

Mark W. MacWilliams

Curriculum Vitae

General Information:

Address: Religion Department, St. Lawrence University, Canton, N.Y. 13617

Phone: (Office) 315-379-5128/ (Home) 244-2839 **E-Mail:** mmacwilliams@stlawu.edu

Education:

- Ph. D. Divinity School, The University of Chicago (1990)
- M.A. Religious Studies, Indiana University (1980)
- B.A. Religious Studies, Syracuse University (1974)

Dissertation:

Title: "Kannon *Engi*: Strategies of Indigenization in the Kannon Temple Myths of the *Saikoku sanjūsankasho Kannon reijōki* and the *Sanjūsankasho Bandō Kannon reijōki*"

Abstract:

This is the first major study of an important sacred genre of Japanese Buddhist tale literature known as Kannon temple *engi*. In the dissertation, I discuss the religious history of the Kannon cult in Japan, the literary history of *engi*, and the genre's importance for popularizing the Kannon temple pilgrimage in eighteenth and 19th century Japan.

Primary Areas of Research Interest:

- Popular Buddhism in Modern and Pre-Modern Japan, focusing on the Kannon Cult.
- Japanese Pilgrimage particularly the Chichibu *junrei*
- Religious Dimensions of Japanese *Manga* (Comic Books) and *Anime*
- The Internet and Religion
- Contemporary Shinto intellectual history

Secondary Areas of Interest:

- History of Religions and Methodology in the Study of Religion
- East Asian Religious Life
- Teaching about Japanese Religions and Culture in the Undergraduate/Secondary School Setting
- Japanese Gardens

Languages: Classical and Modern Japanese, and a reading knowledge of French and German

Work History:

- Full Professor, St. Lawrence University (2008--Present)
- Associate Professor and Chair, Religious Studies Department, St. Lawrence University (2001-2008).
- Assistant Professor, Religious Studies Department, St. Lawrence University (1997-2001).
- Visiting Assistant Professor, Religious Studies Department, St. Lawrence University (1996-1997).
- Visiting Assistant Professor, Religious Studies, Bucknell University (1995-1996)
- Assistant Professor, Religious Studies, Bethany College (1989-1995)

Scholarship:

Publications:

Books and Articles (published, forthcoming, or under contract):

A Critical Introduction to Religion: Defining, Imagining, and Interpreting Religious Maps (Routledge , 2026)

Graphically Religious: Visual Representations in Japanese Religion (Contract with Routledge). Working on manuscript 2024 due date.

Defining Shinto, ed. and trans. with Okuyama Michiaki (Routledge, 2019).

Japanese Visual Culture: Explorations in Manga and Anime (M.E. Sharpe, 2008). (2nd Edition in the initial planning stages with Routledge Press).

Self-Published Site: E-Site *Pilgrimages Canton to Chichibu: Pilgrimages to Kannon and Jizô Bosatsu---East and West* (<http://scalar.usc.edu/works/pilgrimages-canton-to-chichibu/index>).

Essays, Articles, Translations:

- Bonji Kawazura, “Manifesto,” Translation for Miizukai (a Corporate Judicial Person), 2022
- “Manga Pilgrimages—Visualizing the Sacred/Sacralizing the Visual in Japanese *Junrei*,” in *Comics, Culture & Religion—Gods in Frames*, edited by Pål Ketil and Kees de Groot (Bloomsbury Press, Forthcoming)
- “Manufacturing Shinto in Anglo-American World Religions Textbooks,” *Journal of Religion in Japan* 6 (2018):1-37.
- “Religion and Manga” in Inken Prohl and John Nelson, eds. *The Handbook of Contemporary Japanese Religions* (Brill, 2012), pp.595-628.
- “A kortárs japán vizuális kultúra,” *Korunk* 22 (February, 2011): 40-53.
- Translation of Murohoshi Daijiro’s “The Unsettling Statue,” in *Kaiki: Uncanny Tales from Japan Vol. 3 Tales of the Metropolis* (Tokyo: Kurohan Press, 2011).
- “The North Country Zen Garden,” with Cathy Shrady, *Journal of the Friends of the Owen D. Young and Lauenders Libraries* (Spring 2009).
- “Imaging Japanese Religion in the Classroom—Mandala, Manga, and Zen Gardens.” *Asia Network Exchange* Vol 16, no. 2 (Spring, 2009), 86-103.
- “George Akiyama’s *Kôbô Daishi Kûkai*: Searching for the Self in a Manga. Spiritual Biography.” *Proceedings of the International Conference on Esoteric Buddhist Studies at Koyasan University* (March, 2008).
- Translator, Kazuo Matsumura, “Retrospective—Nelly Naumann’s (1922-2000) Contribution to the Study of Japanese Religions and Myth.” *Religious Studies Review* 32 (Number 4, October 2006): 163-168.
- “Techno-Ritualization—The Gohonzon Controversy on the Internet,” in *Online – Heidelberg Journal for Religions on the Internet* (2006), pp.91-122.
- "Japanese Pilgrimage --A Case Study of the Chichibu Kannon Thirty-Four Temple Circuit," in Lawrence Sullivan, ed., *Grandi religioni e culture nell'estremo oriente. Giappone Trattato di antropologia del sacro*, Vol 9 (Milan Italy: Jaca Book, 2006), pp.135-75.
- “Introduction,” *Religious Studies Review* 31 (January and April, 2005): 1-3.
- “Shinto in World Religions Textbooks,” *Religious Studies Review* 31 (January and April, 2005): 16-20.
- “Digital Waco--- Branch Davidian Virtual Communities after the Waco Tragedy,” Margit Warburg and Morten Højsgaard eds., *Religion and Digital Networks*, Routledge (2005), pp. 180-98.
- “Virtual Pilgrimage to Ireland’s Croagh Patrick,” in Lorne L. Dawson and Douglas E. Cowan eds., *Religion Online / Online Religion: Finding Faith on the Internet* (New York: Routledge, 2004), pp. 223-37.
- “Symbolic Resistance to the Waco Tragedy on the Internet,” *Nova Religio*. 8 (March 2004): 59-82.
- “Living Icons: Reizô Myths of the Saikoku Kannon Pilgrimage,” *Monumenta Nipponica*. 59 (Spring, 2004): 35-82.
- "Revisioning Japanese Religiosity: Osamu Tezuka's *Hi no Tori* (The Phoenix)." *Japanese Religions* 24 (January, 1999): 73-100; revised and republished in Timothy Craig, ed., *Global Goes Local: Popular Culture in Asia* (University of British Columbia Press, 2002), pp. 177-210.

- "Introduction to the Symposium," *Religion* 32 (2002): 277-78.
- "Virtual Pilgrimages on the Internet," *Religion* 32 (2002): 315-35.
- "The Holy Man's Hut as a Symbol of Stability in Japanese Buddhist Pilgrimage," *Numen* 47 (2000): 387-416.
- "Japanese Comic Books (*Manga*) and Religion: Osamu Tezuka's Story of the Buddha," in Timothy Craig, ed., *Japan Pop!: Inside the World of Japanese Popular Culture* (M.E. Sharpe, 2000), pp.109-36.
- "Temple Myths and the Popularization of Kannon Pilgrimage in Japan: A Case Study of Ōya-ji on the Bandō Route," *Japanese Journal of Religious Studies* 24 (1997): 375-411.
- "*Siddhartha* -- A Journey to the East?," in *Education About Asia*, Volume 2 (Spring, 1997): 13-15.
- "Teacher Outreach in Japanese Studies--A Case Study," in *Education about Asia*. (November, 1996): 24-27.
- "Understanding the Japanese--New Resources for Teaching about Japanese Society and Culture," in *The International Journal of Social Education*, (Spring, 1995): 80-93.
- "Buddhist Pilgrim/Buddhist Exile--Old and New Images of Retired Emperor Kazan in the Saigoku Kannon Temple Guidebooks," in *History of Religions* (May, 1995): 304-28.
- "The Reijō and Kechien," in *Transactions of the Asiatic Society of Japan*, Fourth Series, 5 (1990): 53-70.
- "Japanese Culture in the Classroom" (written, desktop edited, privately published and distributed through a grant from The National Endowment for the Humanities and Wheeling Nisshin Steel Corporation, summer, 1998)

Edited Journal Issues

- Japanese Religions Special Issue, *Religious Studies Review* 32 (October, 2006)
- *Religion/s between Covers: Dilemmas of the World Religions Textbook*--Special issue, *Religious Studies Review* 31 (January and April, 2005).
- *The Internet and Religion*--Special issue for *Religion*, 32 (2003).

Photographic Illustrations

- Photographs published for a special issue on Asian religions, *Education About Asia*, Volume 2 (Spring, 1997): 30-31.

Selected Book Reviews:

- Numerous book notes and edited reviews for *Religious Studies Review* (2001-2020).
- Sarah Iles Johnston, ed. *Narrating Religion*, *Religious Studies Review* 46-1 (Winter, 2020)

- Yoshiko Okuyama. *Japanese Mythology in Film: A Semiotic Approach to Reading Japanese Film and Anime* (Lanham, Maryland: Lexington Books, 2015) in *The Journal of Japanese Studies* (2016).
- Clark Chilson, *Secrecy's Power: Covert Shin Buddhists in Japan and Contradictions of Concealment* (Honolulu: The University of Hawai'i Press, 2014) in *The Journal of Japanese Studies* (2015).
- Jason Ananda Josephson's *The Invention of Religion in Japan* (Chicago: The University of Chicago Press, 2012) in *Numen* 62, no.2. (2015)
- Barbara R. Ambros, *Bones of Contention Animals and Religion in Contemporary Japan* (Honolulu: The University of Hawai'i Press, 2012) in *The Journal of Japanese Studies* 40 no, 2 (2014).
- Jolynon Thomas' *Drawing on Tradition: Manga, Anime, and Religion in Contemporary Japan* (University of Hawai'i Press, 2012) in *Monumenta Nipponica*, 68, no.1 (2013).
- Jeffrey L. Staley & Richard Walsh, *Jesus, the Gospels, and Cinematic Imagination: A Handbook to Jesus on DVD & Terry Lindvall, Sanctuary Cinema: Origins of the Christian Film Industry. Journal of Religion and Media* (2008)
- Ian Reader, *Making Pilgrimages: Meaning and Practice in Shikoku* in *Monumenta Nipponica* 61 (Spring 2006): 123-26.
- Winston King, *Zen and the Way of the Sword: Arming the Samurai Psyche* in *Journal of Religion* (April, 1995).
- Allan Grapard, *Protocol of the Gods* in *Journal of Religion* (January, 1995).
- H.E. Plutschow, *Chaos and Cosmos: Ritual in Early and Medieval Japanese Literature*, in *History of Religions* 32 (November, 1992).
- Carl Bielefeldt, *Dogen's Manuals of Zen Meditation*, in *Harvard Journal of Asian Studies*, 50 (December, 1990).
- Hayao Kawai, *The Japanese Psyche: Major Motifs in the Fairy Tales of Japan*, in *Philosophy East and West* (1989).
- Robert E. Morrell, *Shasekishû*, in *The Journal of Religion*, 67 (October, 1987).

Internet Publication (Through the Harvard Pluralism Project)

- "Mapping the Religious Landscape of the North Country" (in association with North Country Summer Research Fellow, Mark Forsyth and the students of my FYP, Exploring American Spiritual Worlds) 2000-2001.

Newspaper Interviews and Blog

- Edan Corkill, "Scholars Worldwide React to Plan," *The Japan Times* June 14, 2009.
- Cheryl Sherry, "Film may revive anti-Semitic tensions ," *Post-Crescent* , Feb. 22, 2004.
- Cheryl Sherry, "Religious Themes Often Find Way into Secular Films, *Post-Crescent*, Feb. 22, 2004.
- Cheryl Sherry, "Hollywood Portrayals of Christ a Matter of Interpretation."

Dictionary Entries:

- “Joseph Campbell,” in Lindsay Jones ed., *Encyclopedia of Religion* (Detroit: Macmillan Reference USA, 2005).
- “Nakayama Miki,” in Lindsay Jones ed., *Encyclopedia of Religion* (Detroit: Macmillan Reference USA, 2005).
- Contributor, several entries on Japanese religions for the *Oxford Dictionary of World Religions* (1997).
- Contributor, several entries on Japanese religions for the *Harper Collins Dictionary of Religion* (1995).

Academic Honors/Grants/Lectures Awarded and Funded:

At St. Lawrence:

- Proposal Submission: “Visualizing Japanese Pilgrimages along the Chichibu Route-- Anime Sacred Journeys,” NEH-Mellon Fellowships for Digital Publication for 2019 (rejected sadly).
- SLU Arts Collaborative Proposal for Fall 2018 9/22---9/27th: The Silk Road, Jazz and Modern Sounds from Spain to Tokyo. This is a 4 day residency planned with shakuhachi master and native Californian Bruce Huebner, Japanese guitarist Kôfû Suwa with special guest performer New York-based Todd Isler on South Asian and Middle eastern percussion.
- CIIS 2018 Grant (with Joe Erlichman) for a Student Course Travel Component— Contemporary Meditation Movements in Thailand (May, 2018)
- Organizer, Introducer to Clark Chilson, Niles Lecture on Religion and Science. “Medicinal Meditation in Japan: How the Buddhist-Inspired Practice of Naikan Became a Psychiatric Intervention,” Monday, May 1, 2017, 7:30 pm
- Organizer and Translator, Hiruta Kotaro, Ichikukai Dojo, entitled “Zen Master’s Calligraphy and His State of Mind,” Wednesday, March 8th Sykes Commons Room (Next to the Japanese Garden) 6:00-7:30 pm. This is the latest of four public lectures and class visitations that Hiruta sensei has given over the past four years at SLU. I have organized all of them and served as his translator.
- CIIS: “The Meditative Mind--Neuroscience and Buddhism.” Thailand Travel Component, May-June, 2016 (With Joe Erlichman) (2016)
- Creating a Virtual Study-Space for Exploring “Ano Hana”-- A Japanese Anime Pilgrimage Online—A Faculty/Student Mellon Small Research Grant (2015)
- St. Lawrence University Major Grant—Chichibu Anime Pilgrimage (2013-14)
- Mellon Humanities Major Grant---Paths of the Buddha—Course Development Grant to develop a Theme Cluster Course for the College (2013-14).
- Contemporary Issues forum for David Slawson, “Evoking Native Landscape Using Japanese Garden Principles” (2013)
- Arts Collaborative Performance Grant, St. Lawrence University, for “Songs of the Wind,” Bruce Huebner, *Shakuhachi* Performance Artist. March 4-6, 2013.
- Northeast Asia Council of the Association for Asian Studies, Grant—Tea Ceremony Utensils and Supplies for the Asian Studies Program, May, 2012.

- “Creating Community Stewardship of SLU’s Japanese Garden” (SLU Innovation Grant) (2011-12).
- JSPS Grant, *Shintō no gainen*, Associate Research Fellow, Nanzan University, Japan (2011-13).
- SLU Arts Collaborative Council Grant—“An African Musical Garden of Delight,” Samite in the North Country Japanese Garden (2010).
- JUSEC Fulbright Research Fellowship at Sophia University, *Defining Shinto* (2010)
- SLU Major Grant: “Visual Representations of Emperors in Japanese Manga” (2009).
- Co-Designer, Director Sykes Courtyard Japanese Zen Garden Project/Dolan Foundation and Asian Studies Initiative Grants (2008).
- CIEE Grant (International and Intercultural Studies) for travel to China, The Silk Road Study Tour June (2007)
- Asian Studies Initiative Grant for an Oribe Lantern (for the on campus Japanese garden) (2006).
- Asian Studies Initiative Grant (\$3000) for DVD Japanese Anime video library collection (2006).
- Asian Studies Initiative Major Grant (Student/Faculty Travel Grant—Kyoto Zen Gardens May/June, 2006.
- St. Lawrence University Major Grant (Research in Japan on Kōfuku no Kagaku, a Japanese new religious movement) (2005).
- National Endowment for the Humanities Research Fellowship, Spring 2003, Japanese Visual Culture and Religion.
- Major Grant SLU for the Survey of Chichibu *kaichō* (Fall, 2002).
- Harvard Pluralism Project Affiliate Grant, The North Country Pluralism Project (May, 2000, Renewed May, 2001).
- Cultural Affairs Council Grant for speaker, Carl Hammerschlag, November 15th, 2000.
- William B. Bradbury Jr. Faculty Support Award (August, 1999).
- Director/Advisor, North Country Summer Research Fellowship (with Mark Forsyth) "Mapping St. Lawrence County's Religious Sites" (Summer, 2000).
- St. Lawrence University, Major Grant (for Faculty Development), Summer, 1998.
- Research Grant, Northeast Asia Council of the Association of Asian Studies, Summer, 1998.
- Cultural Affairs Council Grant for Maureen Korp's lecture, "Seeing the Earth," October 29th, 1997.
- CJEF Course Development Grant (to develop a new course in Native American Religions).
- West Virginia Humanities Fellowship, *Manga in Japanese Religion* (Summer 1996).
- Awarded an NEH Grant to direct a year long regional institute on *Japanese Culture through Literature* (1995-96) (\$135,000).
- Nominee, Richard B. Kenney Award for Outstanding Professor of the Year, Bethany College (1995).
- Center for Global Awareness Grant & West Virginia Humanities Council Major Grant (1995)

- Participant, NEH Summer Seminar, "Themes in Japanese Philosophy," at Ohio State University (1994).
- Center for Global Awareness Grant & West Virginia Humanities Council Major Grant—Japanese Culture Symposium (1994).
- Japan Foundation Institutional Outreach Grant--West Virginia Japanese Culture Project (1993).
- West Virginia Humanities Council Major Grant--Japanese Culture Symposium (1992).
- NEH Library Grant to the National Diet Library, Japan (1992).
- West Virginia Humanities Council Research Fellow (1991).
- Japan Foundation Institutional Grant--Library Acquisitions (1990).
- Charlotte W. Newcombe Dissertation Fellowship (1988).
- Junior Fellow, Institute for the Advanced Study of Religion (1988).
- Fulbright-Hayes Fellowship (DOE), Kenkyûin, Institute of Philosophy, University of Tsukuba, Japan (1987).

Conferences, Seminars, and Symposia:

- Presentation: “Manga Pilgrimages—Visualizing the Sacred/Sacralizing the Visual in Japanese *Junrei*,” Religion and Spirituality in Comics, Graphics, and Novels, Nordic Conference of Sociology of Religion, University of Gothenburg, Sweden (8/16-18th, 2022).
- Presentation, “Healing Humor—Nakamura Hikaru’s *Seinto*  *oniisan* (*Saint*  *Youngmen*),” 2019 Eastern International Regional Annual Meeting, AAR, April 13-14, 2019
- Panelist, “Immersive Learning and the Humanities: Experiencing Japanese Religions, in Japan and Elsewhere,” Association of Asian Studies Annual Meeting, Denver (March 24th, 2019).
- International Cooperator, Research Project on Anime and Manga literature with a Special Focus on the Topics of Apocalypticism and "the Evil at the End of Times," Austrian Science Fund (FWF; see (<http://www.fwf.ac.at/en/>) (Proposed for 2018)
- Invited Speaker, “Rethinking What’s Sacred about 'Ano Hana' Anime Pilgrimage,” Institute for Japanese Studies, Ohio State University (April 4th, 2018).
- Presentation, “Rethinking the Sacred in Japanese Pilgrimage: *Ano Hana*, Anime Pilgrimage, and the Chichibu Thirty-Four Temple Circuit,” in the panel (of which I am Panel Chair and Organizer “Commodified Spirituality--Marketing Pilgrimages in Japan,” Panel for The XXI Quinquennial World Congress of the IAHR, *Dynamics of Religion: Past and Present*, hosted by the DVRW, Erfurt, Germany August, 23-29, 2015.
- Faculty Café: Japanese Anime Pilgrimage—Finding the Sacred in Your Favorite Animated Cartoon Show, Friday, September 4th ~ 4:00pm—5:30pm
- Presentation, On Grant Writing, SLU Grant Writing Boot Camp, Summer 2013, August 5th.
- 2013. Invited Presentation, “Defining Shinto,” Nanzan Shûkyô Bunka Kenkyujô, Nanzan University, Nagoya, Japan, January 6th, 2013.

- Invited Presentation, 「イエスの再生—映画、マンガ、アニメにおける救世主のポップカルチャー的変容」, Kokugakuin University, “The Range of Religious Culture Education: On Literature and Art,” September 29, 2012.
- Associate Research Fellow (*kenkyûin*), Nanzan Institute for Religion and Culture, January 2012, for the project, *Shinto no gainen*.
- Introducer, Dacre Stoker, “Dracula the Undead,” St. Lawrence University, October 25th, 2011.
- Respondent, “It’s not a Religion”: Negotiating Religiosity in Modern Japan,” AAS 2012, Toronto, CA March 16th, 2012.
- Respondent, “Religion goes Pop: Manga and Religion in Post-1995,” Japan, AAS 2011, April 1st, 2011.
- “Healing Humor—Nakamura Hikaru’s *Seinto* ㇿ *oniisan* (Saint ㇿ Youngmen),” AAS 2011 Panel Religion goes Pop: Manga and Religion in Post-1995 Japan, April 1st, 2011.
- Invited Speaker, “Buddha Manga/Manga Buddha: Comic Book Buddhas in Contemporary Japan,” Berea College, Asian Studies Program, April 8, 2009.
- Organizer and panelist, “New Works in the Field: *Japanese Visual Culture: Explorations in the World of Manga and Anime*, Asia Network, March 15, 2009.
- Attendee, “The Religion Major and Liberal Education,” AAR Leadership Workshop, 2007 Annual Meeting, November 16th, San Diego, CA.
- Presiding, “‘Turning Back’ to Conversion: Identity, Space and Power in Religious Transformation,” Annual Meeting American Academy of Religion, November 19th, 2007, San Diego, CA.
- Seminar Participant CIEE Faculty International Development Seminar, China's Silk Road Seminar, June 13--26th, 2007.
- Paper Presented. “Manga as Living Visual Narratives in Kōfuku no Kagaku.” Annual Meeting of the American Academy of Religion, November 19, 2006, Washington, D.C.
- Organizer, Presiding, and Presenting Imaging the Dharma: Buddhist Art and Identity in Multiple Contexts, “The Way to Enlightenment in George Akiyama’s Kōbō Daishi Kūkai.” New York Conference on Asian Studies, St. Lawrence University, October 7, 2006.
- Paper presented, “George Akiyama’s *Kōbō Daishi Kūkai*: Searching for the Self in a Manga Spiritual Biography.” International Conference on Esoteric Buddhist Studies at Koyasan University, Mt. Kōya, Japan. Sept.6th, 2006.
- Presiding. “The Role of Ritual in the Transmission of Japanese Rinzai Zen Buddhism.” AAR-EIR Conference, Québec City, May 5 -7, 2006.
- Presentation, “The Survival of the Kami in Contemporary Manga,” Invited Speaker, U-Chi-Con Anime Convention,, February 26, 2006, Chicago, IL.
- Paper presented, Presiding and Organizer, “The Biographical in Japanese Manga—Searching for Self-Identity in a Comic Book Medium.” In *Revisioning Religion through Art—From Japanese Comic Books to Peruvian Painting* AAR-EIR Conference, Québec City, May 5 -7.2006

- Paper presented, “Kôfuku no Kagaku—Manga and Salvation of the Book in a Japanese New Religion.” International Association of Asian Studies, 14th Annual Conference, February 13-18, Baton Rouge, LA.
- Paper presented, and Presiding, “Rituals Online: Examining the Impact and Implications of Internet Rituals on Religious Practice,” Annual Meeting of the American Academy of Religion, November 19-22, 2005, Philadelphia, PA.
- Paper presented, “*Manga* in a Japanese New Religion —Remythologization and Globalization,” in the panel, The Religious Dimension in Japanese Popular Culture, World Congress of the International Association of the History of Religions XIX Tokyo, March 23rd-28th, 2005.
- Presiding. “Monotheisms in Theory and Practice: Hindu and Comparative Insights,” Annual Meeting of the American Academy of Religion, November 20-23, 2004, San Antonio, Texas.
- Paper presented, “Techno-Ritualization—The Gohonzon Controversy on the Internet,” Rituals-Online and Online-Religion, SFB Ritualdynamik – Institut für Religionswissenschaft, University of Heidelberg, October 12.-14, 2004.
- Research attend, AAR—Eastern International Meeting, April 30th-May 1st, 2004, Cornell University.
- Paper presented, “Shinto in World Religions Textbooks,” in the panel, “Religion/s between Covers: Dilemmas of the World Religions Textbook,” Annual Meeting of the American Academy of Religion, November 22-25, 2003.
- Paper presented, “Comic Book Buddhas—Imagining Japanese Buddhism in *Manga*” St. Lawrence University, Faculty Forum, November 12th, 2003.
- Presiding. “Myth-Understanding: Categories, Controversies, and Cross-Cultural Concerns,” Annual Meeting of the American Academy of Religion, November 22-25, 2003.
- Paper presented, “The Survival of the *Kami* in Commercial *Manga*,” Seventh Annual Asian Studies Conference, Japan June 21-22, 2003.
- Presiding and Organizer, “Manga, Anime and Contemporary Japanese Spirituality,” “Seventh Annual Asian Studies Conference, Japan June 21-22, 2003.
- Co-Presenter, “GIS in the North Country Pluralism Project,” Harvard Pluralism Project pre-meeting at the Annual Meeting of the American Academy of Religion, November 23, 2002.
- Presiding. “New Horizons in the Comparative Study of Religions,” Annual Meeting of the American Academy of Religion, November 23-26, 2002.
- Paper presented, “Imagining Buddhism in Japanese *Manga* (Graphic Novels)”, Image, Imaging, Imagination, The New York Conference on Asian Studies (NYCAS) 2002 Annual Meeting, Skidmore College, Saratoga Springs, NY, October 25-26.
- Chair and organizer, “Japanese Cinema in the Classroom,” 2002 ASIA Network Conference 19-21 April, 2002, Hickory Ridge Conference Center, Lisle, Illinois.
- Paper presented, “Digital Waco: Competing Discourses on the Branch Davidians and the Waco Tragedy on the Internet,” “Conference on Religion and Digital Networks,” University of Copenhagen, Denmark, Nov. 1-3rd, 2001.
- Paper presented, “Icons and the Religious Imagination in Japanese Pilgrimage,” in the panel, “Travel in Early Modern Japan: Artistic and Cultural Implications,” Mid-Atlantic Regional Association of Asian Studies Meeting, October 26-28, 2001.

- Presiding, "Dreams, Dreaming and Religion," at the Annual Meeting of the American Academy of Religion national meeting, November, 2001.
- Respondent, on the panel, "Shamans, Shamanism, and Shamanic Studies," at the Annual Meeting of the American Academy of Religion national meeting, November, 2000.
- Paper delivered, "Apocalypticism Japanese Style," at the XXXVth International Congress of Asian and North African Studies, University of Montreal, Quebec, August 25th, 2000.
- Convener and Chair of a panel on "Cyberspace as Sacred Space," at the 18th Quinquennial Congress of the International Association for the History of Religions (IAHR), Durban, South Africa, August 11th, 2000.
- Paper delivered, "Virtual Pilgrimages--Sacred Traveling in Cyberspace." at the 18th Quinquennial Congress of the International Association for the History of Religions (IAHR), Durban, South Africa, August 11th, 2000.
- Chair, Globalization and Religious Studies in Asia, at the 18th Quinquennial Congress of the International Association for the History of Religions (IAHR), Durban, South Africa, August 10th, 2000.
- Chair, "Virtual Reality and Religion," at the 18th Quinquennial Congress of the International Association for the History of Religions (IAHR), Durban, South Africa, August 10th, 2000.
- Paper delivered, "Apocalypticism Japanese Style: Christian End of the World Symbolism in *Neon Genesis Evangelion* at the American Academy of Religion Eastern International Region Annual Meeting, Syracuse University, April 7th-8th, 2000.
- Attendee, Annual Meeting of the American Academy of Religion, Boston, November, 1999.
- Attendee, "Teaching Buddhism: The State of the Art," McGill University, Quebec October 8th-9th, 1999.
- Paper delivered, "Chichibu Pilgrimage Rites," Japanese Religions Group, American Academy of Religion Annual Meeting, Orlando, Florida, November 1998.
- Presiding, Disney and Religion Panel, Religion and Popular Culture Group, American Academy of Religion Annual Meeting, Orlando, Florida, November 1998.
- Paper delivered, "Revisioning Japanese Religion: Osamu Tezuka's *Hi no Tori* (*The Phoenix*), Religion, Film, and Visual Culture Group, American Academy of Religion Annual Meeting, Orlando, Florida, November 1998. New version of an earlier draft.
- Paper delivered, "*Hi no Tori*," Asian Studies Conference, Sophia University, June 20th, 1998.
- Presiding, "Shanghai Between the Wars," Conference on Asian Popular Culture, Sponsored by the Centre for Asia-Pacific Initiatives, University of Victoria, April 16th, 1998.
- Paper delivered, "Gao in *Hi no Tori*," Conference on Asian Popular Culture, Sponsored by the Centre for Asia-Pacific Initiatives, University of Victoria, April 17th, 1998.

- Featured Speaker, "Religious Imagination and the World of *Manga*," at *Animation: An Exploration of Japanese Anime*, Workshop sponsored by the Banff Multimedia Institute, Banff, Alberta, Canada, November 14-16th, 1997.
- Paper delivered, "Osamu Tezuka's Story of the Buddha," Conference on Japanese Popular Culture, University of Victoria, Centre for Asia-Pacific Initiatives, April 10-12, 1997.
- Paper delivered, "Japanese Comic Books and Religion," for The American Academy of Religion, Eastern International Regional Meeting April 4th-5th, 1997.
- SLU Cultural Encounters Reading Seminar, 1996-1997.
- Paper delivered, "Legitimizing Kannon: Japanese Buddhist Pilgrimage and Tokugawa/Early Meiji Religious Ideology," Mid-Atlantic Regional AAR, Loyola College, Baltimore, MD., March 28-29th, 1996.
- Paper delivered, "Seeing Kannon Temples: Story, Image, and Sacred Space in the Chichibu Pilgrimage," AAR Roundtable, Annual meeting of the AAR, Philadelphia, 1995.
- Project Director, NEH Regional Institute "Japanese Culture through Literature," 1995-96.
- Paper delivered, "Moving Images: Animated Statues in the Kannon Pilgrimage" at the NEH Summer Seminar, "Themes in Japanese Philosophy," Ohio State University, 1994.
- Co-Director, Japanese Culture Symposium. Funded by the West Virginia Humanities Council and the Center for Global Partnership, 1994.
- Paper delivered: "Poems and Pilgrimage," in the Panel on Images of Rulership, Annual meeting of the AAR, Washington, D.C., 1993.
- Featured Speaker, "Beautiful Temples: Comic Books and Pilgrimage in Japan" at the Wheeling-Nisshin Japan Banquet, 1993.
- Director, Japanese Culture Project. Funded by the Japan Foundation, 1993.
- Featured Speaker: "Heightening the Awareness of Asia in the Community through an Asian Festival," at The University of Pittsburgh, Center for International Studies Conference on Introducing East Asia into the Undergraduate Curriculum, 1993.
- Director/Presenter, Japanese Culture Symposium, Bethany College. Funded by the West Virginia Humanities Council, 1992.
- Paper delivered: "Kannon *Engi* as a Sacred Genre," to the Buddhist Studies Group, Annual Meeting of the AAR, Kansas City, 1991.
- Paper delivered: "Selfless Persons and Empty Centers, Emperor Kazan as an Image of Authority," Annual Meeting of the Association of Asian Studies (AAS), New Orleans, 1991.
- Paper delivered: "Emperor Kazan and Kannon Temple Pilgrimage," Annual Meeting of the North Central Sociological Association, Louisville, 1990.
- Paper delivered: "Suffering and Curing in the Saikoku and Bando *Reijoki*," Annual Meeting of the AAR, Anaheim, CA. (1989).

Religious Studies Review Editor, NEH and Fulbright Peer Reviewer

- Executive Editor, *Religious Studies Review* (2015—to present). This journal published by Rice University and Wiley-Blackwell Press. It is one of the major

journals in the field of religious studies and found in every major academic library. I am responsible for supervising the overall editorial operation, publishing four issues a year. This includes the overall design of the journal, special issue planning, editing of large reviews (approximately 10 to 16 essays a year), managing 32 area editors, and working with the Rice University home office with other journal officers.

- Editor, East Asian Religions, *Religious Studies Review* (2003-2015).
- Panelist, Religious Studies II Grant Applications NEH, Washington, (July 27, 2005)
- Japan Sub-Editor, *Religious Studies Review*—Authored numerous book notes (2001-3).
- Discipline Peer Reviewer, Fulbright Scholar Program (2013- 2015). As part of a team of specialists, I reviewed approximately 40 Fulbright grant applications per year dealing with research or teaching lectureships abroad.

Manuscript, Grant, and Peer Review Work

- Manuscript Reviewer: "The Viewers Divine Encounter: Exploring the Role of the Recipient in Neon Genesis Evangelion," *Journal for Religion, Film and Media* (JRFM) (Spring, 2023).
- Manuscript Reviewer, "Transculturalization of religious visual culture in 90s anime: Cultural Hybridization and Western Exoticism through Neon Genesis Evangelion (1995)," *East Asian Journal of Popular Culture* (Spring, 2022)
- Manuscript Reviewer, *Audiovisual Comics and the Origins of Manga: A Revisionist History* by Eike Exner. (University Press of Mississippi) (Spring 2021).
- Manuscript Reviewer, *Pilgrimage; Spirituality on the Move* by Bernadette Flanagan (Routledge Press, Spring 2021)
- Manuscript Reviewer, "Japanese Concepts of Angels: Analyzing Depictions of Celestial Beings in the shōjo Manga Kamikaze Kaitō Jeanne," *Entangled Religions* (Spring 2021)
- Manuscript Reviewer, "Teaching the World(s): Untangling Religion, Eurocentrism, and Pedagogy in American Universities," *History of Humanities* (Spring, 2021)
- Manuscript Reviewer, "Mapping digital religion. The four dimensions of "transferring" what is religious to the Internet," *Religions* (Spring, 2021)
- Manuscript Reviewer, "The Unfulfilled Desire of Hallyu: The Lagged Development of the Korean Manhwa Industry from 1910 to the Present," *Historia Critica* (Spring, 2021).
- Manuscript Reviewer, "Shinkai Makoto's Conquest of Time: Memory, Imagination and the Time Image in *Your Name*." *Japan Review* (Winter, 2020)
- Manuscript Reviewer Ian Reader and John Shultz entitled *Pilgrims Until We Die: Unending Pilgrimage in Shikoku* (Oxford University Press, Winter, 2020)
- Manuscript Reviewer, "A Perfect Story for the Anthropocene: Postmodern Animism by Hayao Miyazaki," *Theory, Culture, and Society*. (2020)
- Manuscript Reviewer, José Andrés Santiago Iglesias, "The anime connection

- Early Euro-Japanese co-productions and the animesque: Form, rhythm, design,” *Arts* (2018),
- Manuscript Reviewer, Tiffany Hong, “Navigating the Murakami Universe: Narratological Strategies of Murakami Haruki,” Nazarbayev University Research Review - Fall 2017
 - Manuscript Reviewer, “Religion and Pleasure”: A Book Proposal Ariel Glucklich, *Cambridge University Press*, August 5th, 2017.
 - Manuscript Reviewer, “When manhwa meets manga: the politicisation of comics at the Angoulême International Festival of Bande Dessinée,” *Modern Asian Studies* November 19, 2016.
 - Manuscript Reviewer, “Tezuka Osamu’s early works: in search of a father,” *East Asian Journal of Popular Culture* September 8th, 2016.
 - Manuscript Reviewer, Ayelet Zohar, “The Return of the Repressed: Wartime Memory in Contemporary Japanese Photography and Video Art,” Israel Science Foundation, March 2016.
 - Manuscript Reviewer, Chün-fang Yü, "Avalokiteśvara" (2015) for *Oxford Bibliographies Online*.
 - Manuscript Reviewer, “Mangamorphosis – How Media and Minds Merge in Japan,” Routledge (2014).
 - Manuscript Reviewer, “Sacrilization of Secular Pilgrimages as Archetypal Transformational Journeys: Advancing Theory through Emic and Etic Interpretations,” *International Journal of Tourism Anthropology (IJTA)*, Spring, 2014.
 - Promotion Review, Dr. Lukas Pokorny, to Senior Lectureship, The University of Aberdeen, May 28th, 2013.
 - Manuscript Reviewer, “Teaching the Shikoku Pilgrimage and the Philosophy of Kōbō Daishi,” *Asia Network Exchange*, April 2013.
 - Grant reviewer, "Virtual Tibet: maintaining religious community, authority, and identity through internet networks" (Christopher Helland) for the Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council of Canada (SSHRC), 2013.
 - Manuscript reviewer, “Esoteric Images of Light and Life at Osaka Kokubunji, Japan,” *Southeast Review of Asian Studies* (May, 2012).
 - Manuscript reviewer, Robert C. Sibley’s *The Way of the 88 Temples: Journeys on the Saikoku Pilgrimage* for The University of Virginia Press. 2012.
 - Manuscript reviewer, H. Byron Earhart, *Japanese Religion Unity and Diversity*, November, 2011.
 - Manuscript reviewer, “Classical Chinese Gardens in Twenty-first Century America: Cultivating the Past,” *ASIANetwork Exchange*, October 17, 2011.
 - Manuscript reviewer, Soka Gakkai Buddhism in Canada, *Southeast Review of Asian Studies*, March, 2011.
 - 2010 Manuscript reviewer, “Mecha-topia: Imagining a Posthuman Paradise in Osamu Tezuka’s *Metropolis*,” for *Extrapolation*.
 - 2007 Evaluator of Research Grant Application, "Far away - so close: assessing the impact and implications of the internet and world wide web on Hindu diaspora religious participation in Canada," for the Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council of Canada.

- 2007 Manuscript reviewer, *Replicating, Reproducing, Marketing, Consuming: Pilgrimage Dynamics in the Contemporary World*, Blackwell Publishing.
- 2007 Manuscript reviewer, *Considering the Asian Religions*, Teaching Services.
- 2006 Manuscript reviewer, *Introducing World Religions*, Routledge.
- 2006 Chair, NYCAS Conference (AAS) Paper Selection Committee. Helped organize panel presentations and papers for the entire conference.
- 2006 Manuscript reviewer, “Place and Pilgrimage, Real and Imagined,” *Religion* (journal).
- 2005 Manuscript reviewer, *GIS at Liberal Arts Colleges* ESRI Press.
- 2005 Manuscript reviewer, *Brief History of Shinto*, Blackwell Publishing.
- 2005 Manuscript reviewer, *The World’s Spiritual Traditions*, Routledge.
- 2005 Manuscript Reviewer, *Religious Experience: Readings and Reflections on the World's Religions* A Reader to Accompany *Experiencing The World’s Religions*, 4th Edition, by Michael Molloy, McGraw-Hill.
- 2004 Manuscript Reviewer, *Sacred Words*, McGraw-Hill.
- 2004 Reviewer, John M. Koller’s *Asian Philosophies* (fourth edition), Prentice Hall.
- 2004 Reviewer, Mary Pat Fisher's *Living Religions* (6th Edition), Seven Bridges Press/Prentice Hall
- 2003 Manuscript reviewer, Ashgate Press, Jay Sakashita's *Japanese New Religions Abroad*.
- 2003 Book proposal reviewer, *Survival of the Gods—Visual Mythmaking and Aztec Deities in Cyberspace*, Ashgate Press.
- 2002 Manuscript reviewer, “Teaching Korean Religions” for *Education about Asia* Vol. 7 (Winter, 2002).
- 2002 Advisory Board, McGraw-Hill Power Web: World Religions
- 2001 Manuscript Reviewer, *Asian Religions* and *Japanese Religions*, Prentice Hall.
- 2001 Manuscript Reviewer, Mary Pat Fisher's *Living Religions* (Fourth Edition), Seven Bridges Press/Prentice Hall
- 1999-2005 Advisory Editor, Contemporary Religions in Global Perspective Series, Ashgate Publishers.
- 1997 Manuscript Reviewer, “Asian Philosophy and Religions,” *Education about Asia*.
- 1997 Manuscript Reviewer, Japanese Religions section of *World Religions*, Mayfield Publishing Company.

Other Professional Activities

- 2010 Opinion Panelist, *New York Post*—Commenting on 2010 New York Global History Regents' Exam Essays, August 21st, 2010.
- 1999-2005 Member, Steering Committee, Comparative Studies of Religion Section, American Academy of Religion. Helped to organize several panels for the Annual meeting on comparative studies of religion.

Professional Associations:

- Nordic Association for the Sociology of Religion

- American Academy of Religion
- AAR--Eastern International Region (EIR)
- Society for the Study of Japanese Religion
- Association of Asian Studies
- Association of Asian Studies (AAS)—New York Conference on Asian Studies/Asian Studies Conference Japan
- International Association for the History of Religions (IAHR)

Representative Courses Taught at St. Lawrence:

REL100 Mystery and Meaning
 REL101A Sacred Cinema
 REL 200 Explaining Religion
 REL212 Native American Religions
 REL 218 Fantasy Religion—Japanese Anime and Spirituality
 REL222 The Buddhist Religious Tradition
 REL223 Religious Life of China
 REL226 Religious Life of Japan
 REL248A Fantasy Religions
 REL248U Seminar on Religious Myths
 REL331 Pilgrimage as a Spiritual Journey
 REL334 The Ways of the Gods—Shinto in Modern Japanese Religion
 REL288 Cults and New Religious Movements
 REL370 Modern Asian Religions
 REL450/1 Individual Directed Studies
 REL451 ASI Freeman Grant: Zen Garden Trip .5 credit
 REL3/460 Senior Seminar
 REL489/90 SYE
 REL498 Honors (F 05, F 03) Marla Gage, Abigail MacBain, George Alberts (15)
 FYPG187F Theorizing about Horror
 FYPG Exploring American Spiritual Worlds
 FYS 188C Sacred Cinema
 NAS 101 Native American Studies
 ASIA 101 Introduction to Asian Studies
 REL 3019 Buddhism and Neuroscience (with Joe Erlichman)

Service to St. Lawrence University:

Faculty Committees/Service:

- Academic Affairs Committee (AAC) 2021--22
- Spiritual Life Committee (2019)
- Faculty Development Committee (Spring, 2016)
- Coordinator, Kansai Gaidai Japan Abroad CIIS Program

- Co-Director (with Cathy Shrady) Sykes Northcountry Japanese Garden, *Kitaguni teien* (2006-Present). We are responsible for designing, maintaining and improving this garden on campus, working with the groundskeeper to keep it in shape.
- Chair, Religious Studies, 2003-2010, 2014-15
- Arts Collaborative Council, 2014-15.
- Coordinator Asian Studies Program (2013)
- CISS Leader of Student trip to Chichibu, Japan (2013)
- Mellon Humanities Grant, “Crossing Boundaries, Revisioning the Humanities for the 21st Century, Co-Director (2012), and Steering Committee 2012---Present)
- Educational Teaching Committee (2012---
- Freeman Steering Committee (2009)
- DIS Selection Committee (Fall, 2007).
- Davies-Jackson Fellowship Faculty Advisor (2001-2007). Davies Jackson Fellowship Applicants: (07) Charlotta Chung, Claire Jenkins, (06) Suzy Bayard
- JET Program Faculty Advisor (2000-Present)
- CTL Series Teaching the Introductory Course, Facilitator (Spring, 2007).
- Classroom Stewards (2005 -2008).
- CISS Advisor for proposed Student/Faculty trip to Japan (Application was not successful) (Spring 2007)
- Co-Instructor/Trip Leader ASI Japanese Zen Gardens Student Research Trip to Japan, May 22nd- 31st, 2006.
- SIRS Fulbright Grant Committee (2006).
- Chair, NYCAS Selection Committee (2006).
- Co-Chair, Recreating Japan—Arts and Identity, Asian Studies Initiative Freeman Faculty Seminar and Travel Tour (2004-2005).
- Special Hearings Board (1997-2006).
- Mentor, McNair Fellowship Program Summer 2004, Paul Ohri
- Asian Studies Committee (1996-2007).
- Scholarships, Fellowships and Grants (1997-2007), (Chair, 2009, 1999-2000), Subcommittee Chair, SLU Fellows Program (2002), Chair (2007-2008), Member (1997-2011).
- Faculty Mentor (2000-2001).
- Native American Studies Committee (1997-2000).
- Multi-Faith Advisory Board (1998-2000).
- On-Campus Co-Coordinator of the Japan Program (1996-1999).
- Tanner Fellowship Committee (1997-1998, 2012,2012).

Departmental Service:

- Search committee, Christianity search, 2016/17
- Search committee, South Asia, 2017
- Christianity Emergency Search Committee (2014).
- Member, South Asia Search Committee (2011-2012).
- Organizer, Kathryn Fraser Mackay Memorial Lecture, Christopher Hitchens (April, 2008)

- Chair, Jeffrey Campbell Search Committee Search Committee (2007-8).
- Member, East Asia Search Committee (2007-8).
- Member, South Asia Search Committee (2007-8).
- Member, Christianity Search Committee (2005/2006).
- Chair, South Asia Search Committee (2003-2004).
- Chair, Religious Studies Department (Fall, 2000-2008).
- Writer/Coordinator, Department's Mellon Grant (Spring, 1999).
- Writer/Coordinator, Department's TOTI Grant (Spring, 1999).
- Chair, South Asia Search Committee (1998-1999).
- Member, Christianity Search Committee (1998-1999).
- Coordinator, MacKay Lecture, Larry Sullivan (1999).
- Acting Chair of the Department (Spring, 1998).

Special Lectures/Events:

- 2018 Aeolian Trio (4 day SLU residency)
- 2012-Present, Co-Coordinator, Hiruta Kotaro, Ichikukai Dōjō, Heirinji temple Japan—Zazen Workshops and lectures at SLU.
- 2014 “Which Way is the Way of the Gods? Defining Shinto in Modern Japan?,” Faculty Café, Spring, 2014.
- 2013, Contemporary Issues forum for David Slawson, “Evoking Native Landscape Using Japanese Garden Principles.”
- 2013, “Songs of the Wind,” Bruce Huebner, *Shakuhachi* Performance Artist. March 4-6, 2013
- 2010 “An African Musical Garden of Delight,” Samite in the North Country Japanese Garden.
- Speaker, Discussion on "FREE TIBET! OR NOT?" Amnesty/I-House/SABHA, “Tell Me About Tibet! (April 19th, 2006).
- Co-Organizer, Annual Zen Meditation Workshop with Rev. Roko Sherry Chayat, from Hoen-ji Temple, Syracuse (1998-2006).]
- Coordinator of the Crimmel Colloquium (October, 2000).
- Carl Hammerschlag, "Choice, Challenge, and Change," FYP Guest Lecturer, November 15th, 2000, supported by funds from the First Year Program, Cultural Affairs Council, and the Deans of Faculty and Student Life.
- Speaker, “Developing Internet and Computer Resources and Applications for the Religious Studies Department,” First Annual Technology for Teaching Town Meeting (October 21st, 1999)
- Faculty Forums: “Comic book Buddhas Imagining Buddhism in Japanese *Manga* “ November 11, 2003; “Tezuka's Phoenix”, November 18th, 1998; "Japanese Religious *Manga*--Temples, Pilgrimage and Contemporary Comics", (April 2nd, 1997).
- Respondent, Crimmel Colloquium (October 5th, 1999).
- Master of Ceremonies, Kendo and Iaido Demonstration, Japan Festival, October 10th, 1998.
- Asoka Weerasinghe, Insight Meditation Workshop (September 17th, 1998)
- Reiho Kido, Zen Meditation Workshop (February 21st, 1998).

- Guest lecturing/speaking : "Images of Christ, Translation in Contemporary Film," Plaisance College (February, 1998), Buddhism, Asian religion and popular culture for ASIA (Asian Students Increasing Awareness), International House (China Night, Taste of Japan), Free Tibet House, and The Unitarian Church (Canton, N.Y.) (1998-1999), "Basho Haiku Poetry and the Sense of Nature," Priest College (February , 1997).
- Dai-en Bennage, Zen Meditation Workshops/Classroom Visits for the FYP (March 26th-27th, 1997).
- Maureen Korp, "Seeing the Earth," (October 29th, 1997), Supported with a grant from the Cultural Affairs Council.

Advising:

- ❖ Advisor Anime Club (2005, 2012-17)
- ❖ Advisor, Meditation Club (2013)
- ❖ Fellowships Coordinator: JET Program (Japan Exchange and Teaching Program) (Continuous)
- ❖ Fellowships Coordinator: EPIK Program (English Teaching Program in Korea). (Continuous)
- ❖ Fellowships Coordinator: The Davies-Jackson fellowship (St. John's College Oxford). (Continuous)
- ❖ Advisor for The Tibetan Freedom Theme House, and Students for a Free Tibet (1998-2000)
- ❖ ASIA (Asian Students Increasing Awareness) (2000)
- ❖ Isshinryu Karate Club (2000)

Outside Community Service/Activities: Co-founder of the North Country Zen Center (meets every Tuesday night during the academic year) (1997-).