

## FRANCES GARRETT

### BIOGRAPHICAL INFORMATION

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**PERSONAL** Office address: Department for the Study of Religion, 170 St George St, Toronto, ON M5S 2E8 Canada; phone 416-978-1020; 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 for the Study of Religion, University of Toronto  
(appointed July 2003; received tenure July 2010)

### ACADEMIC HISTORY

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#### Active Research Endeavours

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

*Tibetan Medical Knowledge in the Epic of King Gesar* (translation in English of Tibetan book, *Gling sgrung las byung ba’i bod pa’i gso rig skor gleng pa*), preliminary translation completed by Jialuo, secondary translation revisions now underway by Frances Garrett; original author was Chopa Dondrup in collaboration with Frances Garrett.

“Mapping Pilgrimage in Himalayan Sikkim”: a Digital Humanities research project in collaboration with Professor Matt Price and a team of undergraduate students on how Himalayan cultures and lands are portrayed through visual and guidebook media.

“How to Live in Sacred Places: Buddhist Supernatural Landscapes”: a research article being collaboratively written with three graduate students and two undergraduates in the DSR.

Pedagogical research on methods and practices of online language teaching.

Pedagogical research on methods and practices of educational expeditions and outdoor “experiential” learning.

#### Honours

2012 Northrup Frye Award, University of Toronto

#### Grants & Awards for Research Research (last 7 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

### Grants & Awards for Teaching Projects (last 5 years)

- 2016 MTCU-funded provincial Shared Online Course fund, to support the creation of an Online Classical Tibetan course, \$51,000
- 2015 Online Undergraduate Course Initiatives Award, two awards to support the creation of an Online Classical Tibetan course, \$24,000
- 2015 Dean's International Initiatives Fund and TLKY Teaching Fund, two awards to support "Mapping Buddhist Landscapes in Sikkim," a student research trip to Sikkim, India, \$20,800
- 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

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### 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** Forthcoming, "Gesar's Therapeutic Geographies" In edited volume to be published by Brill.
2015. "If You Build It, Will They Come? An Evaluation of Whiteboard, a Networked Academic Profiles Project," co-authored with Matt Price, Stian Haklev. Higher Education Quality Council of Ontario Research Publications.
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. Shaping the Illness of Hunger: A Culinary Aesthetics of Food and Healing in Tibet. In *Asian Medicine* 6 (1): 33-54.
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

### Books

2014. *Gling sgrung las byung ba'i bod pa'i gso rig skor gleng pa (Tibetan Medicine in the Gesar Epic)*, published by Qinghai Nationalities University Gesar Research Institute Press (China) in 2014. Chopa Dondrup is primary author; I am collaborator. 226 pages plus 2 DVDs.

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.

### Major Digital Projects

2014. "Gold, Statue, Text: Mapping Movement in Tibetan History." Major digital project with a collection of essays, art historical resources, textual databases, mapping, and architectural modeling. Published in Fall 2014 at <http://shalu.miketissenbaum.com/>. Collaboratively developed by Frances Garrett, Ben Wood, Sarah Richardson, Kunga Sherab and a technical team of web developers.

2010. General Editor of PlateauCulture, <http://plateauculture.org/>.

### Articles

2016. Hidden Paradises of the Himalaya: Kangchenjunga & Beyul. In *Alpinist* 54.

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 Resources

2004. *Fluent Tibetan Workbook*. Tibetan language workbook and system of interactive classroom games to supplement *Fluent Tibetan* textbook, used in Tibetan language courses at University of Virginia from 1994-2003 and at University of California, Santa Barbara, from 2002-present.

### Films

2011. Creative and executive producer of film, "Smoke and Sky, Faith and Fortune," on food and ritual in Tibet. 30 minutes. Directed by Wendekar.

2011. Creative and executive producer of film, "Making Prosperity," on offering rituals in Tibet. 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.

### 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.

**PAPERS PRESENTED (INVITED)**

- 2015 “Therapeutic Technologies for Children,” Buddhism and Wellbeing Conference, University of British Columbia
- 2014 “Gesar’s Therapeutic Geographies,” The Many Faces of Ling Gesar / Destins divers de l’épopée de Gesar de Ling, Homage to Rolf A. Stein, Collège de France, Paris.
- 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)**

- 2016 “Healing Landscapes and Hidden Lands,” International Association of Tibetan Studies Seminar, Bergen, Norway
- 2016 “Role-Playing in Courses on Buddhism,” Association of Asian Studies Annual Meeting, Seattle
- 2015 “Therapeutic Landscapes and Mountain Interiors,” Thinking Mountains 2015: Interdisciplinary Mountains Studies Conference, Jasper National Park, Alberta
- 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.

## **TEACHING**

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### **Undergraduate Courses Taught**

- TBB199Y Food for Thought (2013-14)
- RLG206Y Introduction to Buddhist Traditions (2003 | 2004 | 2006 | 2008 | 2014)
- 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)
- RLG373H Himalayan Buddhism (2016)
- 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 | 2014)

RLG492H/3454Y Readings in Tibetan Buddhist Literature (2004 | 2006 | 2015)

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 (Active):

Daigengna Duoer, Mongolian Buddhism, primary supervisor 2015-16

Annie Heckman, Tibetan Buddhism, primary supervisor 2015-16

Doctoral Students (Active):

Larissa Fardelos, Bengali tantra, primary supervisor since 2015

Nick Field, Tibetan and Chinese Dunhuang Buddhism, primary supervisor since 2014

Andrew Erlich, Indian/Tibetan Buddhist tantra, primary supervisor since 2011

Barbara Hazelton, Tibetan epic literature, primary supervisor since 2011

Sean Hillman, Medical ethics in South Asia, primary supervisor since 2011

Jennifer Bright, Tibetan Buddhism and medicine, primary supervisor since 2006

MA Students (Completed):

Kunga Sherab, Buddhist philosophy, primary supervisor 2012-2014

Nick Field, Tibetan and Chinese Dunhuang Buddhism, primary supervisor 2012-2014

Andrew Erlich, Indian/Tibetan Buddhist tantra, primary supervisor 2007-2011

Barbara Hazelton, Tibetan epic literature, primary supervisor 2007-2011

Sean Hillman, End-of-life care in Buddhism, primary supervisor 2009-2011

Helen Craigie, End-of-life practices in Buddhism, primary supervisor 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, primary supervisor 2007-2009

Creon Corea, Buddhism in Sri Lanka, primary supervisor 2004-06

Doctoral Students (Completed):

Matt King, Buddhist revivalism in Mongolia, primary supervisor 2008-2014

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

Sarah Richardson, Tibetan Buddhist art history, co-supervisor 2007-2015

Usha Khosla, Buddha-nature in Indian Buddhism, secondary supervisor 2003-2015

Doctoral Students (Did not complete program):

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

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

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

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

Co-supervision of team of eight undergraduate students traveling in Sikkim, India, for research project "Mapping Buddhist Landscapes in Sikkim" (2016)

Supervision of UTEA-funded undergraduate student research project in India, "Mapping Pilgrimage in Himalayan Sikkim" (2016)

Supervision of UTEA-funded undergraduate student research project in India, "Medicine and Religion – The intersections of body, mind, culture and landscape in Himalayan healing" (2015)

Yearly workshops in the DSR Professionalization Seminar series (2014-2016)

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

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)

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 (2005)

## **ADMINISTRATIVE POSITIONS**

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### **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, 2004-2015.

#### **Extra-departmental**

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

Collaborative Program Representative, Knowledge Media Design Institute, 2012-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, Emmanuel College, 2016;  
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* (1 article manuscript); *New England Journal of Medicine* (1 article manuscript); *Asian Medicine: Tradition and Modernity* (2 article manuscripts); *Studies in Religion/Sciences Religieuses* (1 article manuscript); *Asia Major* (1 article manuscript); *Canadian Review of Sociology and Anthropology* (1 article manuscript); *Conversations in Religion and Culture* (1 article manuscript); *Journal of the International Association of Tibetan Studies* (1 article manuscript); Berghahn Books (1 book manuscript); Monash Asia Institute Press (1 book manuscript); Wellcome Trust Research Leave Grant (1 proposal review)

### **Public Service**

External Reviewer of Department of Religious Studies, William & Mary College, VA (Winter 2016)

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)