GRINNELL COLLEGE

諦玄 Dixuan Yujing Chen, Ph.D.
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ACADEMIC APPOINTMENTS

2019-present	Assistant Professor of East Asian Religions and Buddhist Studies, Religious Studies Department, Grinnell College, IA.
2017-2019	Visiting Assistant Professor of East Asian Religions and Buddhist Studies, Religious Studies Department, Grinnell College, IA.
2016-2017	Adjunct faculty of Asian Religions, Humanities and Foreign Language Department, Santa Fe College, FL.

EDUCATION

2017	Ph.D. in East Asian Religions, with specialization in Buddhist Studies, Department of Religion, University of Florida. Dissertation: "The Worship of Medicine Master Buddha in Medieval China." Dissertation advisor: Mario Poceski.
2006	M.A. in Philosophy of Religion, Department of Religious Studies, National Chengchi University, Taiwan. Thesis: "The Doctrine of Non-Duality Presented in the Scriptures Centered on Mañjuśrī."
2002	M.A. in Buddhist Studies, Yuan Kuang Buddhist College, Taiwan. Thesis: "The Two Truths and the *Pañcaviṃśatisāhasrikā Prajñāpāramitā Sūtras*."
1997	B.S. in Real Estate Studies, Land Management Department, Feng Chia University, Taiwan.

RESEARCH INTERESTS

- religious healing beliefs and rituals
- theories and practices of meditation in Buddhism
- breathing techniques in Asian religions
- women and gender in Buddhism

COURSES TAUGHT AT GRINNELL

- Religions of East Asia
- Zen Buddhism
- Buddhist Traditions
- Buddhism and Globalization
- Religion and Politics in Modern China
- Religion, Healing, and Health
- Religion and Food: Eating is Believing
- Mindfulness: The Art of Living
- Women and Religion

COURSES TAUGHT AT OTHER INSTITUTIONS

- Religions of Asia
- Chinese Religions
- Buddhism in China

GRANTS AND AWARDS

2023-2024	The Harris Faculty Fellowship (Project: How Meditation Became Medicine: Construction of Healing Meditation in Medieval Chinese Buddhism).
2023	Mellon Humanities in Action Grant Pedagogy Partnership, awarded to Grinnell by the Andrew W. Mellon Foundation.

2023	Stanford University East Asian Library Travel Grant.
2022-2023	Wabash Center Early Career Faculty Teaching Fellowship.
2018, 2019	John N. and Mary K. Shephard Faculty Travel and Study Fund.
2015-2017	Sarah Lee Doctoral Student Study Abroad Fellowship.
2015	Chiang Ching-kuo Foundation Research Enhancement Grant for Studying Dunhuang Arts.
2005, 2007	Chue Feng Buddhist Art and Culture Travel Grant.

PUBLICATIONS

"Inhaling Tradition, Exhaling Innovation: Controlled Breathing as Medicine in Tiantai Buddhism." *Studies in Chinese Religions* 10, Issue: 2 (Nov. 2024): 115-150.

"More than Curing the Sick: A Re-Examination of Medicine Buddha Worship in Medieval China." *Journal of Chinese Religions* 52, no. 1 (Jun. 2024): 1-27.

Review of Yuhang Li, *Becoming Guanyin: Artistic Devotion of Buddhist Women in Late Imperial China*. New York: Columbia University Press, 2020. In *Journal of Religious History* 45, no. 4, (Nov. 2021): 689-691.

Review of C. Pierce Salguero and Andrew Macomber, eds. *Buddhist Healing in Medieval China and Japan*. Honolulu: University of Hawai'i Press, 2020. In *Journal of Religion* 102, no. 3 (Jul. 2022): 434-436.

"Yinshun zhanglao dui chuqi dasheng wenshu lei jingdian zhi xiangquan yanjiu" [Yin Shun's Views on the Early Mahāyāna Scriptures centered on Mañjuśrī]. Zhuohui Shi ed., *Yinshun daoshi yu ren pus axing wueshu yantaohui lunwen ji*. Taiwan: Hsuan-Chuang University, 2006.

"Shisu jiaming shishe dao shengyidi de tisheng: Yi daborejing di si hui miaoxingpin wei zhongxin" [The Transformation from Conventional Truth to Ultimate Truth: A Study on the *Perfection of Wisdom in Eight Thousand Lines Scripture*]. Zhongding Shi ed., *Fojiao xuesheng lunwen*, vol. 2. Taiwan: Miaolin Press, 2003.

ARTICLE IN PROGRESS

Dixuan Chen, Francisco Figueroa Medina, and Trang T. D. Nguyen, "Meditation Sickness in East Asia: Selections from Modern Dharma Teachers." In *Meditation Sickness: A Sourcebook on the Dangers of Buddhist Practice*, edited by C. Pierce Salguero. University of Hawai'i Press. In press.

"When Meditation Went Wrong: Breathing to Solve Meditation-Related Health Issues in Medieval Chinese Buddhism." In progress; to be submitted to the journal, *History of Religions*.

CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

2024	"Respiration and Health: The Use of Restorative Breathing Skills to Cure Illness." The Association for Asian Studies Conference (AAS), Seattle, Mar. 14-17, 2024.
2023	"Assimilating Chinese Medical Knowledge into Buddhism: An Innovative Meditation in China." The Northeast Conference on Chinese Thought, Nov. 11-12, 2023.
2023	"Religion and Health: The Emergence of a New Buddhist Meditation in Sixth-Century China." The Association for Asian Studies: Western Conference, Oct. 5-6, 2023.
2023	"More than Curing the Sick: A Neglected History of Medicine Buddha Worship in

China." The Midwest Conference on Asian Affairs 2023, The University of Illinois, Sep. 29-Oct. 1, 2023.

2023 "Gender and Jealousy: Narratives of Fierce Women in Chinese Buddhism." The 8th AAS-in-Asia Conference, Kyungpook National University, Daegu, South Korea, June 24-27, 2023.

2022 "Creating a Healing Meditation: Transformation and Acculturation of Buddhism in China." The American Academy of Religion (AAR) Conference, Denver, Nov. 19-22, 2022.

2022 "Healing Meditation: Zhiyi's 智顗 Syncretism of Indian and Chinese Breathing Skills." Ritual and Contemplative Practices in Chinese Religions (500 to 1500 CE), The Elling Eide Center, Florida, Mar. 4-6, 2022.

2021 "Gendered Prophecies: Foretelling Women's Sex Change prior to their Achievement of Buddhahood." Upper Midwest American Academy of Religion & Society of Biblical Literature, Apr. 10, 2021.

2021 "From Fertility to Identity: Women's Participation in Medicine Buddha Worship in Tang China." The Association for Asian Studies Conference (AAS), Mar. 26, 2021. (Online)

2020 "In Hopes of a Safe Delivery: Buddhist Women in Tang China." The 69th Midwest Conference on Asian Affairs (MCAA), Oct. 17, 2020.

2019 "Prophecies about Women's Spiritual Attainment in the Early Chines Buddhism." Prophecy and Foretelling of Destiny in Buddhism, International Consortium for Research in the Humanities, University of Erlangen-Nürnberg, Germany, Nov. 19-20, 2019.

2018 "Women's Participation in Medicine Master Buddha Worship in Medieval China." Wutai Conference on Identity & Network, Shanxi, China, Jul. 3-5, 2018.

2018 "Socially Engaged Women in Taiwan: The Ciji (Tzu Chi) Movement." East Asian Studies Colloquium, Grinnell College, Mar. 6, 2018.

2017 "The Social Construction of Gender: Female Participation in Medicine Master Buddha Worship." Gender & Performance in the Study of Religion Conference, University of Florida, Jan. 28, 2017.

2013 "The Development of Beliefs Centered on Medicine Master Buddha in China by the Sixth Century." Buddhist Forum, Florida State University, 2013.

2006 "The Teachings of Bodhisattva Mañjuśrī Described in the Early Mahāyāna Scriptures." The 6th Conference on the Practice of Bodhisattva Path in honor of Venerable Yin Shun, Hsuan Chuang University, 2006.

2003 "The Interexchange between Buddhism and Indigenous Chinese Religions: a Study of Manuscripts Discovered from Dunhuang." Conference on Daoism and Spiritual Transformation, Taipei, 2003.

2002 "The Doctrine of the Ultimate Truth Described in the *Pañcaviṃśatisāhasrikā Prajñāpāramitā Sūtras*." The 13th Annual Buddhist Studies Graduate Student Conference, Feng-Chia University, 2002.

2001 "The Connotations of the Two Truths in the Perfection of Wisdom Literature." The 12th Annual Buddhist Studies Graduate Student Conference, Nanhua University, 2001.

CONFERENCE ACTIVITIES

2025	Panel organizer of "Asian Foodways: Cultural Maintenance and Ideological Shifts." The Association for Asian Studies Conference (AAS), Mar. 14-17, 2025.
2024	Panel organizer of "Meditation as Sickness, Mediation as Meditation." The American Academy of Religion (AAR) Conference, San Diego, Nov. 23-26, 2024.
2024	Panel organizer of "Healing in Chinese Philosophies, Literature, and Religions." The Association for Asian Studies Conference (AAS), Seattle, Mar. 14-17, 2024.

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT AND WORKSHOPS

2024	The Pedagogical Purpose of the Literature Review and the Possibility of Ethical AI-Assisted Library Research, Jul. 29-Aug. 2.
2024	Tutorial Instructors Workshop, Jun. 3-7.
2023	Faculty Success Program (FSP), offered by the National Consortium of Faculty Diversity and Development (NCFDD), Jul-Nov.
2022	Teaching Annotation: Scholarly and Pedagogical Practice Workshop, Jun. 7-9.
2022	Designing Digital Assignments Workshop, May 31-Jun. 2.
2021-22	Wabash Center Early Career Religion Faculty Teaching Undergraduates Workshop, Jul. 2021-Aug. 2022.
2021	Global Kitchen in Liberal Arts Workshop, Aug. 9-12.
2021	East Asian Buddhist World-making International Conference, Aug. 14-16.
2021	Tutorial Instructors Workshop, Jul. 19-23.
2021	The Center for Mindfulness at UMass Memorial Health, Science & Wisdom of Emotions Summit, May 2-5.
2019	ACM Faculty Career Enhancement Program, Nov. 4.

RESEARCH AND FIELDWORK

2023	Research of Chinese and Japanese special collections in the Harvard-Yenching Library, Harvard University, Nov. 2023.
2023	Research of Chinese medical manuscripts in the East Asian Library, Stanford University, Mar. 2023.
2022	Archival research in the Academia Sinica, Taiwan, in the summer of 2022.
2018, 2019	Research of the rubbings of Buddhist steles in the Fu Ssu-nien Library's collection, Academia Sinica, Taiwan, in the summer of 2018 and 2019.
2015	Field research of the Buddhist artworks preserved in the Mogao Grottoes, the Yulin Caves, and the West Thousand-Buddha Caves in China, Oct. 2015.
2014	Field research of extant sculptures and paintings of Medicine Master Buddha preserved at Japanese temples and museums in Nara and Kyoto, in the summer of 2014.
2012	Field research of contemporary monastic life in South Korean monasteries, the summer of 2012.

2007	Research of the mural paintings of the Kizil Caves and the Bezeklik Thousand Buddha Caves, Xinjiang province, China, Sep-Oct 2007.
2007	Research of Buddhist iconography of the Mogao Grottoes, the Xiangtangshan Caves, and the Longmen Caves in China, Jun-Aug 2007.
2006, 2007	Research of the rubbings of Buddhist steles in the Fu Ssu-nien Library's collection, Academia Sinica, Taiwan, the summer of 2006 and the fall of 2007.
2006	Field research of the wall paintings of the Mogao Grottoes and the Yulin Caves in China, Aug-Sep 2006.
2005	Field research of the Buddhist artworks preserved in the Mogao Grottoes, the Maiji Mountain Grottoes, the Yulin Caves, and the Binglingsi Grottoes in China, in the summer of 2005.

INVITED SPEECHES

2024	"Releasing Pain: The Development of Therapeutic Breathwork in Chinese Buddhism." Grinnell College, Oct 1, 2024.
2024	"Taste of Belief: Food Speaks Our Values." Presentation to the Board of Trustees at Grinnell College, Sep. 26, 2024.
2022	"Religious Identity in American Buddhism." University of Florida, Nov. 7, 2022.
2018	"Goddess as a Filial Daughter: The Miaoshan Legend." Grinnell College, Oct. 31, 2018.
2017	"Buddhist Monasticism in Modern China." University of Florida, Mar. 27, 2017.
2013	"Buddhist Devotional Practices: Tradition and Transformation." University of Florida, Apr. 15, 2013.

PUBLIC TALKS AND COMMUNITY OUTREACH

2019	"Buddhist and Catholic Monastic Traditions." The Unitarian Universalists, IA, Apr. 28, 2019.
2017	"Buddhist Philosophy of Emptiness (*śūnyatā*)." Gainesville Buddhist Association, FL, Sep. 16, 2017.
2017	"The Bodhisattva Ideal in the Early Mahayana Development." Atlanta Buddhist Group, GA, Jun. 7, 2017.
2016	"Visual Representations Inspired by the *Vimalakīrti Scripture*." Yin Shun Foundation, NJ, Jul. 2-5, 2016.
2015	"The Teachings of Compassion in Mahāyāna Scriptures." Atlanta Buddhist Summer Camp, GA, Jun. 26, 2015.
2015	"The Four Sublime States: Contemplation on Loving-kindness, Compassion, Sympathetic Joy, and Equanimity." Gainesville Buddhist Association, FL, Mar. 7, 2015.
2014	"The Growth of Buddhism during the Northern and Southern Dynasties." Bodhi Monastery, NJ, Jul. 5, 2014.

SERVICE

2024	Service on Executive Board, The Society for the Study of Chinese Religions (SSCR).

2024	The Instructional Support Committee (ISC) to support the successful completion of pedagogical objectives, Grinnell College.
2021-2023	Cultural Film Committee, Grinnell College.
2020-2022	Health Professions Advisory Committee (HPAC), Grinnell College.
2019-2020	Co-chair of Early Career Faculty and Staff (ECFS), Grinnell College.

LANGUAGES

Classical and Modern Chinese: reading, writing, speaking fluency
Japanese: reading fluency
Sanskrit: reading ability with dictionary
Pali: reading ability with dictionary

PROFESSIONAL ASSOCIATIONS

American Academy of Religion (AAR)
Association for Asian Studies (AAS)
ASIANetwork
International Association for Buddhist Studies
T'ang Studies Society
The Society for the Study of Chinese Religions (SSCR)
The Chinese Humanities & Arts Working Group at the University of Iowa (CHAW)
Women in the Study of Asian Religions