

## FRANCES GARRETT

Department for the Study of Religion, 170 St George St, Room 302  
Toronto, ON M5S 2E8 Canada email frances.garrett@utoronto.ca

**DEGREES** PhD 2004, University of Virginia

MA 1996, University of Virginia

BA 1989, Columbia University

**EMPLOYMENT** Associate Professor and Associate Chair  
Department and Centre for the Study of Religion, University of Toronto  
(appointed July 2003; received tenure July 2010)

### ACADEMIC HISTORY

---

#### Research Endeavours

*Consuming Enlightenment: Ritual, Healing and the Occult*, a book-length study of occult and alchemical technologies in early Tibetan literature with a focus on languages of consumption.

“Gold, Statue, Text: Visualizing Movement in Tibetan History”: a digital humanities project focused on visualizing the movement of people and things around culturally significant places.

“Mapping an Epic: Religion and Healing in Inner Asia”: a research project focused on mapping the Gesar epic’s ‘therapeutic geographies’ as a way of studying the intersections between religion and medicine in Inner Asia.

#### Research Awards (last 5 years)

- 2011 Jackman Humanities Institute Faculty Fellow (served 2012-13)
- 2011 Research and Translation Contract from 84,000 for publication of Buddhist canonical work, “The Mahayana Sutra entitled Illumination of Noble Dreams” (\$13,000, with Ben Wood and Kunga Sherab, 2011-13)
- 2011 SSHRC Aid to Research Workshops Grant (2011-12), \$22,768
- 2011 SSHRC Partnership Development Grant (2011-2014), \$200,000
- 2010 Jackman Humanities Institute Program for the Arts Grant (2010), \$3000
- 2010 SSHRC Research Development Initiative Grant (2010-2012), \$40,000
- 2009 SSHRC Image, Text, Sound and Technology Grant (2009-2010), \$50,000

#### Awards for Teaching Projects

- 2011 Higher Education Quality Council of Ontario research contract for the project “Networked Academic Profiles for Student-Faculty Collaboration” (with Matt Price), \$60,000
- 2011 U of T Instructional Technology Initiative Fund award for the project “Networked Academic Profiles for Student-Faculty Collaboration” (with Matt Price), \$30,000

## SCHOLARLY AND PROFESSIONAL WORK

---

### REFEREED PUBLICATIONS

- Book** 2008. *Religion, Medicine and the Human Embryo in Tibet*. Abingdon, Oxon; New York: Routledge. Critical Studies in Buddhism series. 224 pages.
- Articles** 2014. The Making of Medical History. In *Bodies in Balance: The Art of Tibetan Medicine*, ed. Resi Hofer. University of Washington Press with Rubin Museum of Art.
2013. Mercury, Mad Dogs and Smallpox: Medicine in the Situ Panchen Tradition. In *Journal of the International Association of Tibetan Studies* 7: 277-301.
2013. Narratives of Hospitality and Feeding in Tibetan Ritual. With Matt King, Barbara Hazelton, Andrew Erlich and Nicholas Field. In *Journal of the American Academy of Religion* 81 (2): 1-25.
2011. Eating Letters in the Tibetan Treasure Tradition. *Journal of the International Association of Buddhist Studies* 32 (1-2): 85-114.
2010. Tapping the Body's Nectar: Gastronomy and Incorporation in Tibetan Literature. In *History of Religions* 49 (3): 300-326.
2009. The Alchemy of Accomplishing Medicine (*sman sgrub*): Situating the *Yuthok Heart Essence* Ritual Tradition. *Journal of Indian Philosophy* 37 (3): 207-230.
2008. Tibetan Buddhist Narratives of the Forces of Creation. In *Imagining The Fetus: The Unborn in Myth, Religion and Culture*, eds. Jane Marie Law & Vanessa R. Sasson. Oxford University Press. Pgs. 107-120.
2008. With Vincanne Adams. The Three Channels in Tibetan Medical and Religious Texts, including a translation of Tsultrim Gyaltzen's 'Treatise on the Three Channels in Tibetan Medicine.' *Traditional South Asian Medicine* 8: 86-115.
2007. Critical Methods in Tibetan Medical Histories. *Journal of Asian Studies* 66 (2): 368-387.
2007. Buddhism and the Historicizing of Medicine in Thirteenth Century Tibet. *Asian Medicine: Tradition and Modernity* 2 (2): 204-224.
2005. Ordering human growth in Tibetan medical and religious embryologies. In *Textual Healing: Essays on Medieval and Early Modern Medicine*, ed. Elizabeth Furdel, 31-52. Leiden: Brill Publishers.

### NON-REFEREED PUBLICATIONS

- Edited Book** 2011. *Health, Medicine, and Modernity in Tibetan Contexts*, eds. Frances Garrett, Sienna Craig, Mingji Cuomu and Mona Schrempf. International Institute for Tibetan and Buddhist Studies GmbH (Germany). 591 pages.
- Articles** 2012. "What children need": Making Childhood with Technologies of Protection and Healing. In *Buddhist Children in Texts and Culture*, ed. Vanessa Sasson. Oxford University Press.
2007. Embodiment and Embryology in Tibetan Literature: Narrative Epistemology and the Rhetoric of Identity. In *Soundings in Tibetan Medicine: Historical and Anthropological Perspectives*, ed. Mona Schrempf, 411-426. Leiden: Brill Publishers.
2005. Hybrid Methodologies in the Lhasa Mentsikhang. *The Tibet Journal* 30 (1): 55-64.
- Teaching** 2004. *Fluent Tibetan Workbook*. Tibetan language workbook and system of interactive classroom games to supplement *Fluent Tibetan* textbook, used in Tibetan language courses at

- Resources** University of Virginia from 1994-2003 and at University of California, Santa Barbara, from 2002-present.
- Films** 2011. Creative and executive producer of film on food and ritual in Tibet, to be completed May 2011. 30 minutes. Directed by Wendekar.
2011. Creative and executive producer of film on offering rituals in Tibet, to be completed May 2011. 40 minutes. Directed by Wendekar.
2011. Creative and executive producer of "Seeds in the Wind," screened at the University of Toronto Film Festival, March 2011, and at New Voices, New Visions: Ethnographic Film from Tibet and Myanmar, Toronto, February 2011.
- Online Resource** 2010. General Editor of PlateauCulture, <http://plateauculture.org/>.
- Reviews** 2009. Review of Williamson & Young, eds., *Body & Spirit*, University of Washington Press, 2009. *Journal of Asian Studies* 68 (3): 975-977.
2007. The Knowledge of Healing (review). *Bulletin of the History of Medicine*. 81(4): 862-863.
- 2004/2005. Review of Phyllis Granoff and Koichi Shinohara, eds, *Pilgrims, Patrons and Place: Localizing Sanctity in Asian Religions*, University of British Columbia Press. *University of Toronto Quarterly* 74 (1): 328-329.

#### ARTICLE MANUSCRIPTS SUBMITTED FOR REVIEW

Practicing Oral History: A University of Toronto Experiment with Digital Humanities. Submitted for peer review to *Journal of Interactive Technology and Pedagogy*. Authored with Matt Price.

#### PAPERS PRESENTED (INVITED)

- 2011 "Eating Right with Tibetan Food Practices," Contemporary Issues in the Anthropology of Tibetan Medicine Workshop, Cardiff University, Wales.
- 2009 "Embryology and epistemology in Tibetan history," Stanford Medical School Residency Program, Traditional Tibetan Medical Hospital, Xining, Qinghai, China
- 2009 "The medical teachings of Situ Panchen," Situ Panchen Symposium, Rubin Museum of Art, New York City.
- 2008 "Considering Anthropophagy in Tibet," University of California, Berkeley.
- 2008 "Death, Rebirth and Being Human in Tibetan Buddhism," Library of Congress, Washington, DC.
- 2008 "The Technology of Edible Letters (*za yig*) in Tibet," Buddhism's Occult Technologies, Numata Buddhist Studies Program Conference, McMaster University.
- 2006 "Life after Death: Buddhist Images of Dying and Rebirth," Eighth Annual Edith Bruce Lecture, University of Toronto.
- 2005 "Fetal Mythology in Tibetan Literature," Revisioning Buddhism Numata Buddhism Conference, McGill University.
- 2004 "Foreign Influences on Tibetan Medicine," Tibet and Her Neighbors Conference, Harvard University, Boston.

#### PAPERS PRESENTED (PAPER SELECTED BY COMMITTEE)

- 2013 "Considering 'The Literary' in Tibet through the Study of Recipes," American Academy of Religion Annual Meeting, Baltimore
- 2010 "Food, Medicine and Healing in Tibetan Literature," International Association of Tibetan Studies, Vancouver, BC

- 2009 "Mercury, Mad Dogs and Smallpox," Association of Asian Studies Annual Meeting, Chicago.
- 2008 "A Gastrosemantics of Magical Foods in Tibetan Ritual," American Academy of Religion Annual Meeting, Chicago.
- 2006 "The Place of Technology in Tibetan Studies," American Academy of Religion Annual Meeting, Washington, DC.
- 2006 "Taxonomies of Medical Knowledge in Tibetan Literature," Eleventh Seminar of the International Association for Tibetan Studies, Bonn.
- 2006 "The Human Face of Religious Doctrine: Buddhist Narratives of Creation in Medieval Tibet," XXth European Conference of Philosophy of Medicine and Health Care, Helsinki.
- 2006 "Making Medicine Buddhist: Historicizing the *Four Tantras*," International Association for the Study of Traditional Asian Medicine, Sixth International Congress, Austin, TX.
- 2005 "Buddhism and the Historicizing of *Gso Rig* in Tibet," American Academy of Religion Annual Meeting, Philadelphia, PA.
- 2005 "The Human Body in the History of Medicine in Tibet," American Association for the History of Medicine Annual Meeting, Birmingham, AL.
- 2003 "Reading Lineage in History: The Role of Illness in *The Blue Annals*," American Academy of Religion Annual Meeting, Atlanta.
- 2003 "Embodiment and Embryology in Tibetan Literature," Tenth Seminar of the International Association for Tibetan Studies, Oxford.
- 2003 "Medicine and Religion in Medieval Tibet," Southern Association for the History of Medicine and Science, Durham.
- 2002 "Reading Religion and Medicine in Tibetan History," Canadian Society for the History of Medicine Annual Meeting, Toronto.
- 2002 "Tibetan Embryology and the Intertwining of Religious and Medical Rhetoric," American Academy of Religion Annual Meeting, Denver.

**PANELS ORGANIZED/CHAired (PANEL SELECTED BY COMMITTEE)**

- 2010 Presiding chair for "Buddhist Medicine: Transnational Traditions and Local Contexts" panel, American Academy of Religion Annual Meeting, Atlanta
- 2008 Presiding chair for "Tibet and the West – Modern Intersections" panel, American Academy of Religion Annual Meeting, Chicago
- 2007 Organizer of and presiding chair for "Methods for the Study of Women and Buddhism" panel at the American Academy of Religion Annual Meeting, San Diego.
- 2007 Presiding chair for "Tibetan Lived Religion" panel at the American Academy of Religion Annual Meeting, San Diego.

**OTHER**

- 2007 "Buddhism, medicine and the problems of interdisciplinarity," paper delivered at University of Toronto Conversations in Buddhism and Science series.

## TEACHING

---

### Undergraduate Courses Taught

TBB199Y Food for Thought (2013-14)  
 RLG206Y Introduction to Buddhist Traditions (2003 | 2004 | 2006 | 2008)  
 RLG236H Women and Asian Religions (2003)  
 RLG299Y Research Opportunity: Tibetan Medical History (2004)  
 RLG299Y Research Opportunity: Death and Dying in Buddhism (2006)  
 RLG371H Buddhism in East Asia (2004)  
 RLG372H Tibetan Buddhism (2004)  
 RLG492H Readings in Tibetan Buddhist Literature (2004 | 2006)  
 RLG494Y Independent Studies in Buddhism and Medicine (2004)  
 RLG494Y Classical Tibetan I (2008-09, 2011)  
 Various independent study courses.

### Graduate Courses Taught

RLG404H/1200Y Method and Theory in the Study of Religion (2006 | 2007 | 2008)  
 RLG484H History and Historiography of Buddhism (2004)  
 RLG492H/3454Y Readings in Tibetan Buddhist Literature (2004 | 2006)  
 RLG3458H Rhetoric and Discipline in Buddhist Studies (2007)  
 RLG3456 Tantra in Tibet: The Gastrosemantics of Ritual (2009)  
 RLG3480 Religion and Magic in Asia (2010)

### Theses Supervised

#### MA Students:

Kunga Sherab, Buddhist philosophy, primary supervisor Fall 2012-present  
 Andrew Erlich, Indian/Tibetan Buddhist tantra, primary supervisor Fall 2007-2011  
 Barbara Hazelton, Tibetan epic literature, primary supervisor Fall 2007-2011  
 Sean Hillman, End-of-life care in Buddhism, primary supervisor Fall 2009-2011  
 Helen Craigie, End-of-life practices in Buddhism, primary supervisor Fall 2008-2011  
 Matt King, Buddhist revivalism in Mongolia, primary supervisor 2007-08  
 Rory Lindsay, Indo-Tibetan Buddhist philosophy, primary supervisor 2006-08  
 Ryan Jones, "Tibetan Historical Thinking: Notes Towards a New Methodology for the Study of the Tibetan Past," primary supervisor 2007-2009  
 Creon Corea, "Religion, Identity, and Conflict: A Study of Sri Lanka," primary supervisor 2004-06

#### Doctoral Students:

Andrew Erlich, Indian/Tibetan Buddhist tantra, primary supervisor since fall 2011  
 Barbara Hazelton, Tibetan epic literature, primary supervisor since fall 2011  
 Sean Hillman, End-of-life care in Buddhism, primary supervisor since fall 2011  
 Matt King, Buddhist revivalism in Mongolia, primary supervisor since fall 2008

Elena Young, Tibetan education, primary supervisor, fall 2011-2012

Rory Lindsay, Indo-Tibetan Buddhist philosophy, primary supervisor fall 2008-2010

Ben Wood, Cosmology and soteriology in Indo-Tibetan Buddhism, supervisor Fall 2006-2012

Jennifer Bright, Tibetan Buddhist and medical notions of the body, supervisor since Fall 2006

Sarah Richardson, Tibetan Buddhist art history, co-supervisor since Fall 2007

Danielle Lefebvre, Feminist philosophy and Buddhist Studies, secondary supervisor Fall 2002-2010

Usha Khosla, Buddha-nature in Indian Buddhism, secondary supervisor since Fall 2003

### **Other Teaching and Lectures Given**

SAS 2004H Issues in South Asian Studies: one of eleven co-instructors, responsible for one class session plus essay grading (2005)

Presentation on "Digital Tools for Humanities Research" to M.A. Group at Centre for the Study of Religion, University of Toronto (February 2005)

Supervisor for research project "RSS feed and social tagging research and implementation for Mapping Buddhist Sites in Toronto" by first-year student, supported by an award from the Project Open Source | Open Access Student Experience Program (2006)

Presentation on Mapping Buddhist Sites project at OISE workshop, "New Ways of Teaching and Learning with Technology" (2007)

## **ADMINISTRATIVE POSITIONS**

---

### **Positions and Responsibilities within the University**

#### **Departmental**

Associate Chair, 2010-2012; 2013-present.

Director of Religion in the Public Sphere Initiative, 2010-2011.

Member of various committees in the Department for the Study of Religion, 2003-present.

Creator and Editor of the Centre for the Study of Religion Newsletter, 2004-present.

Website creation and maintenance:

"Buddhist Studies at the University of Toronto" (<http://buddhiststudies.chass.utoronto.ca/>); 272 pages.

"Department for the Study of Religion" (<http://www.religion.utoronto.ca/>); 363 pages.

"Religion in the Public Sphere" (<http://rps.chass.utoronto.ca/>); 88 pages.

Department for the Study of Religion intranet website (<http://rlg.chass.utoronto.ca/>); 102 users configured into 11 community groups.

U of T Tibetan Studies Research website (<http://tibetcollab.chass.utoronto.ca/>); 17 users configured into 7 groups.

Creator of now-defunct websites: "Buddhist Hospice Care in the Greater Toronto Area" (<http://chass.utoronto.ca/~fgarrett/hospice/>); "U of T/McMaster University Numata Buddhist Studies Program" (<http://www.chass.utoronto.ca/buddhiststudies/numata/>); "Teaching Religious Studies" (<http://teachreligiousstudies.blogspot.com/>)

#### **Extra-departmental**

U of T/McMaster University Numata Programming Subcommittee, 2006-present.

Executive Board member, Project Open Source | Open Access, 2006-2010.

Member, UTFA Committee on Pension and Benefits, 2004-05.

Member of Buddhist Studies Search Committee, Department of Historical Studies, 2005-06;  
Buddhist Studies Search Committee, Department for the Study of Religion, 2005-06;  
Chair Search Committee, Department and Centre for the Study of Religion, 2007;  
Hindi Lecturer Search Committee, New College, 2006-07.

Major organizer for numerous events.

## **Positions and Service on External Committees and Organizations**

### **Service to Professional Organizations**

Steering Committee Co-Chair, Tibetan and Himalayan Religions Group of the American Academy of Religion (2005-2012)

Steering Committee member, Tibetan and Himalayan Religions Group of the American Academy of Religion (2003-2005)

Member, Bukkyo Dendo Kyokai North American Numata Chairs Committee (2004-present)

Member, BDK Canada Graduate Scholarship in Buddhist Studies External Selection Committee (2004-present)

Various administrative responsibilities for the Tibetan and Himalayan Library (2002-present)

### **Manuscript Reviewer**

*J of Royal Asiatic Society*

*New England Journal of Medicine*

*Asian Medicine: Tradition and Modernity*

*Studies in Religion/Sciences Religieuses*

*Asia Major*

*Canadian Review of Sociology and Anthropology*

*Conversations in Religion and Culture*

*Journal of the International Association of Tibetan Studies*

Berghahn Books

Monash Asia Institute Press

Wellcome Trust Research Leave Grant

### **Public Service**

Lead External Reviewer of Department of Religion Studies, Muhlenberg College, PA (Fall 2013)

External Reviewer of Department of Religious Studies, Queen's University, Ontario (Spring 2014)

Expert Witness on Buddhism for legal trial, Franklin D. Tall v. H.M.Q (October 2007)