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**POSITIONS**

- 2015- Assistant Professor, Division of Humanities, Hong Kong University of Science and Technology  
2014 Part-Time Lecturer, Anthropology Department, Boston University  
2012 Visiting Scholar, Anthropology Department, Columbia University (Spring)

**EDUCATION**

- 2007-2015 PhD, Anthropology Department, Boston University, United States  
**Dissertation:** *Dying Socialist in Capitalist Shanghai: Ritual, Governance, and Subject Formation in Urban China's Modern Funeral Industry*  
**Committee:** Robert Weller (Supervisor), Charles Lindholm, Kimberly Arkin, Robert Hefner, Donald J W Hatfield  
2004-2006 M.Phil, Anthropology Department, The Chinese University of Hong Kong, Hong Kong  
**Thesis:** *Betel Nut Consumption in Contemporary Taiwan: Gender, Class and Social Identity*  
**Committee:** Joseph Bosco (Supervisor), Tan Chee Beng, Siumi Maria Tam  
2003-2004 M.A., Anthropology Department, The Chinese University of Hong Kong, Hong Kong  
1998-2001 B.A., Journalism Department, National Chengchi University (Taiwan), Taiwan

**ACADEMIC INTERESTS**

Politics, Economy and Religion; Late-Socialism and Privatization; Subjectivity and Governance; Civil Society; Life and Death Studies; Ritual Studies; Modernity, Secularism and Pluralism; Urbanization and Social Change; Culture and Emotion; Gender and Masculinity; China and Taiwan.

**RESEARCH IN PROGRESS**

- 2017-2019 *Contemporary Death Ritual and the Political Economy of Dead Bodies in Rural China.*  
**Funded** by The University Grants Committee, HKSAR (~USD111,000).  
[2020-2021] *Moral Emotions and Civic Engagements in Contemporary China.* Funding to be sought for 2019.

**PUBLICATIONS**

***In Preparation***

Book Manuscript, *Resonance and Dissonance: Contemporary Urban Chinese Death Ritual and the Shanghai Funeral Industry*

Journal Article, *Neoliberalism without Neoliberal Subjects: Personalized Funerals, Economic Efficiency, and Social Convention in Urban China*

***Peer-Reviewed Articles***

- 2010 "Substance, Masculinity, and Class: Betel Nut Consumption and Embarrassing Modernity in

Taiwan,” in *Charismatic Modernity: Popular Culture in Taiwan*, Marc L. Moskowitz, ed. Pp.131-148. London and New York: Routledge.

- 2009 Co-authored (with Joseph Bosco and Matthew West). “Underground Lotteries in China: The Occult Economy and Capitalist Culture,” in *Research in Economic Anthropology: Economic Develop, Integration, and Morality in Asia and Americas*, Vol. 29, Donald C. Wood, ed. Pp.31-62. Bingley, UK: Emerald Group Publishing.

***Book Reviews and Translations***

- 2014 Chinese Translator of “*Chinese Religious Philanthropy and the Limitation of Social Capital*,” written by Robert Weller, in *Anthropology of Religion*, Beijing, China.
- 2010 Co-author (with Charles Lindholm). Book Review of *Crying Shame: Metaculture, Modernity and the Exaggerated Death of Lament* (James Wilce). *Ethos Journal*. Vol. 38, Issue 3.

**FELLOWSHIPS AND GRANTS**

***External Fellowships and Grants***

- 2017-2019 Early Career Scheme (ECS) Grant, The University Grants Committee, HKSAR
- 2014 Cora Du Bois Fellowship, Harvard University
- 2013-2014 Mellon/ACLS Dissertation Completion Fellowship
- 2013-2014 Charlotte W. Newcombe Doctoral Dissertation Fellowship, declined
- 2010-2012 National Study Abroad Scholarship, Ministry of Education, Republic of China, Taiwan
- 2007-2008 Fulbright Graduate Study Grant, Fulbright Foundation (Taiwan), declined
- 2005-2006 Academia Sinica Masters’ Thesis Writing Scholarship, Institute of Ethnology, Academia Sinica, Taiwan

***Internal Fellowships and Grants***

- 2017-2019 Internal Research Support for Successful GRF/ECS Projects
- 2015 Initiative Grant, Hong Kong University of Science and Technology
- 2010 Graduate Research Abroad Fellowship, Boston University
- 2009-2010 Fellowship, Institute on Culture, Religion, and World Affairs, Boston University
- 2009 Summer Research Grant, Institute on Culture, Religion, and World Affairs, Boston University
- 2008 Summer Research Grant, Anthropology Department, Boston University
- 2007-2012 Dean’s Fellowship, Boston University
- 2006 Travel Grant, the Chinese University of Hong Kong
- 2004-2006 Postgraduate Fellowship, The Chinese University of Hong Kong

**AWARDS**

***Publication Awards***

- 2010 Award for Excellence (“Underground Lottery” article), Emerald Literati Network

***Teaching Awards***

- 2012-2013 Outstanding Teaching Fellow Award, Boston University

**ACADEMIC CONFERENCES**

***Organized Sessions***

- 2017 Panel Organizer (with Ruth Toulson) and Chair, “The Secret Life of Grief: Theorizing Emotion in Chinese Societies,” March 16-19, at the the Association for Asian Studies Annual Conference in Toronto, Canada.

- 2016 Panel Organizer (with Andrew Kipnis), “The Politics of Ritualization and the Ritualization of Hope,” June 24-27, at the Association for Asian Studies’ AAS-in-Asia Conference in Kyoto.
- 2015 Panel Organizer (with Andrew Kipnis), “The Politics of Ritualization and the Ritualization of Politics in East Asia,” November 18-22, at the American Anthropological Association 114<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting in Colorado.
- 2015 Panel Organize (with Chun-Yi Sum), “The Social Production of Tears: Perspectives from Chinese Societies,” March 26-29, at the Association for Asian Studies 2015 Annual Conference in Chicago.
- 2013 Panel Organizer (with Ruth Toulson) and Chair, “Moral Lives and the Business of Death,” November 20-24, at the American Anthropological Association 112<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting in Chicago.

***Refereed Presentations and Discussant***

- [2017] “Incommensurable Values? Ritual and Pluralism in Urban Chinese Funerals,” 10-12 July, the 15<sup>th</sup> Biennial Conference of the Chinese Studies of Australia, Sydney, Australia.
- [2017] “Pluralism, Subjectivity, and Modes of Religious Authority in Contemporary Urban Shanghai Funerals,” July 20-23, The 10<sup>th</sup> International Convention of Asia Scholars, Chiang Mai, Thailand.
- [2017] “One Ritual and Many Times: Religious Variations on Socialist Funeral in Urban China,” May 15-17, Society for the Anthropology of Religion’s Biennial Meeting, New Orleans, Louisiana.
- 2017 “Tears of Grief in Contemporary Shanghai Death Ritual,” March 16-19, at the the Association for Asian Studies Annual Conference in Toronto, Canada.
- 2017 “Marketization of State Funeral Parlors and Subject Formation of Funeral Practitioners in Contemporary Urban Shanghai,” February 23-25, at the Imaging the Future: Community Innovation and Social Resilience in Asia Conference, at the Chinese University of Hong Kong.
- 2016 “Ritualizing Hope at the End of Life: Creating Socialist Subjects in Contemporary Shanghai Funeral,” June 24-27, at the Association for Asian Studies’ AAS-in-Asia Conference in Kyoto.
- 2016 “The Fragile Middle: Funeral Brokers as an Agentive Node in the Shanghai Funeral Industry,” June 19-22, at the Society for East Asian Anthropology, American Anthropological Association, Hong Kong Conference, The Chinese University of Hong Kong.
- 2015 “Subject Formation and Ritualized Acts: Creating Socialist Subjects in Urban Chinese Funerals,” November 18-22, at the American Anthropological Association 114<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting in Colorado.
- 2015 “To Cry or not To Cry: Regulating Regimes of Tears in Urban Shanghai Funerals,” March 26-29, at the Association for Asian Studies 2015 Annual Conference in Chicago.
- 2014 “Sacralizing a Secular-Socialist Commemoration: Religious Variations on Socialist Funeral Rituals in Shanghai, China,” December 3-7, at the American Anthropological Association Annual Meeting in Washington DC.
- 2014 “Constructing Ethical Subjects at the End of Life: An Ethnography of Socialist Funerals and their Religious Variations in Shanghai, China,” at the 2014 Annual Workshop in Applied Ethics,

- October 3-5, at Northeastern University.
- 2013 “Edge Ball Politics and Amoral Agents: Private Funeral Agents and Ritual Change in Shanghai, China,” November 20-24, at the American Anthropological Association Annual Meeting in Chicago.
- 2013 “Transforming the Dead and Constructing Socialist Subjectivities: Dying Socialist in Shanghai Memorial Meetings,” June 13-16, at The Social Lives of Dead Bodies in Modern China Conference in Providence.
- 2012 “Dying Socialist in Capitalist Shanghai: Memorial Meetings, Death Ritual, and Perceptions of Self in Urban Chinese Funerals,” May 11-12, at the Society for Cultural Anthropology Spring 2012 Meeting, “Life and Death: A Conversation” in Providence.
- 2009 “Motion of Modernity: Railroads as the Threshold of Nationalism in China,” at the Society for East Asian Anthropology Conference, July 2-5, in Taipei.
- 2007 Co-authored (with Joseph Bosco), “Discovering Tradition and Authenticity: The Growth of a History and Folklore Association in a Taiwanese Township,” March 22-25, at the Association for Asian Studies Annual Meeting in Boston.
- 2006 “Dangerous Consumption, Intersecting Identities: Gender, Class, and Social Identity in Betel Nut Use in Taiwan,” November 15-19, at the American Anthropological Association Annual Meeting in San Jose.
- 2006 Co-authored (with Joseph Bosco and Matthew West), “Underground Lotteries in China: The Occult Economy and Capitalist Culture,” November 15-19, at the American Anthropological Association Annual Meeting in San Jose.
- 2006 “Betel Nut Consumption in Contemporary Taiwan: Gender, Class and Social Identity,” July 13, at the Society for East Asian Anthropology Conference, “East Asian Anthropology and Anthropology in East Asia” in Hong Kong.
- 2006 “Betel Nut Consumption in Contemporary Taiwan: Gender, Class and Social Identity,” February 16-18, at the 5<sup>th</sup> East-West Center International Graduate Student Conference, “Sustaining a Resilient Asia-Pacific Community: Issues and Solutions” in Honolulu.
- 2001 Co-authored (with Wang Jiwei et al.), “A Comparative Study of Newspaper and E-Newspaper Reading Habits among College Students (in Chinese),” April 28, at the Development and Vision of the Internet Media Conference in National Taiwan University, Taiwan.

***Invited Presentations and Discussion***

- [2017] “Commemorating the Dead in Urban China: De-Secularization in Contemporary Shanghai Funerals,” June 28-29, Chinese Religions in City Space and Cyberspace Workshop, National Taiwan University, Taiwan
- 2016 “Religion and Pluralism: Modes of Religious Authority and Political Contestation in Urban Shanghai Funerals,” October 25, 2016. Hong Kong Institute for the Humanities and Social Science, Hong Kong University.
- 2016 “To Cry or Not to Cry: Regulating Regimes of Tears in Urban China’s Funeral,” on Comparative

- Perspectives on Senses, Sensibilities, and Sentiment Workshop, May 6-7, HKUST.
- 2016 Discussant for the “Practicing Religion in Asia: Diversity and Comparison” Panel, January 22-23, the 8<sup>th</sup> Annual CUHK Anthropology Postgraduate Students Forum, CUHK.
- 2015 “Pluralist Ritual and Ritual Pluralism: Modes of Religious Authority and Political Contestation in Urban Shanghai Funerals,” April 22, at Producing the Political: Religious Authority and Local Governance Workshop, Boston University.
- 2015 “Memorializing the Dead in Urban China: Making Socialist and Religious Subjects in Contemporary China,” February 18, at Haverford College.
- 2015 “The Construction of Self in Shanghai Death Ritual: Socialist Funerals and Their Religious Variations in Urban China,” February 5, at National University of Singapore.
- 2015 “‘Theorizing’ in Religion in Society and Culture,” February 4, at the Department of Sociology, National University of Singapore.
- 2015 “Death Ritual as a Site of Subject Formation: Religious Variations on Socialist Funeral Ritual in Shanghai, China,” January 28, at Barnard College of Columbia University.
- 2015 “Death Ritual as a Site of Subject Formation: Religious Variations on Socialist Funeral Ritual in Shanghai, China,” January 12, at Appalachian State University.
- 2015 “Religious Traditions of China,” January 12, at the Department of Philosophy and Religion, Appalachian State University.
- 2014 “The Construction of Self in Shanghai Death Ritual: Socialist Funerals and Their Religious Variations in Urban China,” December 4, at Hong Kong University of Science and Technology.
- 2014 “Death Ritual as a Site of Subject Formation: Religious Variations on Socialist Funeral Ritual in Shanghai, China,” September 23, at the Fairbank Centre in Harvard University.
- 2013 “Award Wining Teaching,” at the International Teaching Fellows Orientation, August 27, at Boston University.
- 2009 “Motion of Modernity: Railroads as the Threshold of Nationalism in China,” at the conference Crossing Space and Making Boundaries: Anthropological Perspectives, July 1, at the National Tsing Hua University, Taiwan.
- 2008 “Contradicting Modernities: Consuming Betel Nut in Taiwan,” at the conference Charismatic Modernity: Popular Culture in Taiwan, October 4-6, at the University of South Carolina.
- 2007 “Masculine Taiwanese Men: Betel Nut Consumption in Contemporary Han Chinese Culture (in Chinese),” May 25, at the Institute of Austronesian Studies, Taitung University, Taiwan.
- 2006 “Betel Nut Consumption in Contemporary Taiwan: Gender, Class and Social Identity (in Chinese),” June 14, at the Institute of Ethnology, Academia Sinica, Taiwan.

***Public and Volunteered Presentations***

- 2016 “To Cry or Not to Cry: Grieving Tears in Contemporary Shanghai Funerals,” November 17,

- Hong Kong Anthropological Society Talk Series, Hong Kong Museum of History.
- 2015 “Edge Ball Politics: Shanghai Funerals and the Power of the ‘Fragile Middle’,” October 25, HKUST Public Humanities Lectures, Hong Kong Museum of History.
- 2014 “Death Ritual as a Site of Subject Formation: Religious Variations on Socialist Funeral Ritual in Shanghai, China,” February 19, at the Anthropology Department in Boston University.
- 2009 “End of Life and Self-Formation: Ritual and Death Industry in Contemporary China,” October 2, at the Anthropology Department in Boston University.
- 2009 “Motion of Modernity: Railroads as the Threshold of Nationalism in China,” February 13-14, at the Conference on East Asia in Boston University.
- 2006 “Being a Real Man in Taiwan: Masculinity and the Chewing of Betel Nut,” June 29, for the Hong Kong Anthropological Society at the Hong Kong Museum of History.
- 2006 “Betel Nut Consumption in Contemporary Taiwan: Gender, Class and Social Identity,” March 17, at the Anthropology Department in the Chinese University of Hong Kong.

#### **PROFESSIONAL SERVICES**

- 2015 Referee for *Critical Asian Studies*
- 2015 Referee for *Review of Religions and Chinese Societies*
- 2013 Referee for *The China Journal*
- 2010 Co-referee (with Charles Lindholm) for *Ethos Journal*

#### **TEACHING EXPERIENCE**

- 2016 Cultures and Values: Diversity, Equality, and Resistance, HKUST
- 2016 Fundamentals in Chinese Culture: Anthropology Module (PG), HKUST
- 2015 Fundamentals in Chinese Culture: Anthropology Module (PG), HKUST
- 2014 China: Tradition and Transition, Boston University
- 2013 (Teaching Fellow) Introduction to Cultural Anthropology, Boston University
- 2012 (Teaching Fellow) Children and Culture, Boston University
- 2009 (Teaching Fellow) Introduction to Cultural Anthropology, Boston University.
- 2008 (Teaching Fellow) Introduction to Cultural Anthropology, Boston University
- 2005 (Teaching Fellow) Annual Fieldtrip, Taiwan, The Chinese University of Hong Kong
- 2005 (Teaching Fellow) Women, Men and Culture, The Chinese University of Hong Kong

#### **SUPERVISING EXPERIENCE**

- 2016-Present Supervisor for a Master of Philosophy student (Research Postgraduate), HKUST
- 2016 Spring Supervisor, Undergraduate Capstone Project, HKUST
- 2015 Fall Supervisor, Undergraduate Capstone Project, HKUST

#### **LANGUAGES**

Native Mandarin (read, spoken, written), Fluent English (read, spoken, written), Proficient Holo (Fujianese) (spoken), Proficient Shanghainese (spoken), Fair Cantonese (spoken), Basic Korean (spoken)