *Oxford Bibliographies Online: Hinduism*, 2009-2011.

Editorial Board Member, *Asian Ethnology*, 2008-2011.

Steering Committee Member, Critical Theory Group, American Academy of Religion, 2001-2004.

Editor, *Religious Studies Review*, 2001-2004.

General Editor, *ABC-CLIO Religion in Contemporary Society Series*, 2000-2006.

Editorial Board Member, *Cultural Analysis*, 2000-2006.

Executive Council Member, *North American Association for the Study of Religion*, 1999-2002.
Editorial Board Member, *Journal of Global Buddhism*, 1999-2009.
Selection Committee Member, J. I. Staley Anthropological Book Prize, 1999-2000.
Editorial Board Member, *Myth: An Encyclopedia of Sacred Narratives, Beliefs, Concepts, Deities, and Methods* (ABC-CLIO), 1998-2001.
Editor for Social Sciences and Methodology Section, *Religious Studies Review*, 1999-2000.
Sub-editor for Social Sciences and Methodology Section, *Religious Studies Review*, 1998-1999.
Advisory Board Member, School of American Research, 1993-1998.
Editorial Board Member, *International Association for Tibetan Studies Proceedings*, 1996-1997.
Editorial Board Member, *South Asian Folklore: An Encyclopedia*, 1992-2002.

II. External Evaluations and Referee Work

External Evaluator for tenure and promotion case at University of Massachusetts—Boston, 2019.
External Evaluator for tenure and promotion case at University of Oklahoma, 2019.
External Faculty Evaluator for Vienn Ragoonanan's MPhil thesis titled *Divine Connections: An Examination of the Relationship between the Sacred and the Profane in Trinidad's Kali Mai Puja* at the University of the West Indies, St Augustine, Trinidad and Tobago, 2018.
External Faculty Evaluator for the defense of Holly Walter's PhD dissertation titled *Shaligram: Sacred Stones, Ritual Practice, and the Politics of Mobility in Nepal* at Brandeis University, 2018.
External Evaluator for tenure and promotion case at Brown University, 2018.
External Evaluator for tenure and promotion case at the University of Michigan, 2016.
International Evaluator for professorial search at Government College University, Faisalabad (Pakistan), 2016.
Chair, American Academy of Religion Best First Book Prize Committee, 2016-2018.
Juror, International Folk Art Alliance Artist Selection Committee. 2015-2016.
International Evaluator, Professorial Search at Vienna University, 2015.
Chair and Juror, American Institute of Pakistan Studies Best Book Prize, 2015-2017.
External Evaluator, Promotion Case at Wellesley College, 2014.
Juror, American Academy of Religion Best First Book Prize Committee, 2013-2015.
Referee, American Council of Learned Societies Luce Dissertation Fellowships, 2013-2016.
External Evaluator, Tenure and Promotion Case at University of Texas, Austin, 2013.
Referee, British Museum Endangered Archives Program, 2012.
External Faculty Evaluator, Defense of Tina Lauer's PhD Dissertation Titled *Lebenswelten von Tibeterinnen und Tibetern der zweiten Generation in Indien und der Schweiz* at Universität Bern, 2012.
External Evaluator, Promotion Case at Harvard University, 2011
External Evaluator, Promotion Case at Brown University, 2011.
Referee, National Humanities Center, 2010-2011.
External Evaluator, Promotion Case at UCLA, 2010.
External Evaluator, Tenure Case at the University of California-Riverside, 2009.
Referee, Czech Science Foundation, 2009-2010.
Referee, New York State Council for the Arts, 2008.
Referee, Austrian Science Fund, 2008.
External Faculty Evaluator, Defense of Asa Hole's PhD Dissertation Titled *Neither Here Nor There: An Anthropological Study of Gujarati Hindu Women in the Diaspora* at Uppsala University, 2005.
Member, India Research Grant Screening Committee, Institute for International Education (Fulbright), 2005-2007.
Referee, National Endowment for the Humanities *Collaborative Research Grant*, 2003.
External Faculty Evaluator, Defense of Julia Meredith's PhD Dissertation Titled *Stateless Citizens* at the University of New Mexico, 2003.
External Faculty Evaluator, Defense of Asa Tiljander-Ahlstrom's PhD Dissertation Titled *No Peace of Mind: The Tibetan Diaspora in India* at Uppsala University, June 2001.
Referee, National Endowment for the Humanities *Faculty Summer Stipends Program*, 2000-2002.
Chair, *Committee on Excellence* of the Museum of New Mexico, 1996-1998.
Voting Member, *Committee on Excellence* of the Museum of New Mexico, 1995-1998.
Manuscript Reviewer, American Association of Museums Press; Anthem Press; Bloomsbury; Brill; Cambridge University Press; Columbia University Press; Cornell University Press; DeGruyter; IB Taurus; New York University Press; Oxford University Press; Routledge; Stanford University Press; State University of New York Press; Temple University Press; University of California Press; University of Illinois Press; University Press of Mississippi; Wayne State University Press.

Occasional Referee, *American Anthropologist*; *Asian Ethnology*; *City & Society*; *Cultural Anthropology*; *Ethnography*; *Indian Economic and Social History Review*; *International Journal of Hindu Studies*; *Journal of Comparative Family Studies*; *Journal of Contemporary Thought*; *Journal of Linguistic Anthropology*; *Journal of Material Culture*; *Journal of Multilingual and Multicultural Development*; *Journal of Ritual Studies*; *Museum Anthropology Review*; *Narrative Culture*; *Nationalism and Ethnic Politics*; *Numen*; *Oral Tradition*; *Sri Lanka Journal of the Humanities*; *South Asia*; *Journal of South Asian History and Culture*.

III. Panel Organization and Participation

- Chair and Discussant, “Shifting Roles in Folk Art: Gender, Sexuality, Ethics, and Livelihood in Bihar’s Mithila/Madhubani Art.” Held at the *47th Annual Conference on South Asia*, Madison, 2018.
- Chair and Discussant, “Rethinking Folk Culture in South Asia.” Held at the *47th Annual Conference on South Asia*, Madison, 2018.
- Organizer and Convener, “Bengal Studies, Past and Present: Prospects and Problems,” Held at Boston University, 2018.
- Co-organizer and Co-convener, “Nationalisms in South Asia.” Held at Lund University, Sweden, 2018 [with Jan Magnusson].
- Discussant, “Waste and Economies of Recycling in India.” Held at the annual meeting of the Association for Asian Studies, Washington, DC, 2018.
- Discussant, “Refugee Entanglements: Displacements and Desire in South Asia.” Held at the *46th Annual Conference on South Asia*, Madison, 2017.
- Discussant, “Gender & Political Representation in Pakistan.” Held at the *45th Annual Conference on South Asia*, Madison, 2016.
- Co-organizer and Co-convener, “South Asian Folklore in the 21st Century.” Held at Harvard University, 2016 [with Leah Lowthorp].
- Discussant, “Intracultural and Intercultural Folklore across South Asian Borders.” Held at the Annual *American Folklore Society* meeting, Santa Fe, 2014.
- Discussant, “Practice, Performance, and Politics of Sufi Shrines in South Asia and Beyond.” Held in Aurangabad, India, 2014.
- Co-organizer and Co-convener, “Sufism as a Mediating Force in South Asia.” Held at Connecticut College, 2011 [with Sufia Uddin].
- Discussant, “Heresy, Curses, and Blasphemy in the History of Religions.” Held at the Annual *American Academy of Religions* meeting, San Francisco, 2011.
- Discussant, “Belief, Belonging and Generic Practices: Vernacular Religion in India.” Held at the Annual *Association for Asian Studies* meeting, Honolulu, 2011.
- Co-organizer and Co-convener, “Sufism in Contemporary Sri Lanka.” Held in Colombo, Sri Lanka, 2010 [with Dennis B. McGilvray].
- Moderator, “Bektashism in Southeastern Europe.” Held at the 14th Annual *Mediterranean Ethnological Summer Seminar*, Ljubljana, Slovenia, 2007.
- Organizer and Convener, “South Asian Diaspora Studies: Prospects and Trends.” Held at the 18th *European Conference on Modern South Asian Studies*, Lund, 2004.
- Discussant, “Religion and Human Sacrifice.” Held at the Boston University Institute for Philosophy and Religion, 2002.
- Discussant, “Religion and/as Construction.” Held at the annual meeting of the *American Academy of Religion*, 2001.
- Discussant, “The Scholar of Religion as Expert Witness.” Held at the annual meeting of the *American Academy of Religion*, 2000.
- Chair, “Detraditionalizing the Study of Religion.” Held at *Congress 2000: The Future of the Study of Religion*, Boston University, 2000.
- Chair and Discussant, “Buddhism and Globalization.” Held at the Institute for the Study of Economic Culture, Boston University, 2000.
- Chair, “Writing Selves, Inscribing Others: Indian Sites and Metropolitan Locations.” Held at the annual meeting of the *Association for Asian Studies*, Boston, 1999.
- Discussant, “Diasporas Reconsidered.” Held at the annual meeting of the *American Historical Association*, Washington, D.C., 1999.
- Discussant, “Concord and Discord in South Asian Pilgrimage.” Held at the annual meeting of the *American Academy of Religion*, Orlando, 1998.

- Organizer and Chair, “Blunders, Plunders, and the Wonders of Fieldwork: Ethnographic Integrity and the Study of South Asian Religions.” Held at the annual meeting of the *American Academy of Religion*, 1998.
- Discussant, “Folklore, Anthropology, and the Colonial Enterprise.” Held at the *Sarah Kailath Memorial Lectures*, University of California, Berkeley, 1998.
- Chair and Discussant, “Identity and the Boundaries of Otherness: Parsis, Hijras, and Jews in India,” held at the *13th Annual South Asia Conference*, University of California, Berkeley, 1998.
- Discussant, “Forests and Ecology,” held at the *International Symposium on Ecology and Hinduism*, Harvard University, 1997.
- Invited Delegation Member, To Trinidad for a team research project on Carnival, 1996.
- Organizer, Chair and Discussant, “Tibetan Material Culture in Exile,” Santa Fe, 1995.
- Organizer, Chair and Discussant, “Tibetan Culture in the Diaspora.” Held at the 7th Seminar of the *International Association for Tibetan Studies*, Graz, Austria, 1999).
- Discussant, “Diaspora South Asians: Identities, Politics, and Performance.” Held at the annual meetings of the *Association for Asian Studies*, Washington, DC, 1995.
- Moderator and Discussant, “Continuities of Gypsy Culture in the Modern World.” Held at the Museum of International Folk Art, Santa Fe, 1993.
- Organizer and Chair, “New Perspectives in South Asian Material Culture.” Held at the *21st Annual South Asia Conference*, Madison (November 1992).
- Chair, “Performing Arts in India.” Held at the *XIth All-India Folklore Congress*, Santiniketan, India, 1989.
- Co-Coordinator, *Knowledge, Performance and Transmission in Folk Traditions*, 40th Annual South Asia Seminar of the University of Pennsylvania’s South Asia Regional Studies Department, 1987-1988.

IV. Miscellaneous

- Expert Witness, Court Case on Dowry Fraud. Held at Suffolk County Court, 2017.
- Curatorial Consultant, Museum of International Folk Art for an Exhibition on Rituals and Amulets in Asia, 2015.
- Delegation Member, External Evaluation of the Department of Religion at George Washington University, 2012.
- Cultural Consultant, Southern Productions (Trinidad & Tobago) for a Documentary Film on Hosay in Cedros, Trinidad, 2012.
- Academic Advisor, Kolkata Museum of Modern Art (India) for the Establishment of an Art Research Center, 2010-2018.
- Project Co-Director, Smithsonian Institution Research Project on Islamic Muharram Rituals, 1991-1998 [with Peter Checkkowski].
- Curriculum Consultant, University of Hyderabad (India) for the Establishment of a Folk Culture Studies, 1991.
- Cultural Programs Consultant, Ford Foundation in Bangladesh and India, 1990-1991.
- Private Tutor, “Beginning Bengali,” 1989.
- Lecturer, Ford Foundation *International Workshops in Folkloristics* (India) 198-1989.

Teaching and Research Interests

I. Topical

Religion (Hinduism, Islam, Buddhism); ritual and myth; folklore and material culture; museum practice and the politics/poetics of representation; performance studies; diasporas; ethnicity; cultural creolization and syncretism; globalization and transnationalism; pilgrimage and tourism.

II. Areal

South Asia (India, Nepal, Pakistan, Bangladesh, Sri Lanka), Caribbean (Trinidad, Jamaica), Tibet, Iran.

Professional Memberships

All-India Folklore Congress
American Academy of Religion (past member)
American Anthropological Association (past member)
American Folklore Society (past member)
American Institute of Bangladesh Studies
American Institute of Indian Studies
American Institute of Pakistan Studies

American Institute of Sri Lankan Studies
Association of Asian Studies (past member)
Folklore Fellows of Finland
International Association for Tibetan Studies (past member)
International Society for Ethnology and Folklore (past member)
International Society for Folk Narrative Research (past member)
International Union of Anthropological and Ethnological Sciences (past member)
Phi Beta Kappa
Society for the Scientific Study of Religion (past member)

References

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University of Michigan
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Ann Arbor, Michigan 48109-1285
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